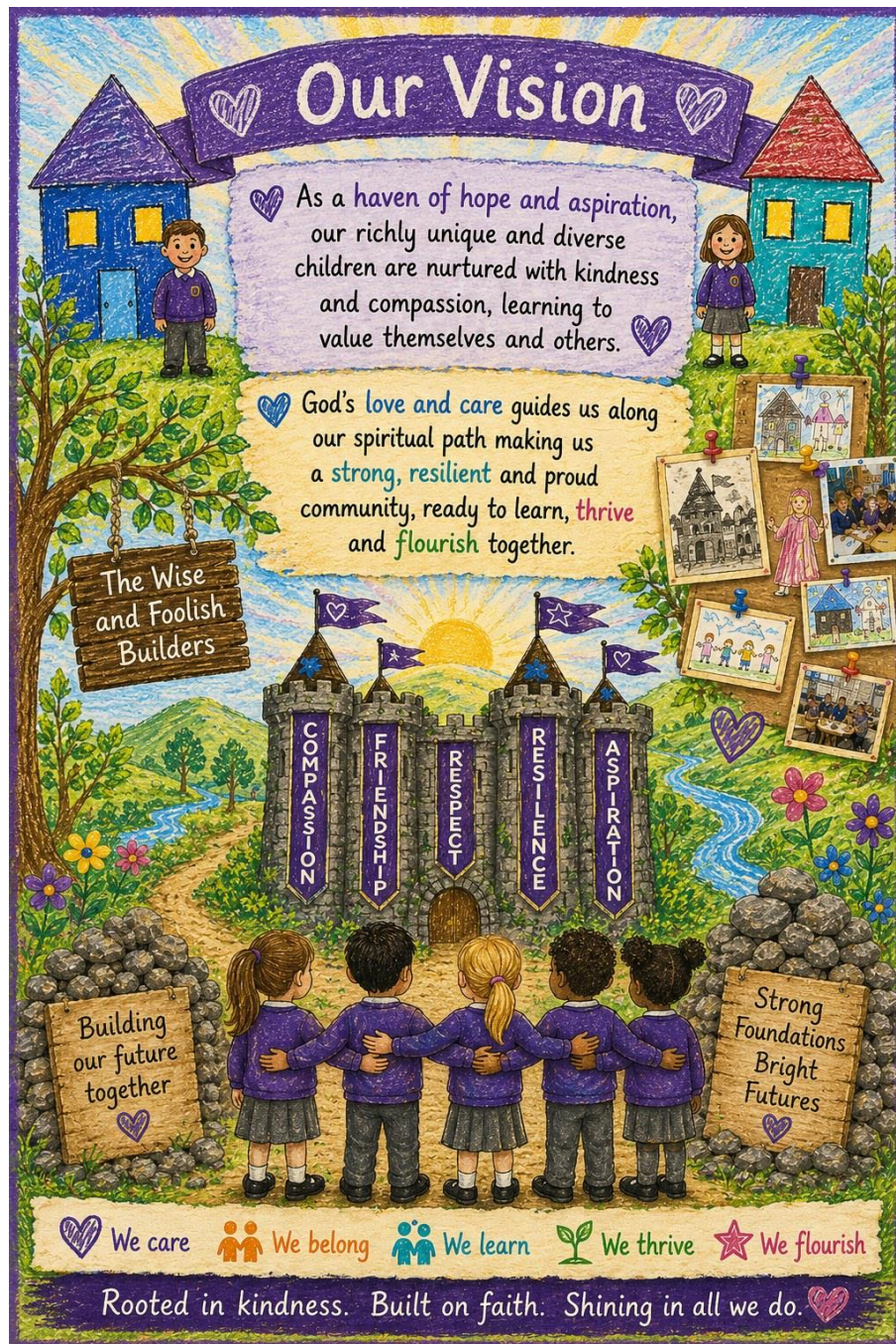
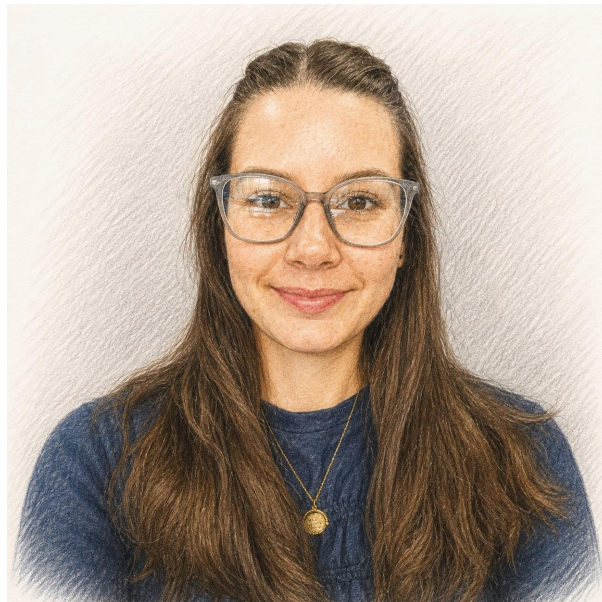




