

Friday 28th May 2021



And, just like that, we are at the end of another productive and enjoyable half term.

It is great to see the sun finally shining and it was lovely to see and hear all of the children enjoying outdoor learning at some point during the course of the day yesterday. In particular, Year 3 and 4 had a 'Health and Well being' day which was hosted by Arena and the rest of the school have completed related activities throughout the week, such as: Wild Tribe, Yoga, meditation and team building water activities.

The children have definitely been displaying the learning sail 'connect' this week as part of reviewing and making connections between previous and new learning. The children have enjoyed the opportunity to share their learning, including home learning, this week.

Myself and various staff members have had the wonderful opportunity of popping into all classes to observe the different learning that is taking place. We are really proud of how much progress the children are making and they certainly demonstrate lots of resilience during the challenges this year has brought with Covid-19. Please continue to support with reading, phonics and multiplication practice at home—it really helps to support their learning in school. If you need any support with this, please speak to your child's class teacher, and they will be happy to help with ideas.

Let's hope that the sunshine continues over the bank holiday and for next week for half term. Please make sure you have an enjoyable and restful half term. We look forward to seeing you back to school on **Monday 7th June** for the final half term of this academic year. Please ensure that your child always has their PE kit in school as well having a water bottle, sun hat and wearing sunscreen.

School Improvement: Wraparound care

As you are aware, we currently have breakfast club in place and we welcome a little bit of feedback on it. But, we are also exploring the idea of after school child care and would welcome your feedback to see if it is a viable option. If it is, we hope to start it in September. It would be organised like breakfast club for children who need regular child care after school. It would be supervised by staff members, the children would have a variety of activities on offer and be provided with a snack and drink.

Please note, that this is separate from the usual after school clubs, e.g. football club, which will resume in September once restrictions are lifted.

We would appreciate it if you could complete our survey via this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q9SNVQ5> by 5pm TODAY (Friday 28th May). We will keep you updated on the outcome.

We are trying to be an 'Eco friendly' school so we don't send home newsletters. Black and white copies are available in the foyer. It will also be available on the website under 'Newsletters' in the 'Parents' tab and will be posted on ClassDojo.



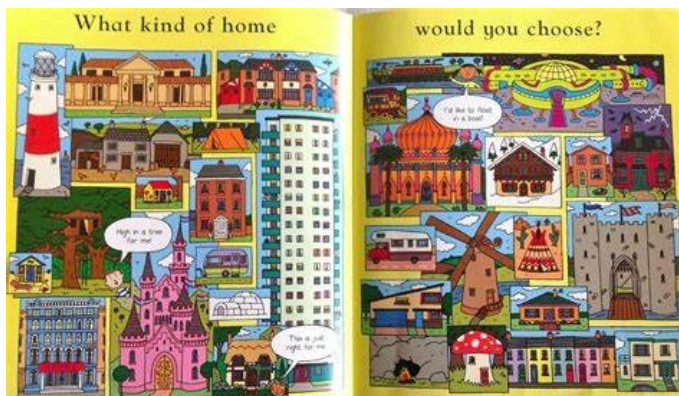
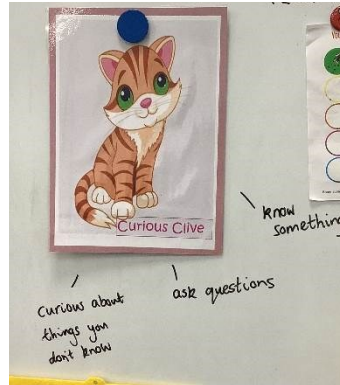
Year F



This half term Year F have been exploring our school's learning sails with the help of their characters!

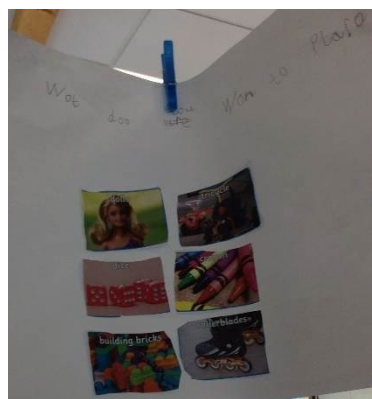


We discussed what it means to be curious...



.. and developed our ability to answer questions using the book 'You Choose' by Nick Sharatt and Pippa Goodhart.

We then made our own pages for the book and came up with our own questions to be answered!



