

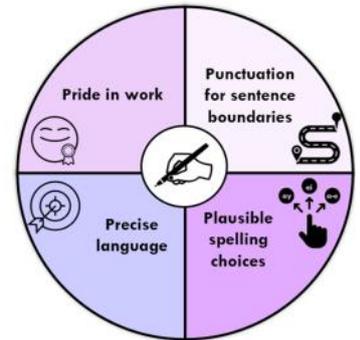


The Windmills News

Issue 6: February 24

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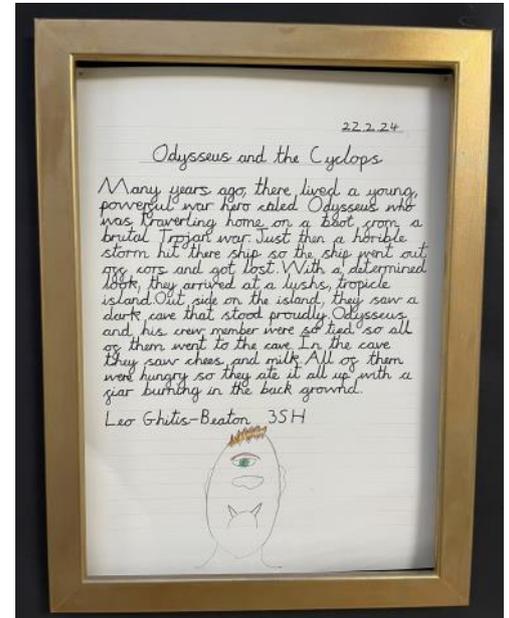
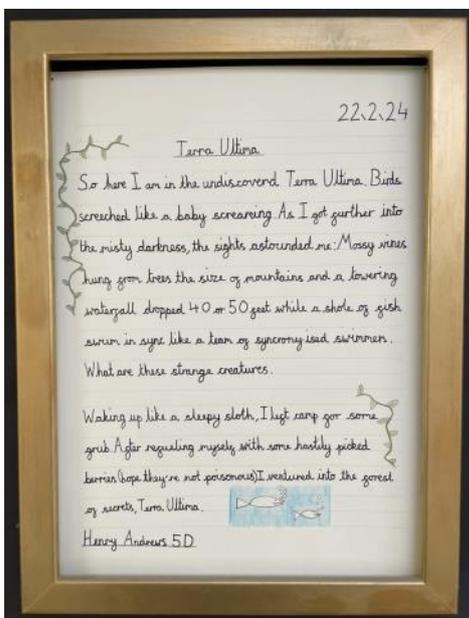
Despite there only being 3 teaching weeks in February we have achieved so much with brilliant learning every day inspired by our rich curriculum. The teachers and children are working hard on our agreed firm foundations in English to ensure that aspects of writing are firmly embedded so that all can become successful writers. Our governors have recently carried out an English visit to see how much progress we are making on our targets (which the school identified as our next steps for this academic year). This is a key part of the governors role. They saw motivated, engaged learners who were enjoying their work and spoke with confidence about how the teachers helped them to learn (especially through modelling - another key development point) and how they are improving.



It is so important to give children a firm foundation. We want every child to leave The Windmills ready for the next stage of their education. Being able to write well to communicate your ideas is a key life skill and something that we are passionate to facilitate all to achieve, using exciting 'hooks' for writing. 16 children have been selected by their class teachers to go on the 'Writing Wall of Fame' in the lower school corridor. They joined me for a session where they wrote up a small section of writing. It is just exceptional. Well done to each of them.



My aim is to change this every term—with only 6 slots available for each year group each term. Not everyone's work will be displayed here but we hope that having this as a possibility will encourage other children to pay attention to the detail, thinking carefully about our 4 foundations to ensure every piece of work builds on the last, showing the next steps in the learning journey. I have also given out a significant number of headteacher awards for progress and effort. These are used to motivate and encourage. Reminding children to work hard and focus on the teaching to improve their work. Some of the progress that I have seen has just been extraordinary. See next page—

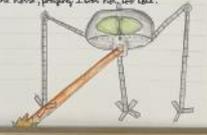


22.02.24

Maxton Tension

I watched in horror as a monstrous figure rose out of the Earth, gave a bone shilling shriek and started demolishing everything in sight with burning red beams of pure heat. There were screams of terror as they ran for their lives as they BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! Yet another beam came, bringing more destruction with it. Military forces rushed in and started firing all of their weapons. But it was no use. All of their bullets, cannonballs and torpedoes just bounced off the metallic heavily complexed creature. I looked into a window and hid in its room. I don't know how long I stayed there, something behind a pile of rubble. I just knew I had to keep moving. I was not sure I would be able to in a thick fog of an eye by its inevitable heat ray. Time passed and a double streamer shrouded the world around me. I went out from my hiding place and looked around. The whole street was now reduced to a pile of rubble. Nothing moved a muscle. I was the only survivor. I heard more screams and movement in the distance. Then a bright beam hit me. My body was in grave danger! I took a deep breath and ran in the direction of the noise, praying I was not too late.

