

SPRING TERM 1 2024

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## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

*An overview of what we have been up to this term*

## NURSERY THIS TERM

In Nursery, this term we revisited Christmas and talked about what we did in the Christmas holidays with our families. Our new project this term has been 'Once Upon a Time'. We are learning about the traditional tales. The children made porridge just like Goldilocks and chose healthy toppings to put on top. We decorated masks of the wolf and Red Riding Hood and built bridges for the Billy Goats Gruff! We have had so much fun acting out our favourite traditional tales. We have also been learning all about the Chinese New Year and are looking forward to making dragons for 'The Year of the Dragon'. We have been learning to recognise numbers as well as count out, compare, and measure objects. We have been comparing big and small objects, tall and short items, and used a balance to weigh heavy and light objects.





## RECEPTION THIS TERM

The Reception class has been exploring the night sky in their latest project called 'Starry Night'. During this project, they have learned about different creatures that are active during the night and day. The students have also been practicing their writing skills in the dark using flashlights in their classroom 'bat caves'. They have enjoyed reading the book 'How to Catch a Star' and have come up with creative ways to catch a star, such as using trampolines, rockets, bouncy castles, ladders, fishing rods, and lassos. Additionally, the class has been studying the first moon landing and has built their own rockets using recycled materials. Here are some pictures of their amazing creations!