Year 1

Year 1 have been taking part in weekly Wild Tribe sessions. This week we enjoyed collecting sticks, which we placed into the fire under our Kelly Kettle so we could boil water to make our own delicious hot chocolate. Next week, we are looking forward to toasting marshmallows and making s'mores.



Year 1 Wild Tribe

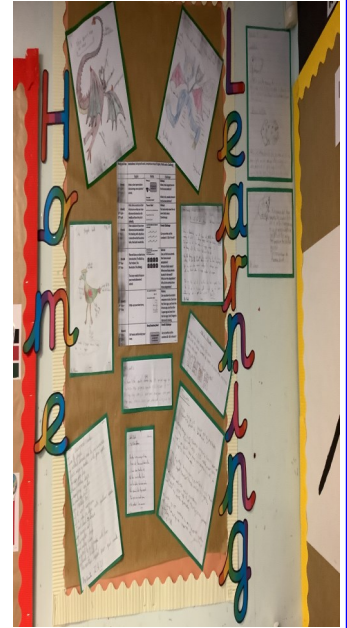
Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy half term! We have explored how to change and make characters move in Scratch, working hard on discussions in writing, learning how to play Samba drums and taking some time to work on our yoga poses. Well done Year 2!



Year 3

During the month of May, Year 3 have engaged in a range of learning activities to help them attain and embed a wide range of knowledge. For English, Year 3 enjoyed performing a puppet show to support their learning of the key features of a story, 'The Stone Age Boy.' This text fitted in nicely with their learning on Prehistoric Britain, where Year 3 explored the key changes in Britain from the Stone Age through to the end of the Iron Age. Active learning has included Dodgeball and Tennis. Year 3 also enhanced their own creative skills by making a prehistoric house made out of clay.



Year 4

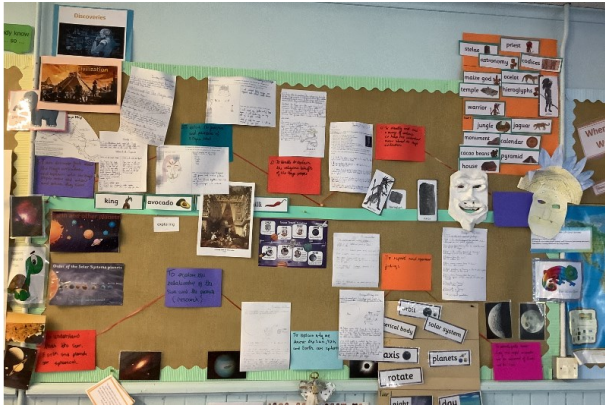
Year 4 took part in a health and well being day yesterday and completed lots of different activities, including a problem solving water challenge, creating a piece of natural art and an orienteering task. We had lots of fun!



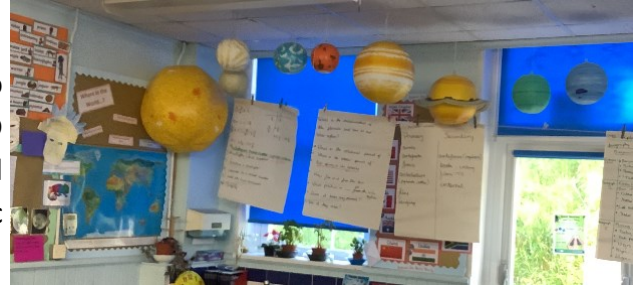
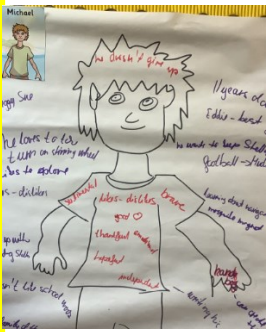
Year 5

Discoveries

This half term, the school's learning connection block has been 'Discoveries'. Year 5's focus has the Maya Civilisation and Earth and space. We have researched the planets in our solar system and created our own presentations: Power Points and mini movies.



We have also made connections with their 3D art to history and researched, designed and created 3D Mayan masks by moulding and shaping newspaper and Modroc (to be painted today).



Our class text this half term has been Kensuke's Kingdom. We have got to the part where Michael is lost on an island with only a strange man, who is helping him stay alive but clearly is not looking for friendship. Will he be found? Will he be reunited with his parents? We can't wait to read on!

