

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

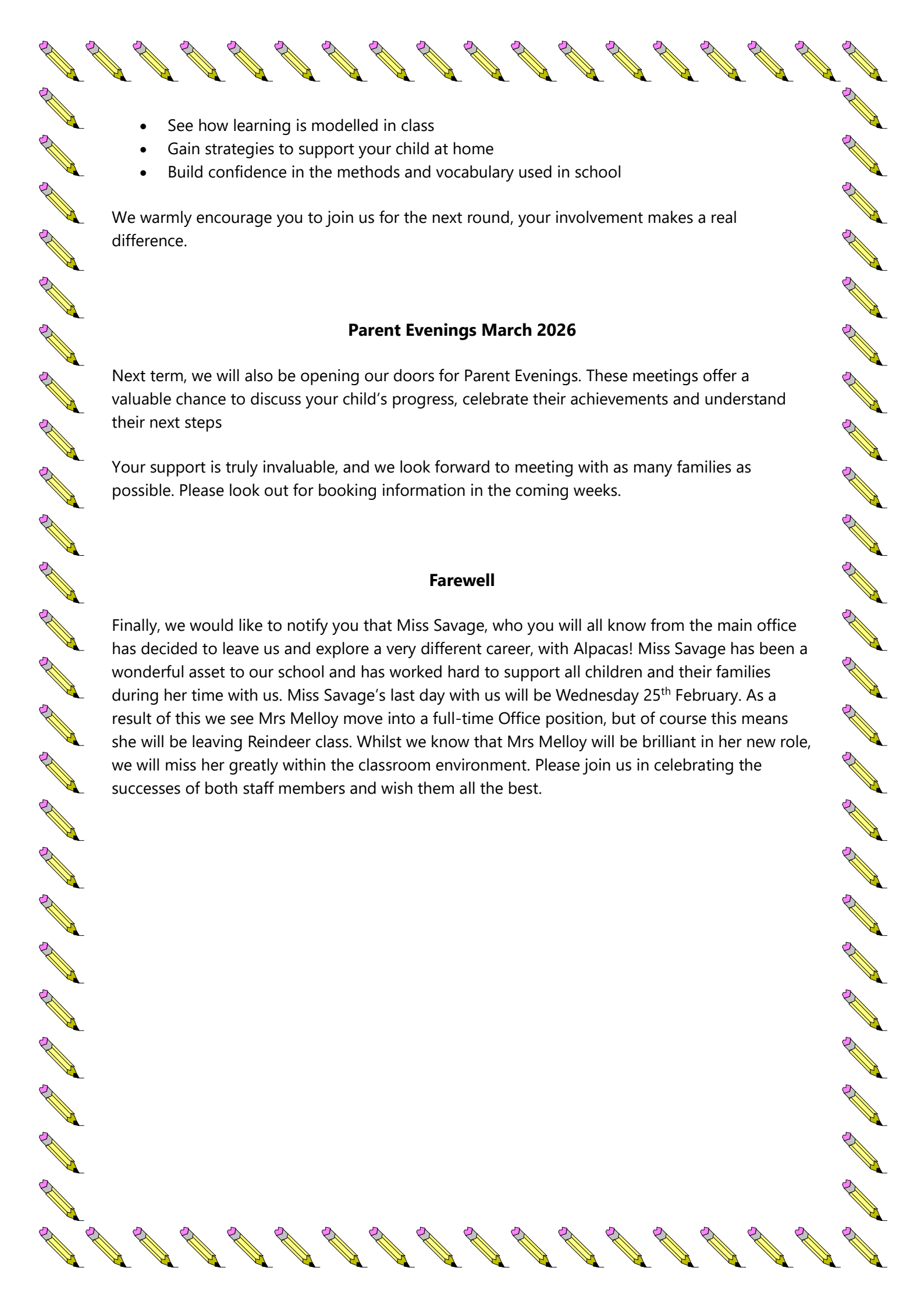
Before posting any content, we will be checking photo permissions and consent forms to ensure all children featured have the correct approval in place. If your contact details or consent preferences have changed, please log on to Arbor and update your information. Look out for more information soon—we 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:

- 
- 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.



