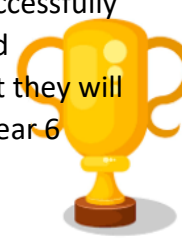
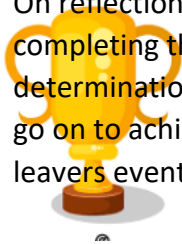


Dear Parents,

I trust this newsletter finds you all well and you are looking forward to the exciting events due to take place in Term 6.

On reflection of Term 5 I would like to extend my congratulations to Year 6 for successfully completing their Key Stage 2 SATs. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and determination throughout this year and during the tests, and I have no doubt that they will go on to achieve great things in the future. I hope they now look forward to the Year 6 leavers events and enjoy their last remaining term at primary school.



It is with tears in our eyes that we bid farewell to Mrs J Clay, a long-standing Teaching Assistant, who has exhibited unwavering dedication and commitment to Grove Park over the years. We are immensely grateful for her hard work and contribution to our school community, and she will be dearly missed in her role as teaching assistant. We hope she finds her time at home relaxing and hope she remains a friend of Grove Park in the future.



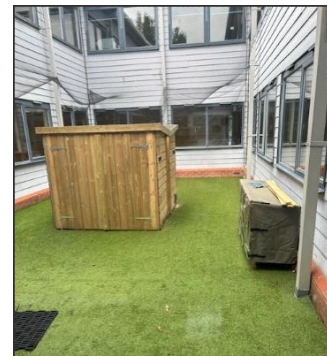
We also participated in Autism Awareness Week during Term 4. This provided a valuable opportunity for our pupils to learn about and understand the experiences of individuals with autism. I want to thank both the pupils and staff for their engagement and compassion during this important week, and for taking part in a sponsored walk. Well done Grove Park.

As we enter Term 6, we have some exciting events arranged for our children, including transition into new classes, a summer fete, end-of-year productions, along with many more. These events not only provide opportunities for our pupils to showcase their talents but also foster a sense of community and camaraderie within Grove Park. We hope you can attend many of these events and show your support.



Community Sports Days are also taking place in Term 6. This year we are hosting a new format to our sports day. They will run as communities and have set events for the children to participate in, including a family fun zone where you can join in the fun with your children. Arctic Community will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June and Serengeti will run on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June. The main gates will be open from 9:00am for parents to arrive and we aim to start all races at 09:30am for each class. Further information about the plan will be sent to you at the start of next term.

Finally, within the last newsletter we shared the exciting news of Cuddle Corner, a provision that will home rabbits and guinea pigs. This is well on its way and soon in Term 6 your children will see the first of our rabbits arrive, with some tortoises also making an appearance. Mrs. Day is leading our Cuddle Corner provision and as part of the set up will be bringing her own animals to test the allocated area to ensure it is safe and to help us establish where to place shelter and their new homes. As you can see from the picture, Cuddle Corner is still under development. With new aspects arriving daily. We now have their indoor space, raised netting at the top of the building and it has been laid with Astro turf. Once it is ready to open, you will be informed of a grand opening.



It is also with great excitement and pleasure that we announce to you that from September 2024, we will be introducing a school dog, Draco to our learning environment. Research has shown that interaction with animals can have numerous benefits for children's mental health and emotional well-being. Draco is a golden retriever and will be a trained therapy dog for our school. Draco is a family pet to Mrs Flain, who is his named owner and who takes responsibility for him and his training. The policy regarding the school dog and our smaller pets, along with consent forms will be sent to you during Term 6 and we ask that you read and sign these carefully before your child interacts with any of our animals.



As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions or require any further information. Your continued support and cooperation are greatly appreciated as we work together to provide the best possible educational experience for our pupils.

Have a wonderful half-term break and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

## Term 5 in Polar Bear Class

Our term kicked off with Supertato! Followed by Jack and the Beanstalk.

We wrote simple sentences to retell the story. We have been focusing on using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.



The Numberblocks have been helping us to learn subtracting, number bonds to 5 and 10, and 2d shapes.



We have been working hard to write in cursive and



We have also been learning greater than and less than. We used the symbols to help us.