Year 6

This half term Year 6 have linked their Art to their History and have enjoyed learning about 'History through the Decades'. They have particularly enjoyed creating some POP-ART in the style of Andy Warhol, who they have found to be fascinating and innovative with his art-work. So far the children have researched and written about Andy, created their own version of his 'Converse trainer' picture, designed and created a class copy of his Campbell's varieties of soup, and are currently working on tracing and painting POP-ART versions of famous people. Year 6's Pop-Art is currently on display outside their classroom.



Well done Year 6!



Amazing Achievements

Stars of The Week

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
7th May	Rosie Harrison	Yushang Imarni	Sarah Meadow	Oliver Sienna Mac	Yujie Phoebe	Henry Oliver	Scott Lola
14th May	Efe Isabelle	Evie Aaron	Lilian Antoni	Breanna Simon	Nicola Darcey	Benjamin Chelsea	Flora Joseph
21st May	Archie Isla	Maxim Hannah	Elif Tomacz	Marley Sienna Mass	Zanka Morwenna	Blake Autumn	Oscar D Maja
28th May	Lilly Jason	All of Y1	Olivia Laila	Seth Tyler	Iannis Casey	Lily Alfie	Minnie Sam

Respect and Kindness

	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
7th May	Kai (Y1)	Violet (Y4)	Ewan (Y6)
14th May	Millie (Y2)	Oliver (Y3)	Brooke (Y5)
21st May	Florence (YF)	Nicola (Y4)	Aris (Y6)
28th May	Imarni (Y1)	Seth (Y3)	Harry (Y5)

Positive Role Model

14th May
Adem (Y1)
28th May
Sam (Y6)

Raffle ticket winners

7th May
Autumn (Y1), Merrick (Y1) and Max Y (Y2)
21st May
Noah (Y1), Filip (Y1) and Merrick (Y1)

Writers and Mathematicians of the half term

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Writing	Harrison	Margo	Meadow	Jude	Jacob	Elsie	Jayden
Maths	Louis L	Yushang	Chloe	Lexie G	Finlay	Marissa	Isla

Visible Learners of the half term

Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Rosie	Rosey	Ella	Quintin	Phoebe	Esther	Alfie
Efe	Merrick	Franky	Sienna Mac	Filip	Brooke	Abigail

Attendance Figures for May 2021

The class with the highest attendance each week, receives an extra playtime and the attendance trophy.

Each term each child can earn a different colour attendance badge. And, for each term within the year, they can earn themselves an additional bronze, silver or gold badge.

Our annual attendance target is **97%+**. It is good to see that attendance has continued to increase this half term. Keep it up!

Year	7th May	14th May	21st May	28th May
YF	99.2%	95.7%	99.3%	100% ★
Y1	97.4%	97.2%	98.7%	97.3%
Y2	97.4%	90%	96.2%	91%
Y3	96.7%	95.7%	98.7%	99.3%
Y4	98.3%	100% ★	94%	98%
Y5	93.5%	96.1%	95.2%	97.4%
Y6	99.1%	99.3%	99.3%	98.5%
Whole school	97.3%	96.3%	97.3%	97.4%

We understand in some circumstances this cannot be avoided, e.g. sickness, diarrhoea, Covid-19 symptoms.

However, if it is just a cold or similar they are okay to be in school. By not being in school, it has a significant effect on their learning, as well as their social skills, building relationships, self-esteem etc.

It is also important that children are not late to school. Remember Years 1, 3 and 6 start at 8.45am and Years F, 2 and 5 start at 9am.

We closely monitor our attendance and have to inform the Education Welfare Officer if individuals fall below 95%.

SchoolMoneyAPP (Eduspot)

Thank you for your support with Edupot and booking school lunches - it really is speeding up the morning return so we can fit more learning in.

We require ALL parents to use the APP to book and pay (if applicable) for school dinners or select if they are a packed lunch. This is to be done in advance by the end of the day on a Sunday prior to the week ahead. You can now book right up until the summer holidays.

If you have not pre-booked and paid (if applicable) a required school dinner, you will be contacted to provide a packed lunch for your child.

If you are having any problems, please contact Mrs Zoffman.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Although we do not have to report assessment data externally this year, we will still be completing assessments, e.g. Year 1 phonics screening check, Y2 SATs and Y6 SATs to inform our teacher assessments. These will be completed during the month of May so full attendance is strongly encouraged.

We hope to have more events in Summer 2 but this will rely on the easing of restrictions and Government guidance. We will keep you posted via ClassDojo.