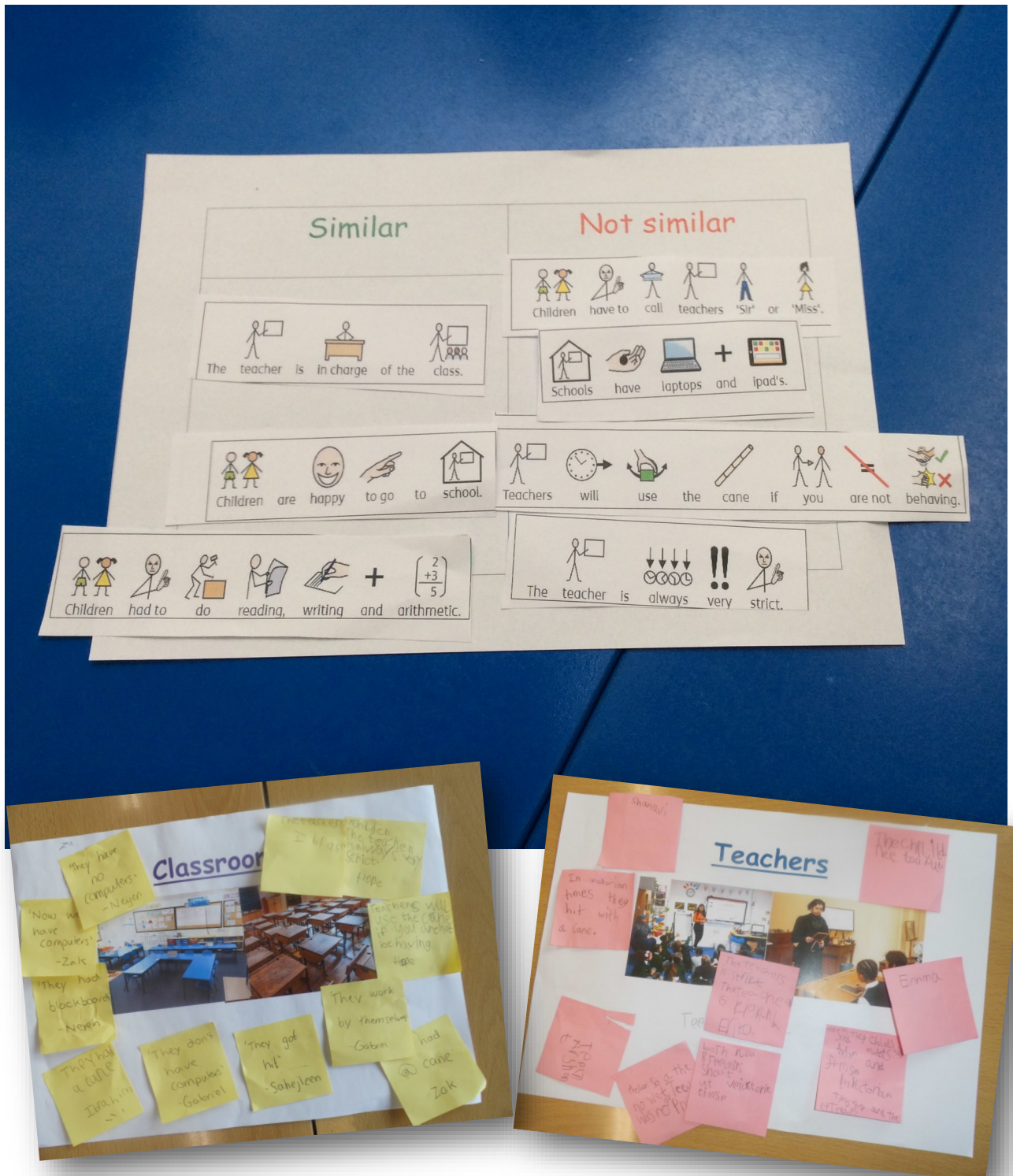




## YEAR 1 THIS TERM

In History this term the children have been learning all about schools in Victorian times. Here are some pictures of their learning. They compared Victorian schools to Belmore and discussed the similarities and differences of the teachers and classrooms.

In maths we have been developing our knowledge of place value within 20 using the number line. In the practical session, we gave the children number lines and the task of placing missing numbers in their correct position. The children were fully engaged in this activity, which allowed them to deepen their understanding of place value as well as address common misconceptions. They used number lines in various ways including finding one more and one less of a number and how to find the midpoint to help them place missing numbers on a blank line.





## YEAR 2 THIS TERM

Year 2 have been working hard this term. In maths, we have been learning about money. This has included recognising the notes and coins we use; adding money, finding change, and working on two-step word problems. After this, we started our topic on multiplication and division, finding equal groups, repeated addition, and arrays. We will be continuing with this topic after half term.

Literacy has been exciting we wrote a narrative story based on the Book 'Stardust' by Jeanne Willis. The story addresses themes of jealousy and rivalry between two sisters. One of the sisters is always considered to be a star because she excels at everything. This story also explores the relationship between the younger sister and her grandfather. How he encourages her to dream big and never give up hope. Our non-fiction text has been non-chronological reports about hibernation. We have learned many interesting facts about the animals that hibernate.

History has captivated the children. We are learning about the Great Fire of London, which happened in 1666. The children are fascinated about what happened and I am glad to say that we will be revisiting this in Literacy in the summer term. We are also hoping to take a trip the Pudding Lane in London and see 'The Monument', which commemorates the fire.

In Science, we have been looking at Materials. We have looked at whether certain materials are fit for their purpose. For instance, why wood would not make a suitable material for windows, but glass is suitable, and how common materials are around the classroom.

In Art this term, Year 2 have been looking at the artist Yayoi Kusama. She creates sculptures of flowers and she loves polka dots. All of her works of art have polka dots on them. We made our own sculpture inspired by her work. The children painted paper plates, cut out their flower and then used cotton buds to create the uniformed polka dots on their work. It was so much fun creating them.

Year 2 are looking forward to continuing their learning journey next term.





## YEAR 3 THIS TERM

During this half term, Year 3 have been learning about unit and non-unit fractions, and the process of adding and subtracting fractions. As part of their literacy lessons, they created their own narrative centred around a natural disaster. In Science, they conducted a research on the fat content of the food they consumed, which was quite an eye-opener. In History, they studied the Romans and their impact on Britain, and to make the subject more interesting, the school organised a trip to the British Museum where they observed Roman statues, coins, and delved deeper into the culture of ancient Rome. Finally, in art, the students learned various sketching techniques that they used to draw ammonites. Overall, it has been a busy, educational, and active half-term for the students.





### YEAR 3 ROAD SAFETY TRAINING

Year 3 took part in a pedestrian training workshop run by the Hillingdon STARS Team (School Travel and Road Safety Education Team). The workshop gave children practical training on how to cross the road safely and aimed to encourage and promote safe and active travel. It was very beneficial and the children learned a lot!