Giraffe Class Newsletter T2



In Term 3, Giraffe Class blasted off into an exciting learning adventure all about space! The children have been singing fun space songs, learning fascinating facts about the planets, and getting creative with junk modelling to build their own space-themed creations. Through play, discussion, and imagination, we've seen lots of curiosity and enthusiasm from our aspiring astronauts as they explore the wonders of the universe. 🚀🌍🌠

Rocket Building

In DT, we have been learning new skills so that we could build our own rockets using junk modelling. We have learnt different folds and joins such as making flaps.



How to Catch a Star

In Week 5, our story was 'How to Catch a Star'. We couldn't believe it when we realised we had our own star in the classroom and we had to work out the best way to catch it, just like the boy in the story.



I will jump! - Abigail

I will use a ladder to reach it! - Jamie



Space Activities

We also had lots of fun themed activities for the afternoons. We played planet I spy, where the children had to use a magnifying glass to spot something on the planet and write it down. We also had a moon themed table to act out being astronauts landing on the moon!

The New Library!

We had the most amazing visit to our wonderful new library. We shared stories and explored the space. We have started having our Guided Reading session in there and we are all so excited for it!





Term 3 in Meerkat Class

What a fantastic term of learning it has been! The children have shown so much enthusiasm and curiosity, especially when learning about Africa and the wider world. We are incredibly proud of their engagement, questions and growing confidence across all subjects.

In Discovery, we explored the similarities and differences between Tanzania and Sittingbourne. We loved learning about life near the equator and how this affects climate and weather. We discovered why Tanzania is hot, learned about seasonal weather patterns, and explored the incredible range of animals that live there. We have been brilliant at remembering and sharing lots of interesting facts.



In Art, we studied the work of African artist Edward Tingatinga. We explored his distinctive style and experimented with primary and secondary colours. We created our own Tingatinga-inspired artwork using watercolours for bright backgrounds, silhouettes in the style of the artist, and paint to add detailed dots and patterns. Our finished pieces were vibrant, bold and beautiful.

Our Science learning linked beautifully with our geography topic as we learned all about animals and their groups. We explored mammals, reptiles, birds, fish and amphibians, as well as learning about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We enjoyed sorting animals and using scientific vocabulary to describe their features and diets.



Our trip to Wingham Wildlife Park was the highlight of the term and such an exciting experience for us all! We saw a wide range of amazing animals including tigers, penguins, giraffes, chimpanzees and, of course, the much-loved meerkats. We also took part in a fantastic African safari animals talk, where we even got to touch and hold real teeth and claws belonging to big cats – it was a truly unforgettable experience!

Next term, we will begin our new topic all about Castles. We will be exploring where castles were built and why their locations were so important.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely break and we look forward to another exciting term of learning together!



Lion Class- Year 2



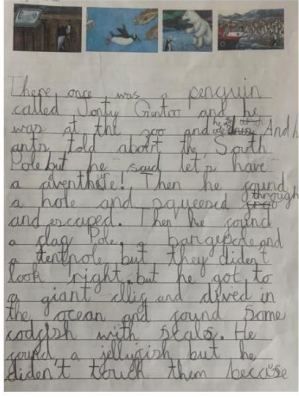
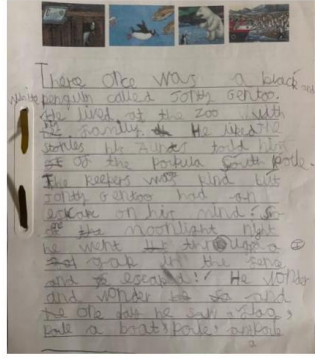
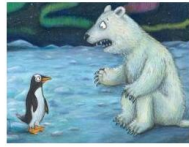
Respectful Responsible Resilient Resourceful

This term we have celebrated the following members of Lion Class for showing how responsible, resourceful, resilient and respectful they can be. Well done!! **Ginevra** (respectful), **Annie** (resilient), **Mollie** (responsible), **Seraphina** (Resourceful), **Ollie** (Resourceful) and our Value Champion this term was **Krystal-Rose** (all 4 values).