We created our own Super-Veggies!



We worked with a friend to make our own version of a beanstalk.



We dressed up as a Superheroes!



We have been making castles using large and small blocks.



We took part in Beep Beep Day. We learnt about road safety.

# Year 2 - Snowy Owls



In term 5, as children set sail into a new routine, they've 'arr-med' themselves with knowledge about pirates, ready to plunder the seas of learning!

Our writing text this term was 'The Pirates Next Door'. The story has helped develop our understanding of the lives of pirates. We even had our very own pirate day! We have written a diary entry recounting our day in the life of a pirate, and decided if the pirate life was for us. We even took advantage of the nice weather and completed our writing task outside!



In maths, we have been learning how to tell the time. We can confidently tell the time to half past and o'clock, and even learnt how to tell the time to 5 minutes. We've also looked at fractions and started to add and subtract fractions!



Within our Discovery lessons, we have learnt about the Golden Age of Piracy. We have also learnt about famous pirates such as Blackbeard, Anne Bonny and Grace O'Malley. We plotted where pirates mostly travelled on our maps and recounted our knowledge of the 5 oceans. In DT we designed and made our own sea monsters, using levers and linkages to make them move!



In Week 4, Snowy Owls got to live the daily life of a pirate. We carried out lots of different activities, such as scrubbing the deck, designing a Jolly Roger flag, making our own compasses and writing messages on tea-stained paper! To finish the day, we went on a treasure hunt around the school and managed to find some pirate gold.



In Science, we have been investigating plants. We experimented planting some broad beans in tissue and observed them over a week to see how quickly they grew. Some even grew up to 30cm tall!



A huge congratulations to our class value winners for the Spring term:

Jack, Calvin, Marco, Laila, Isobel, Raiyah

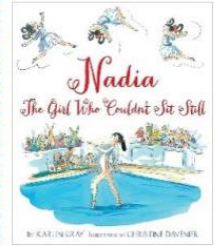
Next term, our topic will be 'The Great Fire of London'.

Lastly, I would just like to say that it has been amazing teaching Snowy Owls this term.

