

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you've had a wonderful term 3. We are delighted to share with you some of the exciting learning opportunities and memorable events the children have taken part in so far. It has been a busy and inspiring few weeks across the school!

Wingham Wildlife Park Trip

Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic day exploring Wingham Wildlife Park, learning about different animals and their habitats. Their excitement and curiosity were brilliant to see!

Year 5 and 6 Road Safety Workshops

Key Stage 2 pupils took part in important and engaging road safety sessions, helping them understand how to stay safe when out and about in the community.

Year 3 Bowls Experience

Year 3 tried something new this term with an active Bowls workshop, developing coordination, teamwork, and a love for trying new sports.

Year 5 – VR Experience

Year 5 had an immersive VR session that transported them into virtual worlds to enhance their topic learning. It was a real wow moment for the children!

TT Rockstars Competition

Classes across Years 4 have been battling it out in a high-energy -energy Times Tables Rockstars competition. The progress in speed and accuracy has been fantastic—well done to everyone who took part!

Safer Internet Week

Children have been learning about how AI appears in the apps, games, and websites they use every day, and how to make positive, informed choices when navigating technology. They have also explored key skills such as recognising reliable information, protecting personal details, and knowing who to talk to if something online doesn't feel right.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/exploring-the-safe-and-responsible-use-of-ai-for-safer-internet-day-2026/>

We encourage children to talk about this at home with you and ways you can strengthen children's digital confidence would be to talk regularly about online experiences, including what they enjoy and what worries them. Have open conversations about how to build safer habits and remind children to protect personal information and think carefully before sharing or posting online.

By working together at school and at home, we can help all children stay safe, confident, and kind online while enjoying the many benefits that smart technology offers.



Welcome to Our New Magical Library!

We are thrilled to share the wonderful news that our brand-new-new school library is now open, and it has already become one of the most loved spaces in school!

The library has a magical, enchanting atmosphere that captures the imagination the moment you step inside. Our newly appointed Pupil Librarians were even sorted into Harry Potter-themed houses, adding a fun and exciting twist to their role. They have been working incredibly hard to help maintain the space, recommend books, and support their peers.

All children now have regular access to this calming, beautiful environment, and as a result, we have seen a significant boost in enthusiasm for reading. It is wonderful to see so many pupils choosing to spend time exploring new books, curling up with stories, and discovering genres they love.

Introducing Our New School Social Media Accounts

We are thrilled to announce that our school will shortly be launching official Facebook and Instagram pages. These platforms will be used to:

- Celebrate the amazing learning happening across the school
- Share highlights from special events and enrichment opportunities
- Showcase the achievements of our pupils
- Keep our community connected and informed