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -
Friday 25th September



Welcome



What a wonderful week it has been at ABC, with some lovely warm afternoons giving the children plenty of opportunities to enjoy learning and playing together.

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our recent sponsored event. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity, and the money raised will make a real difference in helping us to purchase new sports equipment for the children to enjoy.

It was also wonderful to see the children joining in so enthusiastically with Sam Mostowfi this week. There was such a fantastic sense of energy and excitement, with the children showing great determination, teamwork and resilience. It is always lovely to see our pupils encouraging one another, having fun and demonstrating our school values so proudly.

As we come towards the end of another busy week, I would also like to thank our staff, families and wider school community for your continued support. The children have settled beautifully into the new school year and it has been lovely to see their confidence growing as they continue to build strong foundations in their learning, friendships and wider school life.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend, and we look forward to another exciting week ahead at ABC!



1 - Require medication for anaphylaxis?

Following the new legislation, The School Safety Allergy Bill, 'Benedict's Law', parents must now provide schools with an 'Allergy Action Plan', if their child requires medication for anaphylaxis. This will be provided by the hospital or GP.

If this applies to your child, please ensure you bring the information to the school as soon as possible which will work together with the Healthcare. Any queries please email the school office via office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk¹

Attendance and Fundraising



Please remember school opens at 8.30am and all children should be in their classes by 8.40am ready for learning. After this time they will be marked late and continuous late arrivals are at risk of a fine from the local authority. We appreciate the traffic can be diabolical in Maidstone but please make allowances for this. If you have difficulties with this for whatever reason please speak with Mrs Gooding to see if we can work out a solution to the issue. Thank you for your support.

¹<mailto:office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk>



2 - You are fabulous, we had some very delicious donations both homemade and bought, thank you. Your generosity outstands us, we know so many of you have experienced the amazing support of Macmillan Nurses and it is these fund raising occasions that enable them to continue their good work. Thank you once again.



3 - Early Bird tickets at a special price will be available from next week. Make sure you get your Early Bird or VIP tickets (limited number) so you have the best value or best view.



4 - Anyone wishing to have a stall or who knows someone who would like to be part of our grand extravaganza event please get in touch with Mrs Barnes or Mrs Gooding.



School Year 2026 - 27

Headteacher: Sue Heather
Telephone: **01622 754 666**

Start time - 8:30am
Gates close - 8:45am
Finish time - 3:15pm

For latest School information go to:
www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk
or email:
office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk
ArchbishopCourtenay

KEY Bank Holiday Holiday
 1:30pm Finish

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5 - Our Pre-Loved Uniform shop will be available on 2nd October from 8.30am

**We have reached our 1
year anniversary!**

**Thank you for all of your
support!**



Join our school lottery and help raise funds for our school PTFA.