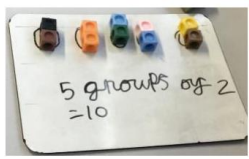
This term, Year 2's topic was 'Ice'. We can answer 'The BIG question'- **What it is like at the North and South Poles?** We used green screen technology to report our learning in a 'David Attenborough style' interview. We know Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth and often reaches -60C! Did you know, in Winter, the poles are dark all day and in the summer, it is light all night? We have looked at the animals that live there and can find the poles on a map of the world and on a globe.



In **English** this term, we have been looking at features of narrative writing (stories). We read and enjoyed the Julia Donaldson story **Jonty Gentoo**, about a penguin who tries to swim to the South Pole but gets lost and visits the North Pole instead. We practised using noun phrases to describe, commas in a list, conjunctions such as 'and, but, so, because' and ensured we had a beginning, middle and end- phew! Our stories were amazing!



In **Maths** we have been learning to multiply using 'groups of'. We have been learning our 2x, 5x and 10x tables. Practise counting with us at home! Drawing and making groups helps us to find the answer.



In **Science**, we have been learning about habitats. A habitat is where things live- both animals and plants. We investigated what would happen to the ice at the poles if the sea were to get warmer. Did you know, ice melts more quickly in warm water!





Year 3 - Elephant Class - Term 3 - Migration



This term, Elephant class have been exploring the inspiring story of the Windrush generation. The children have learnt about the history of the Empire Windrush, why people travelled from the Caribbean to Britain, and the incredible contributions they made to our country. Using historical sources, personal accounts, and modern examples, the class has also compared migration in the past to migration today.

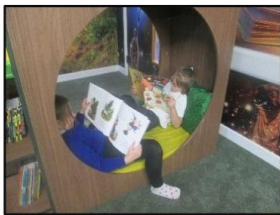
In Science this term, the class have been exploring the fascinating world of forces!

We've learned how contact push and pull forces are all around us.

The children carried out their own investigation into friction, testing different surfaces to discover which created the most friction.

We also enjoyed hands-on experiments with magnets. A great term of learning from our Elephant scientists!

This term, Year 3 enjoyed a brilliant trip to the Indoor Bowls Centre. The children loved trying a new sport and impressed everyone with their respectful behaviour and excellent listening to the adults who coached them. It was a fun and memorable experience for all!



The class had a wonderful time visiting the new school library. They have really enjoyed their sessions so far, exploring the cosy reading areas and discovering exciting new books. The children are already looking forward to returning and diving into even more amazing stories as they continue to grow their love of reading.



This term, the children enjoyed their next set of Forest School sessions. Even with the cold and wet weather, their enthusiasm never faded! They showed wonderful care for the environment and approached every activity with positivity. Mrs Day has loved working with the class and would like to thank them for their fantastic effort and thoughtful attitude throughout their sessions.

Value Champions - Well done to the following children for demonstrating one of the school values this

term:

Scarlett

Jake

Erin

Nahla

Eric



Zebra Class

Term 3 Newsletter



Here we are at the end of term 3 already.

It's hard to believe we are already through the first half of the school year,

This term we have looked at the Dickensian Times. Our discovery topic has included George Stephenson, The Father of the Railways and Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

In our writing we have looked at Charles Dickens and his success at The Rainhill Trials and written newspaper reports on Isambard Kingdom Brunel. The children have looked at how reporters gain their information and how to write a newspaper report.

Our maths this term has been the completion of our multiplication and division topic as well as introducing perimeter and fractions. The children have been amazing with these topics and also in their Times table quizzes and TT Rockstars.

In science our topic was sound and we looked at the telephone and how sound travels. In our DT lessons we have made truss bridges.

PE has been a mixture of tennis for our outdoor lessons and inclusive games in our indoor lessons. We have tried archery and curling as well as cup stacking. The children have shown great maturity in both topics.