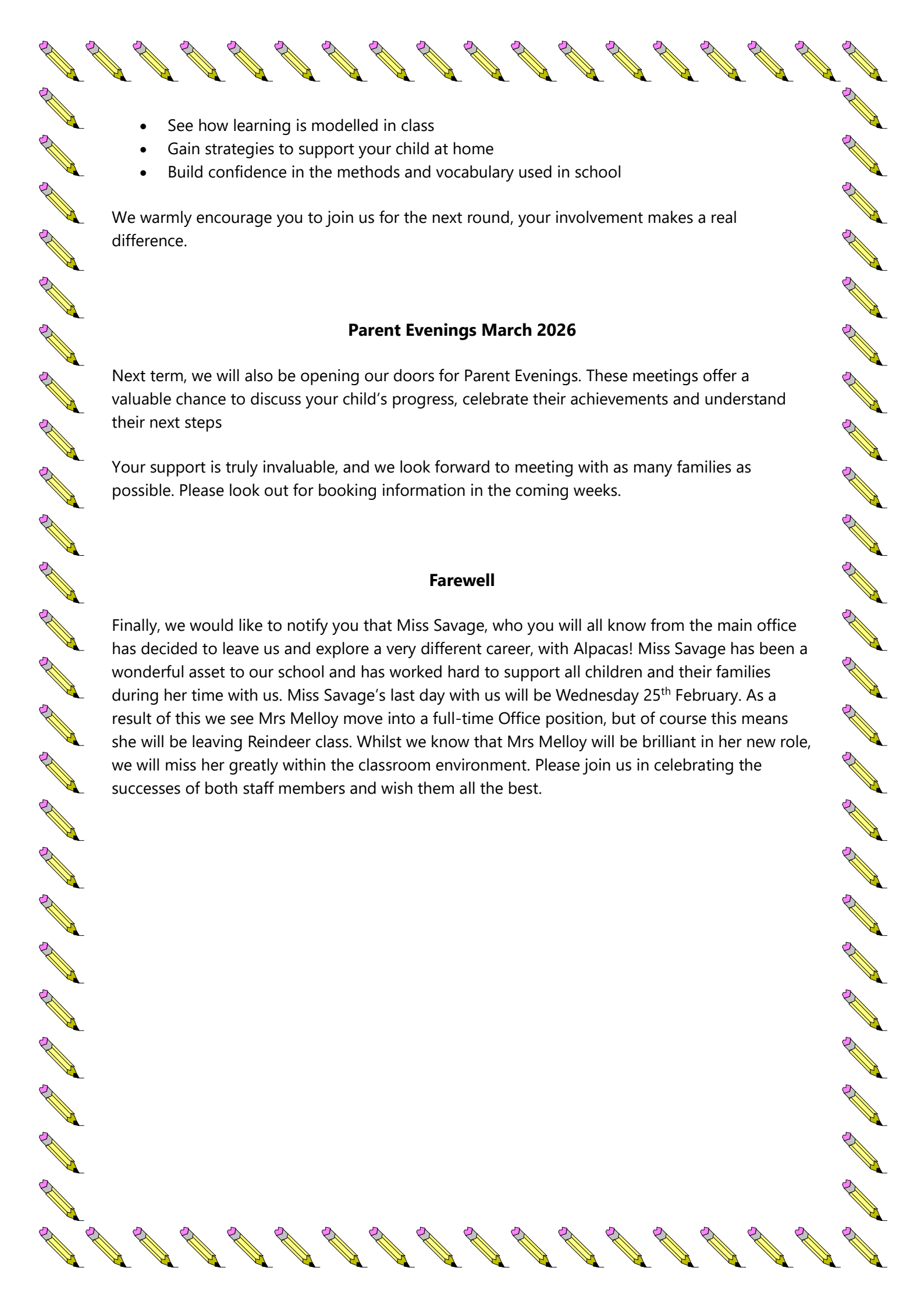
Before posting any content, we will be checking photo permissions and consent forms to ensure all children featured have the correct approval in place. If your contact details or consent preferences have changed, please log on to Arbor and update your information. Look out for more information soon—we can't wait to share our first posts with you!

Parent Maths Workshops – Supporting Understanding at Grove Park

Thank you to all the parents who attended our recent Maths Workshops. These sessions focused on how we teach mathematical concepts at Grove Park, breaking learning down into clear, manageable steps and using practical resources to help children build strong, secure understanding.

The workshops were incredibly popular, and we are delighted that so many families found them helpful. Due to the positive response, we will be running additional sessions in Term 4, with a particular focus on early number and the foundations that support confident, fluent mathematicians.

These workshops provide a wonderful opportunity to:

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- See how learning is modelled in class
 - Gain strategies to support your child at home
 - Build confidence in the methods and vocabulary used in school

We warmly encourage you to join us for the next round, your involvement makes a real difference.

Parent Evenings March 2026

Next term, we will also be opening our doors for Parent Evenings. These meetings offer a valuable chance to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements and understand their next steps

Your support is truly invaluable, and we look forward to meeting with as many families as possible. Please look out for booking information in the coming weeks.

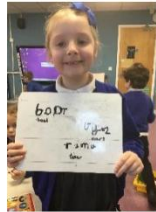
Farewell

Finally, we would like to notify you that Miss Savage, who you will all know from the main office has decided to leave us and explore a very different career, with Alpacas! Miss Savage has been a wonderful asset to our school and has worked hard to support all children and their families during her time with us. Miss Savage's last day with us will be Wednesday 25th February. As a result of this we see Mrs Melloy move into a full-time Office position, but of course this means she will be leaving Reindeer class. Whilst we know that Mrs Melloy will be brilliant in her new role, we will miss her greatly within the classroom environment. Please join us in celebrating the successes of both staff members and wish them all the best.

This term has been all about Space! We have read a variety of stories and learnt about the planets.

Term 3 in Polar Bear Class

In Maths we have been exploring greater than, less than and recording in part-part whole models.



We designed, made and evaluated our own junk model rockets.



In Literacy we have continued to write labels and short sentences. We are trying hard to remember using tricky words, digraphs and trigraphs.



For World Religion Day we looked at the religion on Hinduism and made friendship bracelets.

In Art we have been inspired by our artist Megan Coyle to create collage planets.



We have been using the cubetto in computing to travel around the space map.



We looked at forces in Science - pushes and pulls.

We were super excited about our new library opening!



Term 3 in Puffins

This term we have learning all about the three queens and London! We have also performed our Christmas nativity!

Our Value Champions this term were:

Joshua, Teddie, Adam, Rosie and Charlie!

Well done, we are so proud of you for demonstrating our school values, keep it up!