*The training was very educational and the trainers were knowledgeable. They helped us cross the road and showed us the correct way to cross when we did something wrong.*

Israa (Farah Class)

*It was so fun learning about how to cross the road properly. It was easy to learn the green code.*

Kaleb (Kenny Class)

*I liked it because it taught us about road safety. My favourite part was when we crossed the road with our partners. I recommend everyone to do this pedestrian training.*

Arush (Kenny Class)

*We were taught a catchy rhyme that goes like this: 'Stop, look, listen, think before you cross the street, use your eyes, use your ears before you use your feet,' which was fun to sing.*

Jeevna (Daley Class)





## YEAR 4 THIS TERM

Year 4 have had another fantastic half-term. In Literacy, we created our version of the story 'Float'. During Mathematics, we learned about fractions-converting mixed numbers and improper fractions. In History, we explored The Ancient Egyptians. We became historians- analysing artefacts and speculating on historical evidence to create theories about Tutankhamun's death. In Science, Year 4 enjoyed learning about states of matter - completing an investigation around the weight of gases.



Year 4 making a mezuzah for their RE lessons.

A mezuzah is a **small box that is placed on the right doorpost of Jewish homes**. Inside the box is a parchment scroll with verses from the Torah inscribed on it.





## YEAR 5 THIS TERM

This half term, Year 5 have started to embed their learning around fractions, learning how to compare, order, add and subtract fractions. We have also really enjoyed learning about ancient Greece in our history lessons. We have linked our artwork to history and begun designing and crafting our own clay sculptures, which have been inspired by Greek mythical creatures - they look amazing and we cannot wait to paint them! Finally in Literacy, we have been busy using our powers of persuasion to create Greek brochures and celebrated ourselves by constructing poetry around the theme 'Proud To be Me'.



## MLP POETRY SLAM FINALIST POEMS

### Muhsin – Year 5

I am friendly, not daring,  
Because I know sharing is caring.  
I'm a bit humorous but it's not always great,  
I might be a comedian, just you wait.  
My superpower is to smile,  
I just know I could go miles.  
Mother says I'm a little star,  
When I get older, I know I'll go far.  
I am strong, I am bright,  
I see new opportunities in sight.  
To this day I tell it in pride,  
I know my life will be a wild ride.

### Tiffany – Year 5

Me, myself and I, a trio of the soul  
A unique individual, with a story untold  
With thoughts, feelings and experiences to share  
A life that's worth living, a soul so rare  
For we are not mere mortals but instead unique beings  
With the power to choose, with a heart that's freeing  
To live a life that's true to us, true to our soul  
A life that's worth living, a life that's whole

Proud  
to be  
Me

### Maria - Year 5

I'm proud to be me,  
So wild and free.  
Almost like gold,  
I'm definitely bold.  
I will always smile,  
And do it in style.  
I'll always be brave,  
Like a ferocious wave.  
With a little protest,  
Maybe I'll be the best.  
When I'm on top of my game,  
They will all know my name.  
If I stand tall,  
Then I'll flourish like a waterfall.  
I know I'll go far,



## YEAR 6 THIS TERM

Over this half term, Year 6 have been busier than ever! We investigated the importance of RAF Uxbridge in the victory of the Battle of Britain in WWII in our history lessons. We had a fascinating trip to the actual bunker and followed in the footsteps of Winston Churchill!

This theme was reflected in literacy, where we studied the classic novel Goodnight Mr Tom. We put ourselves in the shoes of an ARP warden and wrote a report about the damage following a bombing raid. In science we have investigated light; even carrying out experiments with shadows. As well as the exciting things going on in our classrooms, we have had lots of workshops this half term. We learnt about types of hate crime and how to report it from the Hillingdon Borough; the importance of walking to school and being active by TFL and (saving the best until last) Brentford FC sent Marcus Gayle who played for Jamaica in a World cup and Bevan Vincent who spoke to us about equality and diversity. We can't wait to let you all know what we get up to next half term!

## YEAR 6 RAF BUNKER VISIT

The Battle of Britain Bunker was invaluable in defending Britain's airspace. We travelled back in time, descending into the bunker itself and exploring the visitor centre to understand what pivotal decisions were made to prevent Operation Sea Lion. Without these momentous contributions, we would be living in a very different world today.