-Thomas Smith 6B



22.2.21

Odysseus and the cyclops

The story begins thousands of years ago, in the heart of Greece. Some brave soldiers were returning to their homeland after 'suffering' in the Trojan war. I shall have to tell you about Odysseus, a strong, clever man, who had also been in the war before travelling back to his home. He wasn't like any of the men from the war. He was the toughest and bravest and cleverest man you would ever see! On their way back, they spotted the most beautiful island, so they decided to stop and look for some food. They gorged on the food and explored. Soon they discovered a strange opening to a cave...

Daisy Holland 35



22/02/24

Rose Blanche

An Rose made her way home from school, she saw great big tanks passing her from every direction. 'Where might you be going?' said the fat mayor as he was looking into his latest grease-laden sausage roll. 'Um...well...I was just going home to have supper with my mother,' explained Rose in a kind voice. The mayor nodded in disgust. So Rose skipped across the town, heading towards home. She had a thought. 'Where are the tanks going?' Next thing you know, she was scattering through the forest, trying to keep up with the tanks. Out of the corner of her eye, she saw one of the soldiers staring at her in the eye. 'Where do you think you're going little girl?' screamed the soldier. 'Yes yes, I see you over there. I was just curious to see where you were going,' said Rose gaspfully. 'Well, it's none of your business so you can be on your way home where you belong,' shouted the soldier. Rose did what the soldier said and never found out where the tanks go.

Lara Goodrich 6M



Stunning progress—below shows 3 children's work in Yr3. The first piece was done after a few weeks in September—the 2nd recently. The progress is staggering and there are many more like this.

19.9.23 L: past tense

On e dark ~~gamy~~ ^{had gloomy} morning
~~men~~ ^{me} I stepped on the wet
 when
 gras. I fell down a dark
~~noisy~~ hole. When I wate up
 I felt scold and suprised.
 P. I had ~~had~~ ^{had} idia where I was.

From here to

Greece

Once right in the middle of Greece lived a man called
 Odysseus ^{who} he was one of the bravest and strongest men in
 his tribe. He was on the way back from the Trojan wars
 when he spotted a tropical, sandy island with springs. Odysseus
^{thought} that it was so beautiful he wanted to stop to have a look.
 Odysseus and his men spotted a bright rocky cave. So

19.9.23 L: past tense

One morning, as I walked through the dark forest, I stumbled and fell down, down, down a deep, dark hole. I felt terrified and my heart pounded.

When I was up I went to meet a girl ^{girl} she was different. She told me to her camp. She told me lots of things I met it.





From here to

22.2.24 L: still part of a story

After a while, Odysseus and his men were in
 munching on some ^{delicious} cheese and mides
 Without warning a huge one-eye girt appeared out of nowhere it was a cyclops! The
 enormest beast forced a massive bolder in
 to the exit of the cave. (they were ^{trapped} trapped) The




26.9.23 L: coordinating conjunctions

When I arrived at school, I saw a huge, tan coloured tent sitting on the field. I couldn't believe my eyes!