Finally I would like to say congratulations to our values winners this term.

Keep up your amazing attitude to school and learning.

Have a fantastic break and I look forward to seeing the children back for Term 4.

Term 3 in Rhino Class

Our topic this term was SPACE!

We engaged in a **science**, E-Waste Warriors project where we collected and recycled old electrical items as part of a competition with other schools. We had repair kits and had to fix them. They were mini games consoles which we fixed and then got to play the games afterwards.

We also looked at circuits and how they work, making this our experiment focus in science this term!

In **writing** we focussed on different astronauts, Tim Peake, Neil Armstrong and Chris Hadfield. We have learnt about Chris Hadfield using our focus text 'The Darkest Dark' and our own research. We have looked at the different features of a biography and worked hard on mastering relative clauses, fronted adverbials and parenthesis. We then wrote our own biographies all about astronaut, Chris Hadfield.

In week 1, we visited Iwade School and used the VR headsets to explore space. We saw The International Space Station (ISS) and considered the scale of the Solar System.

We visited the new library and explored lots of new books!

In our **discovery** lessons we focussed on the topic of space. We looked at the different planets, what they are made of and their sizes, we have investigated night and day, the moon and created a timeline which summaries 'The Space Race'.

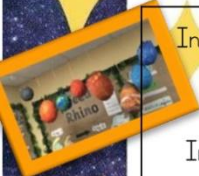
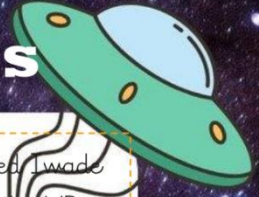
In **art** we made papier mache planets! We used different sized balloons to show the scale of the planets and painted them to match.

In **DT** we have been making moon buggies. First, we researched their purpose and components. Then, we designed them and then looked at the different mechanisms we needed to make the wheels move. Finally, we made our designs come to life using lots of recycled materials. They looked amazing!

In **Pathways to Read** we read 'Exploring Space'. We explored the text as a class and made inferences from the non-fiction text, extending our knowledge of Chris Hadfield.

In **maths** we have been solidifying our learning of fractions, from last term, and focussing on multiplication and division.

Mrs Flain came to visit us with juice and biscuits, after we received the most approved attendance in week 3!



Term 3 - Ostrich



Welcome back to Term 3! We have had an exciting and busy term, full of engaging learning opportunities all about our topic Charles Dickens.

The children explored the key question: How did Charles Dickens impact social change during the Victorian era? Throughout the topic, children learnt about life in Victorian Britain, including the harsh conditions of workhouses, the differences between social classes and the experiences of children during this time. We considered how Dickens stories highlighted these issues and helped to bring about social reform, giving us an understanding of history and empathy for others.

In Maths, we have developed our place value skills through metric and imperial measures.

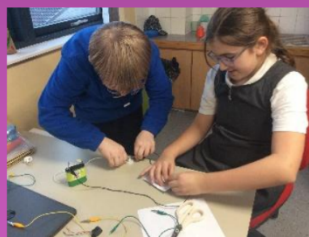
To prepare us for our SATs we have continued with regular arithmetic practice and revision to build our confidence and fluency.



The topic inspired us to create our own Oliver Twist inspired story; we focused on creating vivid characters, building atmosphere and expressing thoughts and feelings clearly. Alongside this, we read Great Expectations, we developed our inference skills, expanded our vocabulary and engaged in meaningful discussion about themes and characters.

In Design and Technology, children designed and created their own Victorian inspired waistcoats. This project allowed them to explore sewing and develop their skills, linking their practical work with our Charles Dickens theme.

In Computing, our focus was coding, children had the opportunity to develop logical thinking, problem solving and sequencing skills to create their own programs.



We have thoroughly enjoyed our Science topic this term, learning all about electricity, circuits, components and investigations. We researched the scientist Nikola Tesla to understand his contribution to electrical science.

A massive well done to our certificate winners this term:

Alex, Sophia, Ella, Babatunde and Ruby