*My favourite part was inside the bunker because it was fun to see all the stuff and what happened in the war. Noah (Attenborough)*

*This trip was very exciting and told us lots of interesting facts about how World War II started and how the Battle of Britain took place. Sindy (Attenborough)*

*My experience today was awesome! It really gave me an image of WW2. I find it interesting to learn what used to happen in the bunker and don't want it to happen again. I learnt that back then, dresses were made out of left-over parachutes because there was a ration on fabric. Gabi (Anderson)*

*I think the trip to the bunker was fun because we got to explore different artefacts from that period of time. Olivia (Attenborough)*

*My favourite part of the museum because of all the guns, tanks, equipment that we could see close up. Kaif (Attenborough)*

*The best bit was when we got to see the plotting table (where Winston Churchill stood) as the Battle of Britain began. Rhomel (Attenborough)*

*I liked the part where we got to listen to phones warning of air raids and the damage caused and trying on the RAF uniforms. Isla (Attenborough)*







## IN OTHER NEWS

### ANTI-DISCRIMINATION WORKSHOP

Year 5 had the brilliant opportunity to attend an 'Anti-Discrimination' session that was delivered by Brentford FC Community Sports Trust. The children discussed topics around equality, diversity, and inclusion (in both sports and our general lives). The workshop looked at some highly important issues and discussed how our children at Belmore can form an allyship with people who could be facing any kind of discrimination based on disabilities, race, or gender. This session was a fantastic way to ensure we are learning the most efficient ways to help make our school and community inclusive and welcoming.

It was really interesting to see how things are changing with women in football!

Nancy (Aderin)

It was engaging learning about gender issues and how we can push for equality in our lives.

Jamie (Aderin)

I have learnt that discrimination no matter how small, can lead to big issues. This session taught me how to be resilient in difficult situations we might face.

Nathan (Franklin)

We learned about a footballer who faced discrimination, and how she raised awareness to bring equality in football.



## IN OTHER NEWS

### THE RIOT ACT

On Tuesday 6 February we had **The Riot Act** in school to deliver their Road Safety and Active Travel tour: **'How We Roll!'** for our Year 5/6 students. This production promoted the key road safety messages and raised awareness of distractions such as phones, music and friends. The performers used funny characters to portray the messages and encouraged the pupils to interact in the production.

It explored how excessive traffic outside of schools can impact air quality and what students can do to reduce this. It highlighted the benefits of walking, cycling and scooting to school and explored the good road safety practices specific to each. The main message of the production was how pupils can plan their journey in a way that is healthy and active to impact life-long change. The pupils really enjoyed the performance and were able to engage fully and suggest ways to safely navigate our busy roads and put forward ideas on how we can reduce global warming and make a difference over time, to positively impact their world in the future.





## IN OTHER NEWS

### BRENTFORD FC YEAR 6 WORKSHOP

In the last week of an exceptionally busy half-term, we had an amazing workshop delivered by Marcus Gayle and Bevan Vincent from Brentford FC. The focus was on equality and diversity and was very thought-provoking. We had time to reflect on how we put this into practice in our everyday lives; both in and out of school. The pair were so friendly and down to earth, we felt comfortable discussing difficult topics and thinking about how we could resolve situations that arise. In fact, our only complaint was that the time flew by so fast! Don't take just my word for it - see what other Year 6 pupils thought:



*It was great to have such a serious topic talked about in a chatty, responsible way!*

Samuel (Anderson)

*I learned about the impact of discrimination and the importance of inclusion. I loved how we were able to talk through situations and offer advice.*

Assiyah (Anderson)

*I thought the workshop was really informative in a fun and entertaining way. It was a great interactive learning experience. I REALLY hope they come back again and I get the experience in secondary school too!*

Abdullah (Attenborough)

*I loved it because I learned about the hard times people have gone through, just to get to where we are now. It was insightful, seeing things from another perspective.*

Sindy (Attenborough)

*It was really fun and active. I loved using the hand gestures. Lots of people have come in and delivered workshops, but none of them were as good as these guys!*

Kelcie (Attenborough)

*I loved the workshop, especially when the boys were shown why girls should be allowed and welcomed to play football.*

Maci (Berners-Lee)

*I think they were amazing - they made us realise that everyone should be included and involved. There are no limits or boundaries! The gentleman were teaching us about tough subjects but in a gentle way.*

Yanis (Berner-Lee)

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