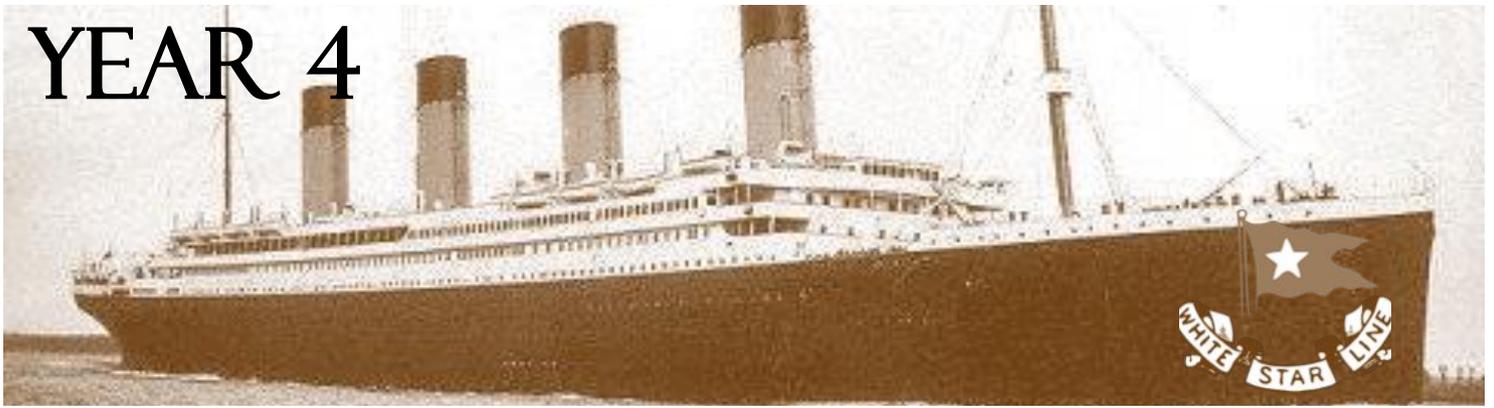
firstly (firstly), I went in they
 the tent when I got in they
 smelled me it was very weird
 and I didn't like it. When
 they smelled me. After they
 smelled me I gully got
 in the tent

From here to

When Athena stopped talking I follow
 -d Perseus into the dark scary forest. I
 kept stumbling over the big lumpy tree roots.
 Suddenly I launched off an enormous cliff and fell
 down and down and down until thud! I landed on
 the yellow dirty sand.



YEAR 4

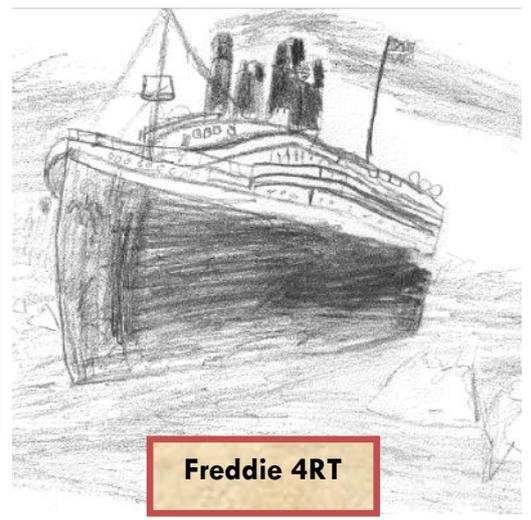


On Thursday before half term the children in Year 4 travelled back in time to 1912. Dressing up to look their best, they imagined stepping on board Titanic, dancing and experiencing life as a passenger travelling in either 1st, 2nd or 3rd class. Each child had been researching a real Titanic passenger and saw life on board through their eyes. Kim Wright from JK Theatre Arts led the drama and dance workshop, engaging every child and directing their curiosity with her knowledge and enthusiasm. Back in class, we wrote postcards home to our loved ones and produced some wonderful artwork of the ship.



Anwen4F

We were so impressed by the children's acting and role playing skills, their thirst for knowledge and empathy for the characters. At the end of the day, we shared scenes from our day and enjoyed watching each class perform a dance to either a waltz, rag-time jazz or Irish jig.



Freddie 4RT

1st class—By the Grand Staircase



On the second class deck



R.M.S. TITANIC

Second Class Passenger
£13 (£1500 today)

The week before the Titanic day the children were given a character from the Titanic to research. This was the person they then became on the day and dictated whether they had a luxurious experience or not! The dances they learnt also fitted the class of passenger that they were. The children dressed in line with their status—you can clearly see which ticket they held.

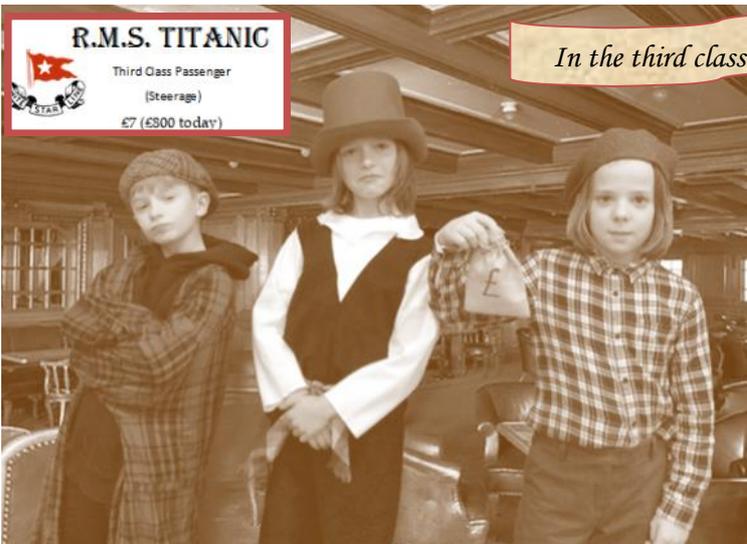
R.M.S. TITANIC
First Class Passenger
£30 (£3300 today)