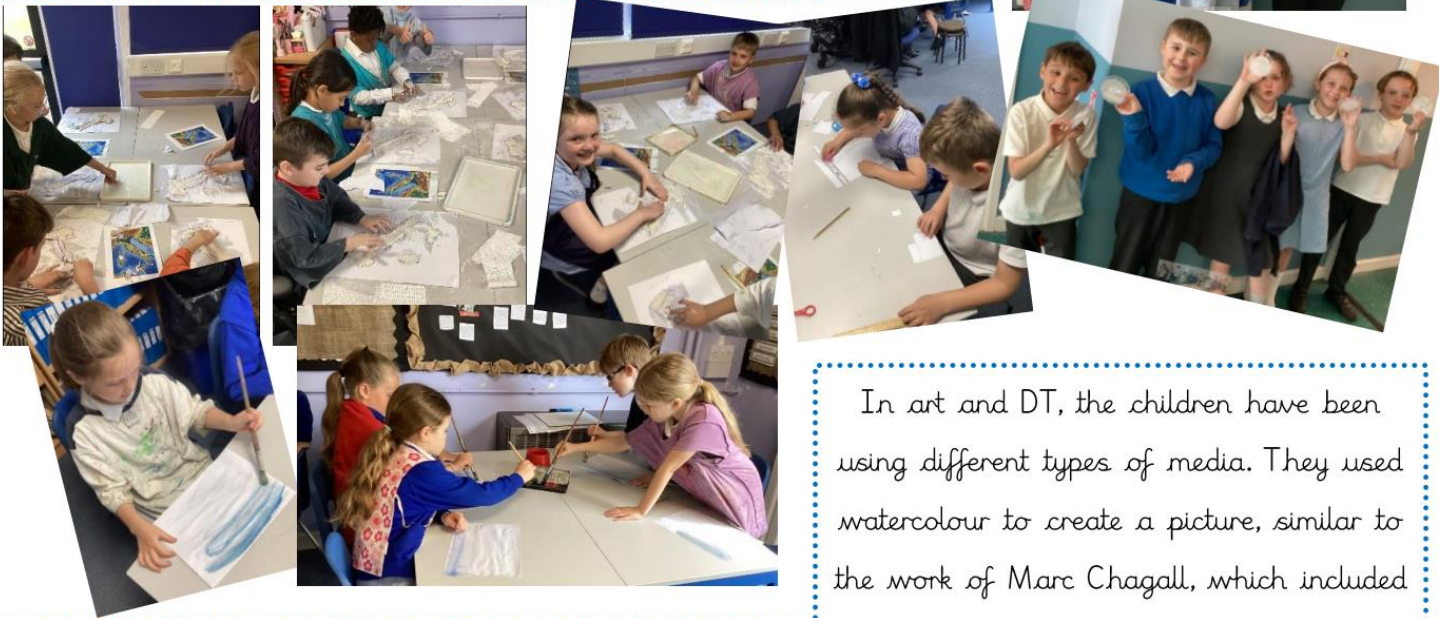
# Narwhal Class

This term in Narwhal Class our topic was 'A Window to Europe'.

We have been reading a book called 'Nadia The Girl Who Couldn't Sit Still'. The children have been trying hard to use the writing skills that they've been taught to write scene descriptions and speech sandwiches. We have also read other stories that link to our topic which include 'The Noisy Paintbox' and 'Through the Window'



The children have been doing athletics in PE and have enjoyed learning sprint starts and skills used for a relay race. They pushed themselves to do long distance running and they enjoyed competing with each other (and me!). Above all, the children have really loved our javelin sessions indoors and have started to master this.



Other subject areas that the children have learnt this term

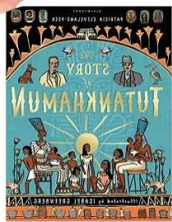
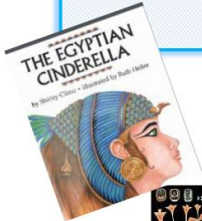
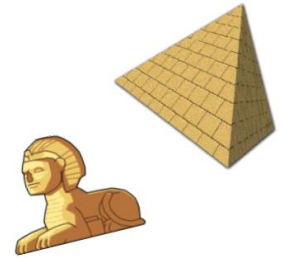
- French— days of the week
- Computing— branching databases
- PSHE— friendships and conflict
- Maths— time, angles and shapes
- Science - plants

In art and DT, the children have been using different types of media. They used watercolour to create a picture, similar to the work of Marc Chagall, which included the Paris skyline. They also used Modroc to create a 3D model of Italy. The children have loved being creative and particularly enjoyed making their own gymnasium from cereal boxes which linked to our story.

Our final topic of the year will be 'Roman Britain'.

# Arctic Fox

This term our Discovery topic has been 'The Egyptians'. So far on our Egyptian journey we have learnt about the Nile and its importance to the ancient civilisation, and about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. Our journey will continue into Term 6, where we will learn about mummification and of course much more!

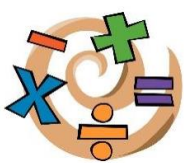


The children have really enjoyed our guided reading text *The Story of Tutankhamun* by Patricia Cleveland-Peck. We have continued to refine our read and retrieve skills and have begun to focus more on our mastery skills of inference. We have been really impressed with the children's progress in reading this term, and we would like to thank you for all your hard work in supporting us in promoting the importance of reading and reading with your children at home.

For Art & DT this term we have replicated papyrus paper and used multi-media to create Egyptian inspired patterns. The children really enjoyed our 'desktop gallery' and gave each other friendly feedback about each other's work.