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/archbishop-courtenay-primary-school?utm_campaign=tickets-share-panel&utm_source=cause-admin&utm_medium=social&utm_content=Hyperlink

Wrap Around Information



Wraparound:

<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk>²

Breakfast (7:30am-8:30am) £4.15

Social Club (3:15pm-4:15pm) £3.10

Wraparound (3:15pm-6pm) £12.50

Tax-free childcare vouchers = 20% off

Universal credits = claim up to 85% back

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT:

archbishop-courtenay@cbfs.uk

²<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk/>

01444 523 335

OPAL Play



A huge thank you to everyone who has kindly donated towards our OPAL Play provision. We are delighted to share that we have currently raised an amazing £263!

Every donation helps us continue to develop exciting, creative and inclusive play opportunities for all of our children. Our new Play Rangers will soon be meeting together to discuss how they would like to spend the money raised and which new resources or play opportunities they feel would make the biggest difference at lunchtimes.

We are really looking forward to hearing their ideas and giving our children an important voice in how our OPAL provision continues to grow. Thank you, as always, for your wonderful support in helping us make playtimes at ABC such a special part of the school day.

Last week, we held our very first Stay and Play session, and what a fantastic turnout we had! We were thrilled to see so many of our families joining us and enjoying the session together.

There were lots of creative craft activities taking place, with the highlight being the opportunity to make a handmade wind chime. It was wonderful to see everyone's creativity, and even lovelier to see so many families getting involved, creating and having fun together.

A huge thank you for your continued support. We hope you enjoyed the session as much as we did!

Keep your eyes peeled for details of another Stay and Play session coming soon!

**SPORT ON YOUR
DOOR-STEP**

DOORSTEP SPORT,
BRINGING SPORT TO YOU

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



YOUTH CONNECT

MULTI-SPORT PROGRAMME



WEDNESDAY
4.30PM – 5.30PM



**RANGE OF
DIFFERENT SPORTS**
BOXING • FOOTBALL
DODGEBALL • TENNIS



FREE
ALL WELCOME!



**OPEN TO ALL
YOUNG PEOPLE**



**ARCHBISHOP OF COURTENAY
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
ECCLESTON ROAD, TOVIL,
MAIDSTONE, ME15 6QN

*DOORSTEP SPORT,
BRINGING SPORT TO YOU.*



BE ACTIVE



BE CONNECTED



BE YOU

**HAVE FUN.
MAKE FRIENDS.
STAY ACTIVE.**

BE PART OF IT!

**FUNDED BY
SPORT ENGLAND**



DOORSTEP SPORT,
BRINGING SPORT TO YOU

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Archbishop
courtenay
Primary School



AQUILA
Diocese of Canterbury
Academies Trust



**SPORT
ENGLAND**

GIRLS FOOTBALL

SESSION



THURSDAY
4.30PM – 5.30PM



**GIRLS ONLY
FOOTBALL SESSION**
ALL ABILITIES
WELCOME!



**OPEN TO ALL
GIRLS**



FREE
NO COST, JUST
TURN UP AND PLAY!



**ARCHBISHOP OF COURTENAY
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
ECCLESTON ROAD, TOVIL,
MAIDSTONE, ME15 6QN

**FREE
FOR ALL
GIRLS!**

**FUN. FRIENDS. FITNESS.
MAKE IT YOURS.**

**FUNDED BY
SPORT ENGLAND**

BE ACTIVE BE CONNECTED BE YOU

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Please complete the form to register your contact details.