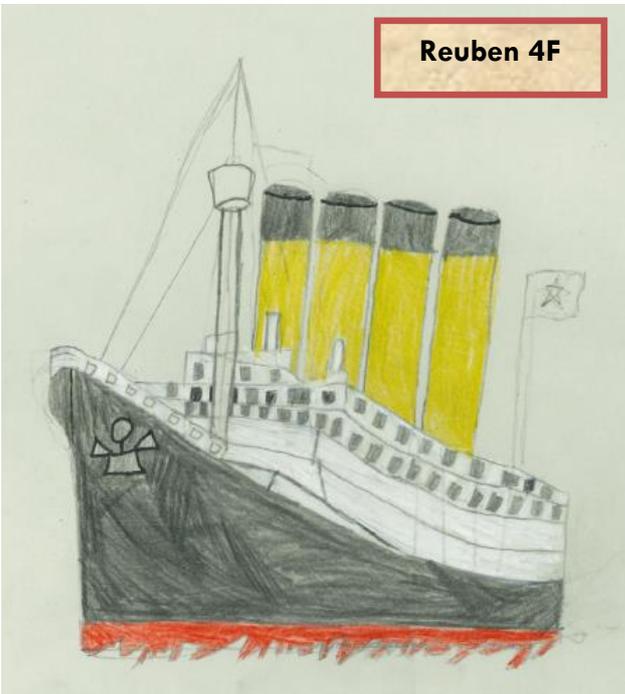
R.M.S. TITANIC

Third Class Passenger
(Steerage)
£7 (£800 today)

In the third class dining room



Reuben 4F

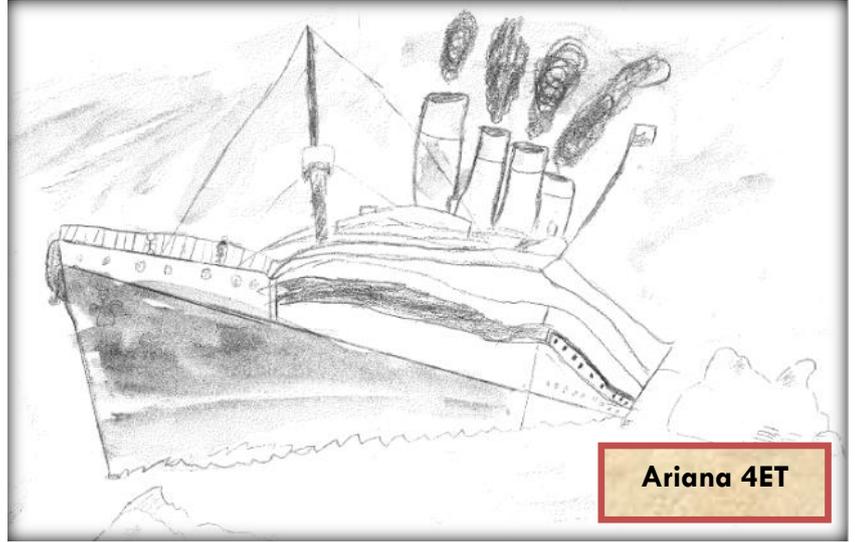


Dear Mother,

The accommodation in 3rd class is simply wonderful. The RMS Titanic is just divine. I've saved up years for this journey and I'm feeling excited to meet my future husband.

How is life in Ireland?

From Katherine (aka Maddy)