WRITING THIS TERM:

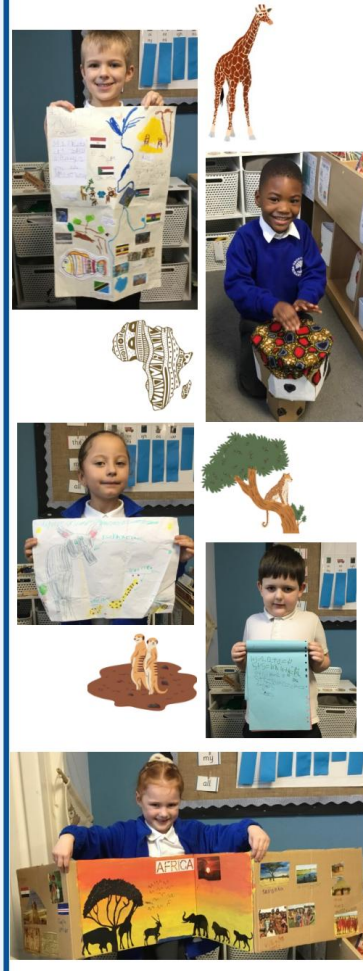
This term, we've been revisiting the foundations of writing and having a go at using prefixes. Lots of children have done a great job remembering what nouns, verbs and adjectives are too! Why not try testing them at home and see what they can remember?



Postcards from our trip to Wingham



Amazing Home Learning!



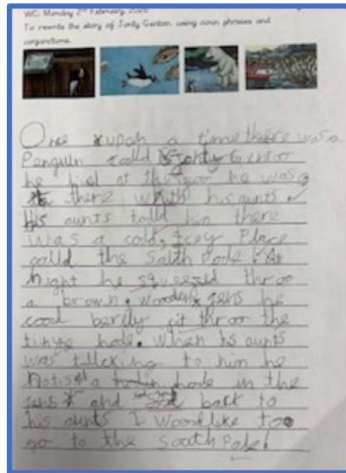
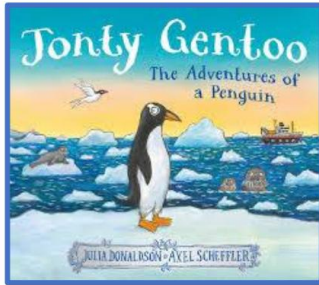
And just like that, half term is here - have a lovely half term! We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned break and we can't wait to see you all next term.

HAVE FUN



Snowy Owl Class

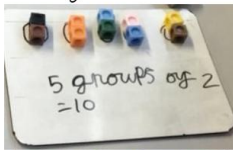
This term, our discovery topic has focused on ice. We have loved reading *Tonty Gentoo* by Julia Donaldson and rewriting the story in our own words. We worked hard to make our writing more exciting by using noun phrases and conjunctions. We also learned lots about the Arctic and Antarctica and discovered which animals live in these cold, icy environments.



In science, we carried out an experiment to investigate which water temperature made ice melt the fastest. We linked our learning to climate change and the melting ice in the polar regions. The children watched with great excitement as the ice cubes slowly disappeared!



In maths, we've been learning how to group objects. We've used our skills of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to help us work things out more easily.



In Discovery Geography, our BIG question is "What is it like at the North and South Pole?" Children have located the continents, the Arctic and Antarctic on a world map; learnt there are only two seasons; that winters tend to be longer than summers and that in the summer it is daytime even at night! We were fascinated to learn that the South Pole is uninhabited with only scientists living there. Children discussed the impact of climate change on the Poles and created lists of things we can do to reduce global warming.

This term as part of RWV, we celebrated World Religion Day, we listened to the story of the Good Samaritan and talked about how it is important to treat others the way we want to be treated. We then listened to and sang along to He's my brother by the Hollies and created posters to show how helping others is kind and respectful.



Congratulations to our school values certificate winners this term:

Alfie, William, Kai, Tudor and Alaia.



Year 3 Narwhal – Term 3 Newsletter

We started off the term with a bang! Straight off on a trip to the Indoor Bowls Centre. The children enjoyed learning a new sport and were respectful to the volunteers. We could have some budding 'bowlers' in Narwhal class!



Throughout the term we have been writing a story based on a child starting school after migrating from another country.

We tried to use inverted commas to show direct speech.

In our Science we have been physicists – we have been learning about forces and magnets. We were able to make magnets move without touching them and investigated which surface created the most friction.

Arctic Fox Class

Term 3

This term, we stepped back in time and explored Dickensian Britain. The children learnt about what life was like during this period and discovered a range of inventions. Alongside this, they have really enjoyed their swimming sessions, building confidence and having lots of fun in the water, as well as spending time exploring the school's new library and developing a love of reading.