Sunday 4 October

INVICTA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

10am-5.30pm

**A WHOLE DAY OF STORIES,
CREATIVITY AND FUN**

BOOK NOW!

www.maidstonelitfest.org



BEN DAVIS

ONJALI Q RAUF

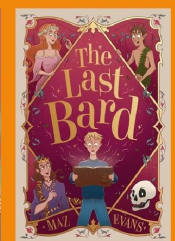
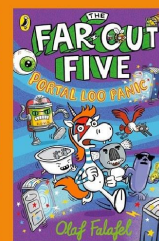
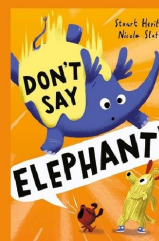
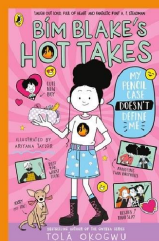
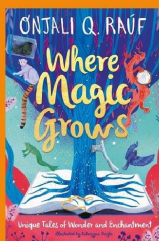
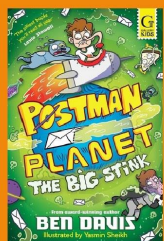
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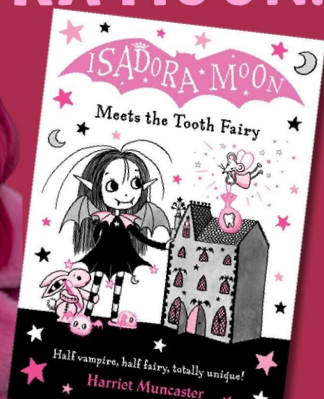
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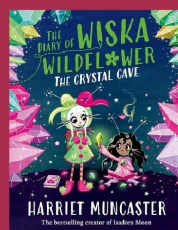
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**TEN YEARS OF
ISADORA MOON!**



with
Harriet
Muncaster

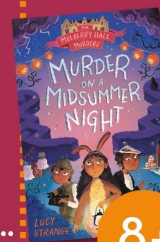


**AND INTRODUCING...
WISKA WILDFLOWER**

**WRITE YOUR OWN
MYSTERY!**

with Lucy Strange

Workshop



8+



Dates for Diary



Term 1

Wednesday 30th September - Phonics Workshop for Parents 2pm (details to follow)

Sunday 4th October- Maidstone Kids Litfest @ Invicta Grammar School

Wednesday 7th October - Donations for Harvest into school

Thursday 15th October - Individual Pupil Photographs YR-Y6 (sibling photos from the afternoon, nursery pupils included)

Friday 16th October - Nursery Individual Photographs



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Have you checked if you qualify?

More money in your pocket!

From September 2026, more families may be entitled than ever before!

You could be entitled to free school meals for your child and help save on household costs. It's worth checking!

Your child may be entitled to free school meals.

You could save money on school lunches.

The school may receive additional funding to support pupils' education.

The application process is quick and confidential.

Even if you don't think you'll qualify, please apply – you have nothing to lose and potentially money to save!

Email on the way **next week!**

Letter and application form coming home too!

What do I need to do?

- 1 Complete the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.
- 2 We will check your eligibility and let you know the outcome.

Let's hope it's good news!

If you have any questions or would like help completing the form, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your support!

School Gates and Collection Arrangements

In the mornings, our school gates will open at 8:25am, ready for children to enter their classrooms from 8:30am. Please ensure that your child is supervised until 8:30am, as staff will not be responsible for supervising children before this time. The gates will close at 8:45am each morning. Any children arriving after this time will need to be signed in at the school office by an adult.

In the afternoons, the gates will be unlocked at 3:10pm, ready for children to be dismissed at 3:15pm. Please note that only Year 6 pupils who have written permission from their parents or carers are allowed to walk home independently at 3:15pm. All children attending after-school clubs must still be collected by an authorised adult. Thank you for standing back at afternoon collection, particularly in the narrower areas of the school, this makes it much easier for class teachers to see you and still allows for other parents to walk past.

While waiting for classrooms to welcome or dismiss children, we kindly ask that pupils and younger siblings help us to look after our outdoor spaces. These areas are carefully set up and prepared for children's learning, and we appreciate your support in keeping them safe, tidy and ready to use.