Ariana 4ET

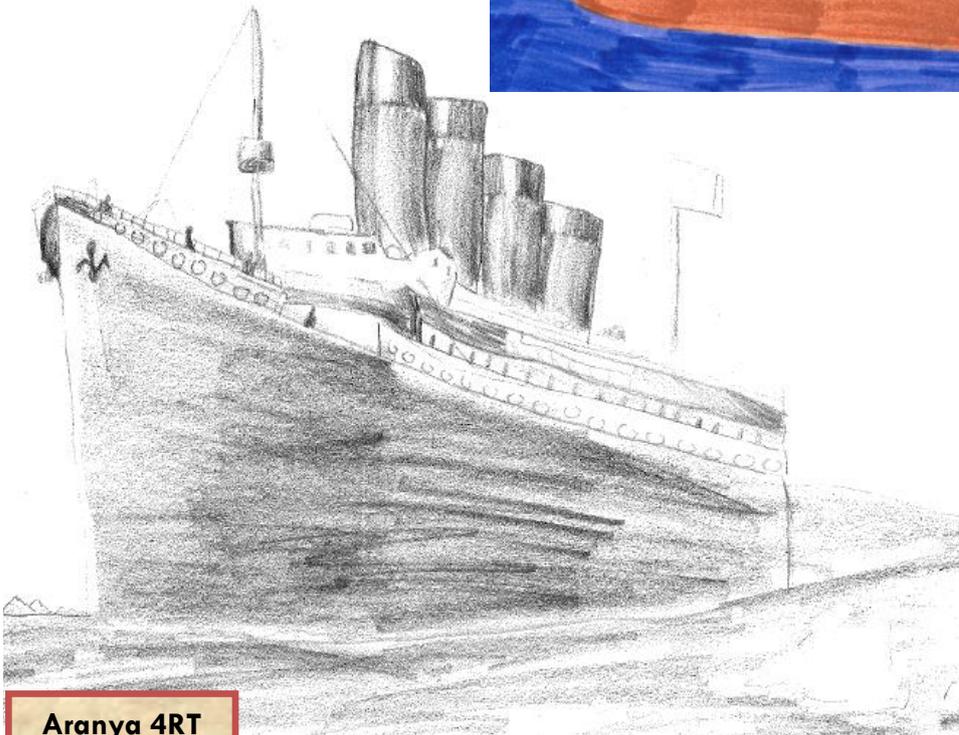
Dear dad,

Well, I've got onto the ship and into my cabin! I'm just waiting for everyone to get on board. These 2nd class rooms are amazing! The covers are so soft I nearly fell asleep. Can't wait to be back in the USA,

Harry (aka Ed)



Ellie 4ET



Aranya 4RT

Dear husband,

The children miss you so much but we have finally reached the boat Titanic. It is a wonder of a sight! It looks so huge. We have a toilet next to us and there are only 2 in the whole of 3rd class. We have 3 bunk beds to share.

Love Anna (aka Pearl)

MISSION TO SPACE

SCIENCE
MUSEUM

To enhance and bring alive their space topic, on Friday 23rd February Year 5 visited the Science Museum. After setting off on the train to London Blackfriars, we then took the tube to South Kensington and had a short walk to the museum.

The day was jam-packed and the children made the most of every minute. The 'Exploring Space' exhibition on the ground floor was a sight to behold and the children immediately got started on a treasure hunt, finding objects around the room. This ranged from the giant Apollo II to perhaps the strangest object, a 'space nappy'!

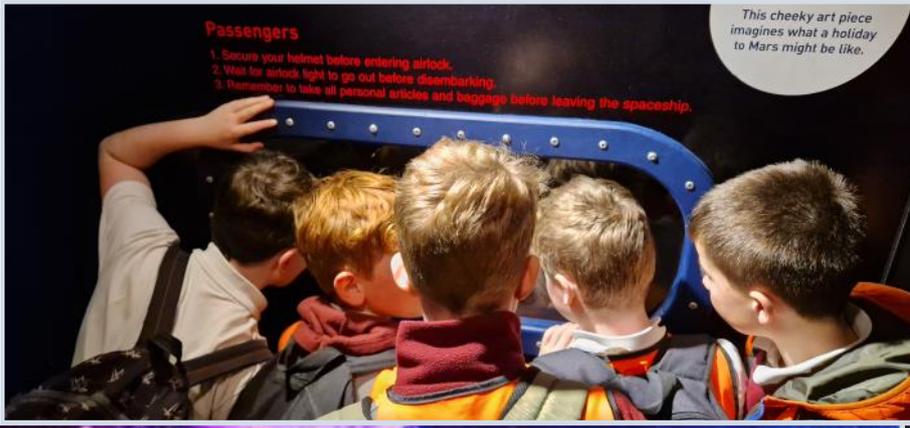


'I really enjoyed looking round the Space Zone because we got to see real space suits and it was really cool.' - Lauren

'My favourite part was the Space Zone because we got to listen to a talk about planets and saw the space suits.' - Gracie