31st May - 4th June	Half term
Month of June	Assessment month
7th to 25th June	Year 4 Multiplication check
9th July	Reports to parents
Week beg 12th July	Whole school Transition week
20th July 10am	Year 6 Leavers' assembly
21st July	Last day of term for pupils
22nd and 23rd July	INSET Days
6th September	INSET Day
7th September	Pupils return to school

Friends of WHA

The Friends of Windmill Hill Academy have arranged a meeting for **Thursday 17 June 2021 at 3.30pm** in the school playground (weather permitting). There will be a maximum of 30 people being able to attend in line with Covid restrictions.

We will be discussing the way forward. Hopefully we can arrange some fun events for the children (dependent on covid rules).

New members are always welcome. If you are able to join us, please comment on the relevant ClassDojo post. If you are not able to attend the meeting but would be interested in helping, again, please comment on the relevant ClassDojo post.



We need your help!

We would like to ask if anyone is able to make/donate some of these items to help with the development of our school garden. Alex in Year 1 and Jamie in Year 3 have already made some items—thank you! But, we would still welcome more and half term is a perfect time to have a sort out and to complete a project.

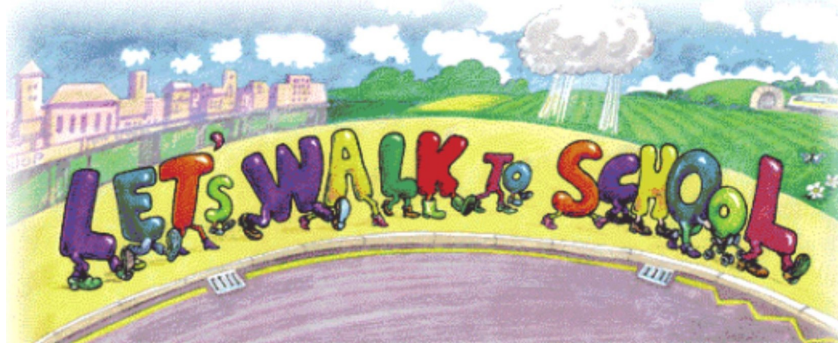


Any of the following items would be gratefully received.



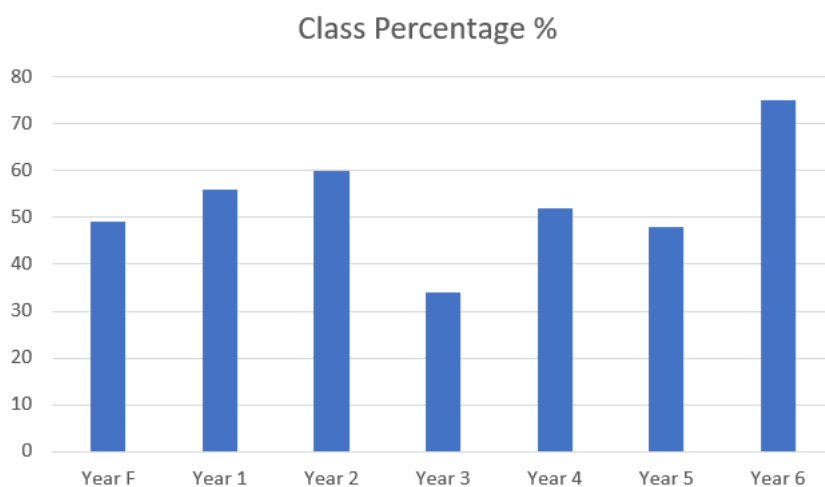
Many thanks,
Maja, Dillan, Abigail and
Zack
(School Forum Pupil
Parliament group)





Well done to those that braved the very wet weather last week and walked to and from school for part or whole of the week.

Here were the final results:



Year 6 won the competition and enjoyed extra playtime/ golden time with 75% of pupils in the class walking to/ from school.

The whole school average was 52%.

The children really enjoyed this experience and it has really supported in the reduction of traffic and parking. We ask that you now challenge yourselves to keep this going. However, if you do have to use a car on occasions, please use our 'drop and go' system in the mornings or ask Mrs Zoffman for a parking permit for one of the local car parks. We discourage parking on roads close to the school. If you do, please ensure that you park safely, be alert to children and parents walking and keep speed to a minimum.

Well done to all entries of the poster competition. Ella in Year 2 won the KS1 award and Joseph in Year 6 won the KS2 award.



Both children were awarded with a special art set. Keep your eyes peeled for the posters displayed in the local area.