School Uniform



Wearing the correct school uniform is an important part of being a member of our school community. Our uniform helps to create a sense of belonging, pride and equality, while ensuring that children are dressed smartly and appropriately for their school day. We ask parents to support us by ensuring that children wear the correct uniform: a white or purple polo shirt; purple school sweatshirt/cardigan; grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore, with

appropriate black shoes with plain black, white or grey socks/ tights. Children have the option of wearing a white shirt and school tie if they wish.

If you need any support with school uniform, please speak to Mrs Gooding or contact the school office, as we are always happy to help. We also have a selection of second-hand uniform available in school.

Please note that, for health and safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn in school, with the exception of stud earrings, which must be removed for PE. Children should also not wear nail varnish to school.

Our Nursery children are more than welcome to wear our school uniform - you might find the purple polos and jumpers useful items. <https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/products/product?id=590>

Collective Worship



This week in Collective Worship, we have been thinking about what it means to flourish. Flourishing is something we all hope for. But what does it actually mean to flourish? We explored the idea that flourishing can look different for each of us, depending on our beliefs, experiences and circumstances. For Christians, flourishing is connected with Jesus' words about having "life in all its fullness." This doesn't mean a life without difficulties or challenges. Instead, it is about living a full and meaningful life, knowing that we are not alone and that Jesus is with us. We thought about how a flourishing life is diverse, connected and outward-looking — recognising our own gifts and needs, building positive relationships with others, and thinking about how we can help those around us to flourish too.

How Jesus Helps Us to Flourish

We began the week by reflecting on John 10:1–15, where Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd.

We considered how a shepherd knows, cares for and protects their sheep. In the same way, Jesus offers care, guidance and a sense of belonging.

We reflected on the idea that being cared for and staying close to Jesus can help us to flourish. Just as sheep depend on their shepherd, we all need people who care for us, guide us and help us when life is difficult.

Help Me to Flourish

We then explored Psalm 23, one of the best-known passages in the Bible:

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

We wondered how a shepherd makes sure that each of the sheep flourishes. A good shepherd provides food, water, rest and protection, and makes sure that the sheep are safe.

We thought about how the words of Psalm 23 help Christians understand the ways that God cares for and guides us. The Psalm reminds us that even when life is difficult — when we walk through “the darkest valley” — God is with us.

This led us to consider what we need in order to flourish. We talked about the importance of friendship, kindness, belonging, encouragement, rest and having people around us who care.

Helping Others to Flourish

Finally, we thought about the fact that flourishing isn't just about me.

We can all play a part in helping other people to flourish.

A kind word, including someone who is feeling lonely, listening to someone who needs to talk, celebrating someone else's success, offering help, or simply noticing when someone might be struggling can make a real difference.

We reflected on the question:

“What could I do this week to help someone else flourish?”

Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness can help someone feel valued, noticed and cared for.

Are you starting school in September 2027?

Come and visit
♥ Archbishop Courtenay ♥
Primary School.



Tour and presentation:
Thursday
5th November
at 9am or 2pm



Tour and presentation:
Wednesday
11th November
at 9am



Tour and presentation:
Thursday
19th November
at 9am



Please sign up
on the form link

Starting EYFS in September 2027? Book onto a tour now:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/EeDY1iUwZT?origin=lprLink>

Nursery



Another Busy Week at Buttons! 🌈 We have had another busy and fun-filled week at Buttons Preschool! 💖🌟 The children have loved looking at all of our lovely family photos on the wall and have enjoyed drawing pictures of their own families. We have been busy little builders this week too, using our blocks to create houses, towers and wonderful constructions!

📦 Our indoor PE sessions have been lots of fun! We have been squeezing through tunnels, jumping on the trampoline and practising our climbing skills. We have also enjoyed sharing lots of lovely stories together, listening carefully and then chatting about the characters and what happened in the story.