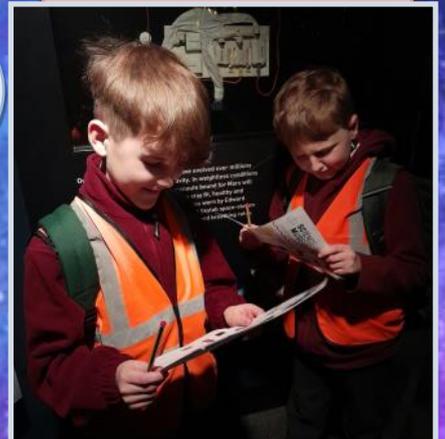
EXPLORING SPACE



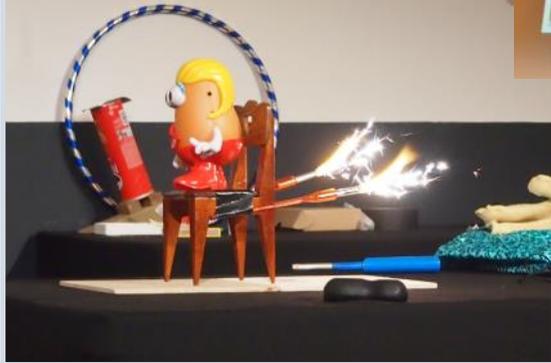
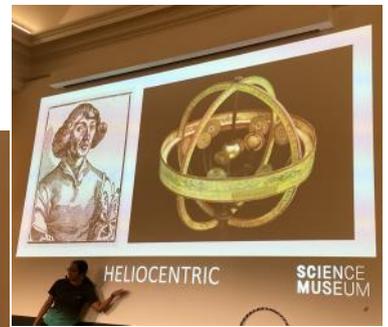
'It was good because we could explore. We got to see actual things from space'- Ashwin

The most interesting thing in 'exploring space' section was a rock from the moon. —Josie

'My favourite part was the space exploration because we did a fun worksheet with all our friends and learnt loads.'-Maisie



We were also lucky enough to experience an educational show - Mission to Space - which was filled with information about some incredible scientists and mathematicians as well as amazing experiments, rockets and even some pyrotechnics!



We were shown how a star dies!



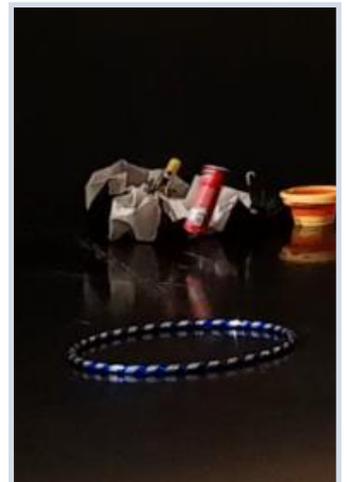
'I loved the theatre show because it was very interactive and we watched lots of experiments.' - Marnie



'I enjoyed the 'Mission to Space' show because there were incredible experiments and it was really funny at the same time. Especially when we saw what happened to Mr Potato Head in a vacuum chamber'-Arthur



My favourite part was the show as we got to see a Pringles can launch like a rocket! Xavi





We also climbed to the very top of the museum to experience the brilliant 'Flight' exhibition, full of fascinating aircraft and aeronautical inventions.

FLIGHT

I was interested in the 20th Century planes and how they would be used in battle. *Caspian*



'My favourite part was the Flight Zone because when I am older I want to be a pilot.' - Ludo



The science museum is one of my favourite places I've been to and I found out about the Wright Brothers who made the first airplane! *Ava*

'My favourite part was when we went to the Flight Zone and saw all the plane engines. There were even engines from royal helicopters.' - Henry A

We had a fantastic time and we can't wait for our next school outing in the summer term! We want to say a huge thank you to our parent volunteers too. Without you, this wouldn't have been possible. It was a brilliant memorable trip.

'My favourite part was when we went up to the Flight Zone and saw lots of airplanes. We saw M1, Spitfire, DC 10 and Lancaster Bomber.' - Nikko

WORLD WAR II TURNING POINTS

Year 6 are fully engrossed in their history topic at the moment, and with World War II as the focus of our learning, this is no surprise. So far, we have learnt about: the state that Germany was in after World War I, The Treaty of Versailles and Hitler's rise to power, Britain's declaration of war, and two of the three *key* turning points in World War II (Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain). Children have been debating which of these two turning points was more of a success story for Britain, weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of both events. The final area of World War II that we are going to study is, of course, D-Day which ultimately led to the end of the war or Victory in Europe Day in May 1945. Read on to find out our opinions on the Dunkirk v Battle of Britain debate, and let us know which event *you* think had a greater impact on the eventual Allied victory.

