



FANTASTIC FOREST SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are incredibly proud of the children and how they have adapted, despite the many complications and challenges of this term. We hope you enjoy this round-up of some of the wonderful things which have been going in at school. We have made every effort to ensure the children experienced as normal a term as possible under the Covid-19 circumstances. Thank you for your help in achieving this!

I am also full of admiration for my amazing staff team who have worked tirelessly with pride and professionalism throughout the pandemic!

Graham Frost - Headteacher



Nursery

This term has been all about getting to know each other, making friends and exploring and using our classroom areas. We enjoyed sessions with actions ants and have particularly enjoyed using our perfume and potion station.

Reception

The children in Reception have had a wonderful first term in school. This term we have focused on making new friendships and getting used to the school routine. The children have enjoyed exploring different areas of the classrooms as well as the outdoors. The children particularly enjoyed going on a bear hunt in our school forest!



Reception made Christmas pictures to go up in the Intensive Care Unit to spread some Christmas cheer. The staff there sent us these photos of our pictures at the hospital.

A huge thank you and very best wishes to all our parents working in the NHS, healthcare, residential care, and other front-line work during the pandemic.

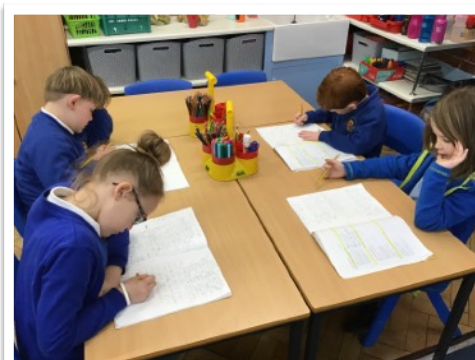


Year 1

Year 1 have been having some amazing experiences since we came back after half term. We have enjoyed Action Ants, especially when we have been doing archery or playing dodge ball in teams. We have learnt to play floor tennis and crazy golf! We have also been able to use some of the gymnastics equipment in the upstairs hall to help develop our balance, coordination and gross motor skills.



At Forest School, Year 1 have enjoyed using water colours to copy the colours, shapes and patterns found in nature. Using natural materials, such as mud and berries, we made our own paint and made pictures using it. The children have really enjoyed creating potions in the potion station, and making scrambled snake, owl ice cream, roasted fox and Gruffalo crumble in the new mud kitchen.



Year 2

This term we have been learning all about fire in Year 2. We learned about The Great Fire of London, The Gunpowder Plot and used adjectives to compose fire poems. We were fascinated to learn about Guy Fawkes and his plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament. In art we created a fire sunset as the backdrop of London in 1666 during the great fire.





Year 3

We have been learning and performing several songs with Zozo that we use the beat to drum along to. We have learned 'The Train Song' about a very slow passenger train in Sierra Leone as well as 'Maskita' and 'Rankitank'. The children have loved these sessions.



The children from both classes have made an impressive amount of Stone Age weapons and jewellery as part of their topic homework. We've seen everything from flint axes, to bows and arrows and even bone necklaces.

Year 4

As part of our Viking Topic, Year 4 have produced water colours of Viking Longboats. We also created some storyboards based on our class book, *The Last Viking*.

We have been using the apparatus for gymnastics during our PE lessons, which the children have really enjoyed.

New for this term, in music lessons we have all been learning to play the ukulele.

Year 4 have had great fun at their Christmas party and are now working hard to produce some lovely Christmas crafts.



Year 5

This half term we have been investigating rivers. We have learned about the water cycle, river features, rivers around the world and we enjoyed identifying creatures that live in the river Caldey.



The children built rafts that float in Design and Technology.



We are incredibly impressed with the children's art work inspired by rivers. They used oil pastels and watercolours to create these pieces of art.

We love the Forest School area and enjoy exploring in there. We went on a mini beast hunt and learned about the habitats they live in. We also looked at how creatures have adapted to their habitats.

Year 6

This term, Year 6 have completed their topics on WW2 and in science, the circulatory system and light; we conducted lots of experiments to see how light travels.

In English we studied *The Highwayman* and focused on developing characters and settings in our writing.

Lately, we have discussed the true meaning of Christmas and how, after a particularly difficult year, we should care for others who may be less fortunate than us.

We wrote letters to Santa in the role of key workers and empathised with their situations and hopes for Christmas, as well as writing letters to key workers to show our thanks for everything they have done this year.