📖 The sunshine has been shining down on us this week ☀️, so we have made the most of it with lots of exciting garden play, exploring, running, playing and enjoying the fresh air.

📢 A couple of reminders for our families: Our preschool polo shirts and jumpers are available to purchase through the Pages website. Please also remember to sign up for your childcare bookings if you haven't done so already. Have a lovely weekend, everyone! We can't wait for another week of fun, learning, exploring and making lots of happy memories together! 🌈

Our Nursery children are more than welcome to wear our school uniform - you might find the purple polos and jumpers useful items. <https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/products/product?id=590>

Please make sure you have signed up to Childcare Bookings for Schools so we can process Free Childcare hours and invoices.



EYFS: Darling and Rashford



What a wonderful week we have had in EYFS! The children have continued to settle into school life beautifully, and it has been lovely to see friendships developing and growing each day.

♥ Growing Friendships and Relationships

³<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk/>

A big focus for us this week has been building friendships with others. We have been learning how to share, take turns, work together and communicate with one another. We have also been developing relationships with the adults in school, learning that there are lots of grown-ups who are here to help, support and care for us. Throughout our day, we have been thinking carefully about our school values and how we can demonstrate these in everything we do. We have been practising using our manners, listening to others, being kind and showing respect. It has been wonderful to see these values beginning to become part of our everyday routines and interactions.

 **Drawing Club – *Disappearing Acts*** This week in Drawing Club, our story has been *Disappearing Acts*, and we have been learning some fantastic new vocabulary: Habitat, Endangered, Disappearing, Animal. Our first challenge was to draw a snow leopard! We talked about the animal and had a go at identifying the initial sounds in words before having a go at writing some of these sounds ourselves. There was some fantastic mark-making as the children shared their ideas and brought their drawings to life. We then moved on to thinking about the setting. We talked about the snow leopard's habitat and wondered: Where does a snow leopard live? What does it eat? Where might it sleep? The children created some wonderful drawings and marks to represent the snow leopard's habitat. We have been encouraging them to talk about their ideas and explain the meaning behind their marks — an important part of developing early writing skills.

Phonics

In phonics this week, we have learnt the sounds: i, n, m, d. We have been practising recognising the sounds, hearing them in words and forming the corresponding letters. We have also started to use the sounds we know to begin reading CVC words — words made up of a consonant, vowel and consonant, such as *sat* and *pin*. We are incredibly excited that next week we will begin our guided reading sessions! At the end of next week the children will be bringing a reading book home to share with you. This is such an exciting next step in their reading journey, and we can't wait to see them developing confidence as they begin to share books and practise their reading skills at home.

 **Maths – Comparing Amounts** In Maths this week, we have been learning to compare amounts. We have been introduced to and using the vocabulary: more, fewer, less than, more than. The children have been counting objects carefully and comparing two sets to work out which group has more and which has fewer. We have been encouraging the children to explain how they know, rather than simply giving an answer. This is helping them to develop their mathematical thinking and use mathematical vocabulary with confidence.

Our First Whole-School Assembly!

One of the highlights of our week was attending our first whole-school assembly on Thursday for the athlete event! Wow — what an experience! The children were so excited to join the rest of the school and were incredibly impressed by what they saw. It was lovely to

hear many of them talking afterwards about the things they enjoy doing, particularly their experiences of gymnastics.

This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to feel part of our wider school community and experience one of the special events that happens across our school.

Year 1 & 2 Rowing, Attenborough and Frank



What a lovely sunny week it has been! **The highlight was spending time with GB gymnast Sam Mostowfi** and taking part in agility activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed being active, trying new challenges and developing their movement skills. They listened carefully to instructions, encouraged one another and showed growing confidence as they practised balancing, jumping, moving quickly and changing direction. It was a lively and enjoyable experience for everyone.