Dunkirk	The Battle of Britain & the Blitz
Germany were the heavy favourites to secure a victory.	Germany were the heavy favourites to secure a victory.
There were no <i>huge</i> battles.	Huge battles and destruction of cities took place.
Britain retreated and 'cut their losses', which may have appeared weak.	Britain fought Germany head-on.
Not too many deaths.	Tens of thousands of British deaths occurred, many of which were innocent civilians.
Britain was left untouched.	Huge parts of British cities were obliterated.
<i>Could</i> be seen as a German victory, as more of France fell into their hands.	Couldn't really be seen as a German victory at all.

In the Battle of Britain, the R.A.F. shot down most of the Luftwaffe planes, but Hitler bombed London and the Blitz went on for eight months. So I think Dunkirk was more successful for Britain because they saved 340,000 soldiers from France.

Lucas 6R



CLOSING PRICES EVENING STANDARD 21/10/1943 FINAL NIGHT EXTRA

Evening Standard

ONE PENNY

335,000 SAVED FROM DUNKIRK IN 1000 SHIPS

Coca keeps better in a tin

This supplement is formed from articles that appeared in the Evening Standard during June 1943. Some articles may have been shortened or edited for modern consumption.

I disagree because in Dunkirk, the British soldiers had to retreat. The Battle of Britain was more effective because Hitler had to call off Operation Sea Lion which was the plan to invade Britain.

Madeline 6R

Dunkirk was remembered as the event when thousands of allied soldiers were rescued from a beach in France. This ended with Germany gaining control of the rest of France afterwards.

The Battle of Britain is remembered as a British victory against the Germans but we did lose a lot of innocent civilians during the Blitz. Overall, I think Dunkirk was the better moment for Britain.

Robyn 6B



I think the Battle of Britain was a better success as we destroyed a lot of German forces. The radar really helped as they were tricked by British gossip that we were winning because we ate carrots and could see in the dark. Even though a lot of people died, it was a great boost for Britain and Germany didn't invade. Then later they learnt their lesson and get beaten by Russia.

Stan 6B

During Dunkirk, there were over 300,000 lives saved and very few deaths. This can be seen as a huge success compared to The Blitz, where over 43,000 innocent victims were sadly killed. During the Battle of Britain and The Blitz, many important cities were demolished. However, after failing to destroy the R.A.F., Hitler decided to target Russia, which we all know was an atrocious idea! Therefore, I think the Blitz has to be considered the greater success. Lucie, 6M

Dunkirk could be seen as a success, as only a few thousand people died. But it has to be seen as a failure as the retreating allies looked like babies!

Lois, 6M

RAF losses:

	Aircraft 1,012		Airmen 537
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Luftwaffe losses:

	Aircraft 1,918		Airmen 2,662
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I agree because the Germans thought they were going to win the Battle of Britain because they took over France. They thought that they would take over Britain as well because Britain only had 650 R.A.F. fighters. Although Germany destroyed lots of British cities, I think the Battle of Britain had a bigger impact than Dunkirk. James 6R

Overall, I think that the Battle of Britain was more successful than Dunkirk because Britain stopped Germany from destroying us. The Blitz did kill thousands of citizens and also bombed cities like Liverpool, London and Manchester. But we also bombed Berlin. Elizabeth 6R



I think the Battle of Britain was the bigger success because Germany didn't invade and had to think of a Plan B. It meant Germany gave up invading Britain and ended up going to war with their former allies, Russia, instead. That meant that Britain won.

Jack M 6B

YEAR 3 GREEK DAY

In Spring term, year 3 had the opportunity to immerse themselves into a day of Greek fun! We had some visitors who were brilliant actors and who took us on a journey through Ancient Greece times. We saw what life was like, took part in some Greek mythology and played with some amazing props.



I liked when we acted! I had to shout, HELP HELP! **Aubree 3W**



I enjoyed being Princess Ariadne and giving the ball and string to Theseus. I had to give the guards a sleeping potion. I enjoyed dressing up especially as it was my birthday. **Sylvie 3SH**



Here we were getting ready to do some boxing in Greek Olympics! **Thomas 3S**

I had to do a magic trick in front of my class mates. It was so much fun! **Jess 3S**



I enjoyed when I ran away from the actor when he told me not to! I was a child of a Greek family giving prayers. It was a great day! **Leo GB 3SH**

I got to control one of his arms! **Osman 3W**



We had to pretend that we were in the Agora (market place) selling cheese. A slave came to buy some 1 kilo of cheese. In the end, we threw the cheese at him in rage as he was unhappy with the amount we gave him! **Daisy, 3S**