We have continued to focus on our times tables this term. Early next term sees all children in Year 4 across the UK take part in a multiplication test in which all are expected to achieve the pass mark of 25. Fluency is the key to passing, something we are working on every day in class, with the support of our multiplication app TT Rockstars. If you would like your child to access this app at home, please ask for your child's login to be sent home. Of course, any support you can provide at home is gratefully received. For more information about the Government multiplication test go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>



Respect Responsible Resilience Resourceful

Congratulations to our class Value winners

Matthew, Jaxon, Ava, Amaal,  
Logan and Ella



Just a little reminder that yellow reading records need to come into school every day

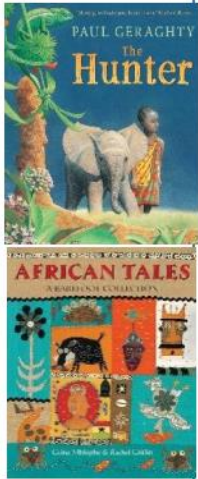
T6 will see us continue with our Egyptian topic. We will finish our swimming lessons once the pool is repaired, and we look forward to our trip to The British Museum in July where we will be taking part in an Egyptian mummy workshop!



# Year 5 - Snow Leopards



Linking to our topic, in English we have been reading 'The Hunter' by Paul Geraghty. The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading about Jamina's adventure in helping an elephant find a new herd after the elephant's mother was killed by poachers. They then wrote their own versions and produced some amazing writing! In Reading, we have looked at 'African Tales' by Geina Mhlophe and Rachel Griffin. The children thoroughly enjoyed this book as they learnt all about the different places in Africa and some of the tales that come from them.



Our topic this term has been Vanishing elephants. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Africa and how elephants are being poached for their tusks. The children wrote some beautiful persuasive letters to Mrs Flain asking her to adopt an elephant and wore grey to raise money. The children were successful in this and have now received a certificate and an elephant teddy that they have called 'Dumbo' to add to our class for the rest of the year.



Also, this term we have looked at the following topics:

- Art/DT – We have been very creative this term in Snow Leopards. The children have designed clay elephants and then created dioramas to create homes for their elephants. In order to create their dioramas, the children had to go hunting in forest school for lots of foliage – they really enjoyed getting muddy. Some are amazing!
- RE – We have explored the big question of 'How do Greta, Malala and Marcus view the world.' The children have enjoyed learning about this.
- PE – In both outdoor and indoor PE, the children have been working on their athletics skills in preparation for Sports Day next term.

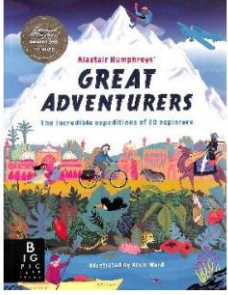


In Maths, the children have shown great resilience when faced with tricky learning. The children have been working on their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages this term. They are becoming increasingly more confident and have said that they have found decimals and percentages a lot easier than fractions!

Congratulations to our value certificate winners this term – Elliott, Henry, Riley, Summer, Isobel and Ivy.



# Year 6 - Reindeer Class



This term our topic was 'Great Adventurers'



We thoroughly enjoyed our SATs celebration breakfast & getting our leavers hoodies!



This term we have considered the difference between explorers, adventurers, navigators, and traders. We have used atlases to deepen our geographical knowledge. We have conducted further research from our English and reading lessons on Jacques Cousteau, Jacques Piccard & Sylvia Earle. In an element of cross-curricular with art, we discovered more about the zones of the ocean and the extreme environments around the world.

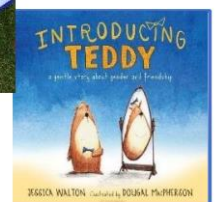
Linking to our topic, in English we have been reading the text 'Manfish' learning about the underwater explorer Jacques Cousteau. We have produced a first-person narrative, descriptive writing, third person narrative and our own entry into the Great Adventurers book. This book is what we have been diving into during our pathways to read lessons. We have investigated various adventurers such as Michael Collins, retrieving our knowledge of space from year 5.



In maths this term we have looked at ratio & proportion, angles, parts of a circle, nets and statistics. We also completed lots of revision of all the topics for our SATs!

Other topics that the children in Year 6 have been studying this term:

- Music (French)
- Coding / Blogs (Computing)
- No Outsiders story & Citizenship (PSHE)
- Athletics (PE) - We have thoroughly enjoyed preparing for sports day next term!



**A huge well done to Harley, Amy, Lilly-Rose, Kamil & Conor for being our values certificate winners this term.**

We are looking forward to making final memories with your children in Term 6 as we begin to transition to secondary school.