In Geography, the children learnt all about the different oceans of the world. They discovered that the Pacific Ocean is the largest, the Arctic Ocean is the smallest, and the Southern Ocean is the coldest. We discussed where the oceans are located and why they are important to our planet. The children also considered the animals and plants that depend on the oceans, as well as the importance of keeping the water clean and protecting marine life. They enjoyed sharing what they already knew and asking thoughtful questions.

Our Curious Quest has helped Mrs Large to find some peace and quiet and have a relaxing bath, inspired by the book written by Jill Murphy. The children came up with lovely ideas for indulgent treats that Mrs Large could take with her when she retreated to the bathroom, including chocolate, a cup of tea, a good book and some fluffy slippers. They used their imaginations to explain why each item would help Mrs Large feel calm and comfortable. This activity also encouraged the children to think about how people can care for themselves when they need time to rest.

In RE, the children discussed what the parable of the lost son means to Christians. They explored the idea that God is loving and forgiving, and that people are welcomed back when

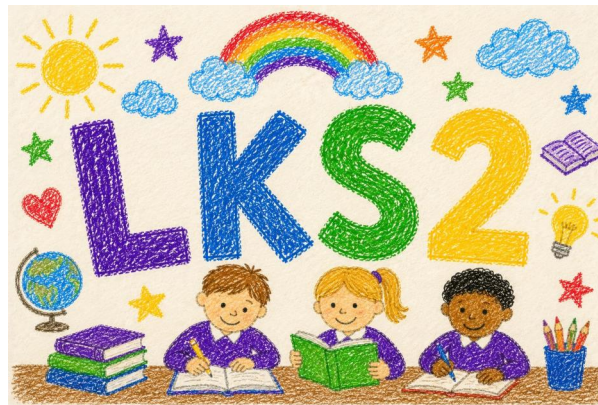
they are sorry and choose to return. The children talked about times when saying sorry, forgiving others and showing kindness can help to repair friendships and relationships.

We are busy **developing our outside provision** for the children. If you have any toys that your children have grown out of, we would love your donations. Building blocks and toys, sand and water trays, old pots and pans, and art or drawing supplies would all be very welcome. Please speak to your class teacher. These resources will help the children to develop their creativity, communication, problem-solving and physical skills through purposeful play.

Hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Key Stage 1 Team

Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst



Week 4 has come to a close. We have had a very active busy week. Well done to everyone who took part in the Athlete Visit on Thursday! We would like to ask for parental support with regards to behaviour for learning, daily reading and completing homework: spellings and times tables. Homework is set Friday to Thursday on Class Dojo - please see your class teacher if you are not logged in. Spellings, Tables and reading are all checked on a Friday in LKS2. Thank you.

Here's a snapshot of our week:

English:

We have been researching and creating fact files about gorillas. The children have used their i-pads to research facts and have developed noun phrases to describe gorillas. The children have really enjoyed the weeks learning journey.

Maths:

We have been further securing our knowledge and understanding of place value, looking at comparing and ordering numbers and rounding. We will be developing our rounding skills next week alongside our understanding of Roman Numerals before completing our units and moving on to addition and subtraction.

Science:

This week the children have been considering how to group and classify animals and plants based on their features and devising questions to help younger children to sort wildlife into groups.

RE:

We have consolidated our understanding of the story of Noah's Ark and the value in the promises made between God and Noah for the protection of the Earth and all its inhabitants.

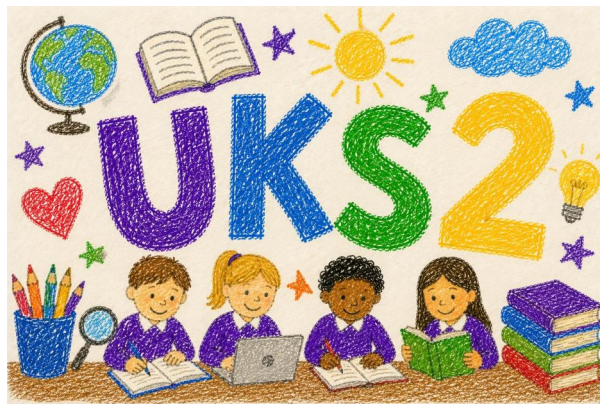
Geography:

This week the children have been exploring biomes and learning about different types of habitats and their geographical features.