Discovery

This term, we have been focusing on Dickensian times, exploring the lives and achievements of key figures such as Charles Dickens, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and George Stephenson. The children discovered how their ideas and creations helped shape the world we live in today. Inspired by this learning, they also had a go at building their own bridges using paper straws and masking tape.



Science

In science, we have been learning about sound and how it is measured. The children explored how sound travels and how we measure sound levels using decibels. A highlight of the topic was visiting the animals and measuring the different sounds they make using the iPads.



PE

In PE this term, we have been learning about inclusive games. The children have really enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities. One of the highlights of the term was archery, which the children particularly enjoyed, especially trying to hit the target.

Writing

In writing this term, the children have been developing their skills by creating their own newspaper reports about George Stephenson's Rocket locomotive and its success in winning a competition. Throughout the unit, they have practised using time-related fronted adverbials, progressive verbs, past and perfect tense, and direct speech. These skills were then brought together in their final newspaper reports.

Celebration

Well done to the winners of our value certificates:

Darcie, Finley M, Harrison, Frankie, Sedrah and Raiyah

Next term, the children will begin an exciting new topic all about the Ancient Egyptians, where they will explore their way of life and their creations. I am also delighted to share that Miss Exall will be returning from her placement and rejoining the class !



Year 5 - Snow Leopards



SPACE



We have thoroughly enjoyed our learning of space through science and history throughout this term. The VR experience was an exciting way to immerse us into space, exploring the sun, planets and the milky way up close, whilst learning many new facts along the way! For history, we explored the timeline of events from the Space Race and used this to help us consider our final assessment question 'Could humans live in space?' Art and DT have featured as evidence of our learning for night and day with phases of the moon using chalk and charcoal. We completed a DT project on Moon buggies: researching, sketching and labelling a plan, creating - using our junk modelling and mechanical skills to include movement, and evaluating our final piece.



Linking to our topic, in writing we have been learning about key astronauts: Tim Peake, Neil Armstrong and Chris Hadfield. We have looked at the features of a biography and written our own biographies on Chris Hadfield from our reading of 'The Darkest Dark'. We have worked hard this term on using relative clauses and parenthesis to improve our writing. In Pathways to Read we read 'Exploring Space'. We explored this text as a class, and all thoroughly enjoyed learning what it is like to live in space from the experience of Chris Hadfield. We made good predictions along the way, discussed vocabulary and made inferences from text.



In science, we have been learning about space. We have learnt about the solar system and its planets, modelling, night & day and the moon. We have also had an exciting e-warrior project to complete being able to explore circuits through repairing a console and being able to play the games when we finished!



In maths, we have been working hard on arithmetic practice daily as well as our maths units of multiplication and division, fractions and decimals and percentages ready for next term.



Short division (bus stop method)

$$\begin{array}{r} 186 \div 6 = \\ \underline{6 1 8 6} \\ 6 1 8 6 \\ \hline 0 3 1 \\ 1 8 6 \\ 1 8 6 \\ 0 0 0 \end{array}$$

no groups of 6 can be made 3 × 6 = 18 1 × 6 = 6

Other topics that the children in Year 5 have been studying this term:



- Why is the Bible the best-selling book of all time? (RWV)
- Opinions and sport (French)
- Health and wellbeing & Citizenship (PSHE)
- No Outsiders story key message 'Everyone is Welcome' (PSHE)
- Coding & Online Safety (Computing)
- Tag Rugby & Gymnastics (PE)
- Madina tun nabi (Music)

Well done to Shahir, Zara, Emily, Poppy for earning a value certificate this term! ☺



We are looking forward to making many more memories with your children in Term 4 moving onto our Vikings & Anglo-Saxons topic and sharing this all with you.



Year 6-Reindeer Class



This term, our topic was:
The Impact of Charles Dickens.



During our Discovery and Writing lessons, we have written informative fact files (on topics such as workhouses and Charles Dickens). We have also written a social story, which we performed to the class!

We have been reading *Oliver Twist* and *Great Expectations* to support our learning!

In maths this term, we have absolutely smashed it in our fractions, measurement and ratio topics! We are now taking a look at algebra!

In drama, we did some hot-seating as characters from *Oliver Twist*, to prepare for our monologue writing.

In science, we focussed on the work of Nikola Tesla involving electricity. We got to experiment with the components of a circuit to investigate the impact of different levels of voltage.



In PE, we have improved our gymnastic routines from last term and learnt more challenging balances. This term we have also started to learn how to play 'Quidditch' from *Harry Potter*!



For World Religion Day, we wrote some songs/poems about the importance of world peace and respect!

Next term, our topic is called 'Can we save the tigers?!'

A huge well done to our value certificate winners this term: Michaela, Ava F, Riley, Amaal, Max and Elham!