Reminders:

- Please bring reading books and reading records to school everyday lost and or damaged books will incur a charge for replacement
- Please supply your child with a waterproof coat and welly boots for use in school as the weather is beginning to change
- We are a **NUT FREE** school, please do not send children to school with nut based products or spreads in their food.

Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



What another fantastic week we have had in UKS2! Year 5 and 6 have been working incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum and have enjoyed some exciting opportunities along the way. We are so proud of their enthusiasm, effort and positive attitudes towards their learning.

English – Endangered Animals

This week, we have continued our learning about **endangered animals**. We have explored three fascinating animals: the **rhino, kakapo bird and polar bear**. The children have learned about the features of each animal and discussed the reasons why they are endangered.

We have also been thinking about what we can do as humans to help protect these animals and **reverse the decline in their populations**. The children have shared some thoughtful ideas about how we can make a positive difference to the environment and wildlife.

Maths – Multiplication and Division

In Maths, **Simmonds and Curie classes** have continued their learning about **Place Value**, further developing and consolidating their understanding.

Luther-King class have finished consolidating their Place Value learning and have now moved on to **Multiplication and Division**. This week, our focus has been on multiplication, with the children developing their understanding and practising different methods.

Art – Drawing Architecture

In Art, the children have continued developing their **drawing architecture** skills. We have built on our previous learning by introducing **printed blocks** to enhance our architectural drawings. The children have been experimenting with how these prints can add texture, pattern and detail to their artwork.

Science – Living Things and Their Habitats

This week in Science, we have been exploring how living things can be **grouped according to their similarities and differences**. The children have been developing their classification skills and thinking carefully about the characteristics that different living things share.

Music – Swing Music

Our Music topic this term is all about **swing music**! We are learning the song *Hey, Mr Miller*, a popular song performed in a jazz and swing style with three musical layers.

The children have also been learning about the famous American musician **Alton Glenn Miller** and his swing band. Alongside learning the song, we are discovering more about swing-style jazz and some of the renowned big band leaders of 1930s and 1940s America.

Year 6 – Secondary School Visit

This week, our Year 6 children had a visit from **Maplesden Noakes School**, who came to talk to the children about what life will be like in Year 7 and the opportunities available at secondary school. It was a great opportunity for the children to find out more and ask questions about the next stage of their education.

Great Athletes Visit

On Thursday, we were incredibly excited to welcome **Sam Mostowfi** to our school for our Great Athletes event! The children took part in a fantastic fitness circuit, enjoyed an inspirational assembly and had lots of fun throughout the day.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and such brilliant enthusiasm from the children. We were also absolutely amazed by the amount of money that was raised through the event! **A huge thank you to all of our families for your incredible support and generosity.** Your contributions will help us to purchase new sports equipment for the school, as well as supporting athletes and para-athletes.

Personal Hygiene and Growing Up

As our children are growing older, it is important that we begin to talk about and encourage good **personal hygiene**. At this age, their bodies are naturally beginning to change, and this can sometimes mean that they sweat more or notice changes in their body odour. We would really appreciate your support in helping the children to develop these important routines at home. **Regular showering or bathing**, particularly after PE or physical activity, is important, and we would also encourage children to begin using **deodorant each day**. These are simple habits that will help the children to feel fresh, comfortable and confident as they grow and become more independent. We know that these conversations can sometimes feel a little awkward, but they are a completely normal part of growing up, and we want to support the children in developing healthy habits in a positive and respectful way.

What a fantastic week it has been! We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved and are already looking forward to another exciting week of learning.

Contact Us



We are here to help you so please never be afraid to get in touch

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