I loved the one-eyed cyclops because he was really funny (and a bit scary!) **Lola, 3S**



It was really cool when the eye came out of the cyclops! It was a big gross. **Jared 3W**

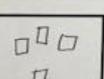
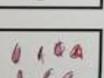
The rainbow theatre were really good! The slave actor was so funny because he was interrupted all the time and he kept bonking his head. **Sophie 3W**



Design & Technology Greek Food

In year 3 we looked at the different foods they ate in Ancient Greece. Firstly, we tried the foods we were going to use. This included olives, feta, cucumber, tomatoes, red onion and pitta bread. They were yummy! We rated these out of 5. Secondly, we designed our own dish including these ingredients. Lastly, we created our delicious recipes and came up with our very own signature dishes. Have a look at the ones below.

Ingredients:

-  Pitta
-  cucumber
-  olivs
-  feta
-  red onion

Lucian's Greek pitta perfection!



Lucian's greek
Pitta Perfection



Ingredients:

- Cucumber
- Tomato
- Pitta bread
- olive
- red onion

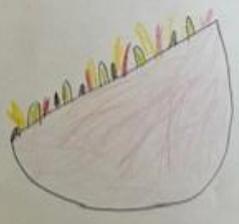
Madison's master dish pitta sandwich!



Madison's Master
dish pitta sandwich



L Evaluation

<p>What I liked and went well I liked the chopping chopping because it was satisfying and went well.</p>	<p>What was difficult putting it together because it just made a big lump in the middle.</p>
<p>What I learned how to put together a pitta and how to chop in different ways</p>	<p>My dish!</p> 
<p>Next time I would... make a pizza for a challenge because there's harder to eat make</p>	
<p>My meal was healthy because I included cucumber, olives and red onion</p>	

Rory's pitta sandwich

The great Greek salad!

Ingredients:

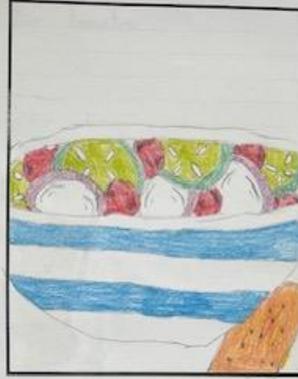
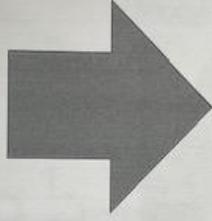
Cucumber

Red onion

Pita bread

Tomatoes

Pita bread



The great greek
salad



James' juicy Greek pizza!

L Evaluation

What I liked and went well

I liked the look of it. It was really tasty. I enjoyed spreading the sauce around on the pitta bread. I followed the health and safety with

What was difficult

I found cutting the tomato difficult because I didn't know where to cut it.

What I learned

I learnt how to cut the cucumber and tomato. I learnt about good hygiene. I learnt how to handle food safely.

My dish!



Next time I would...

I would try to make the pizza a bit bigger. I would have less gats and cheddar cheese. A bit more cucumber.



L Evaluate (food tech)

What went well *Choping* the ingredients because the teacher taught me a new method.

What I learnt *I learnt how to make a pitta pocket.*



What I liked *I liked choping the red onion because it was very easy*

What I found difficult *I found choping the tomatoes difficult because it kept slipping off my choping board.*



My dish is healthy because *there is loads of vegabols in it.*

Peter's perfect pizza

After winning the Mid-Sussex basketball tournament in January (see last month's newsletter), we were invited to attend the Sussex county-wide finals in Littlehampton on Thursday 1st February. Jonah, Will, Axel, Jacob, Ruby, Lila, Joey and Hector were the eight Year 6 representatives selected to undertake the mammoth task of competing against the top 7 basketball teams from across the whole county. This was an incredible afternoon and, unbelievably, we managed to convert our seven games into 5 victories, 1 draw and 1 defeat against the best of the best, leaving us Sussex-county runners up: 2nd out of 232 primary / junior schools! After stringing together some exceptional victories and one hard-fought draw, our very final game against Milton Mount proved one step too far as we fell to a narrow defeat at the very last hurdle. We are so proud of these incredible basketballers for their incredible commitment to the sport, hard work in training and exemplary attitude shown whilst representing our school in these tournaments. You are an inspiration and you should be proud to be silver medallists. Well done once again!



I enjoyed learning about making activities harder for the older children and making it easier for the younger ones. We also learned about teamwork which is really important. Xavi

I liked the fact that we were given a game and we made it different for Y3, 4, 5 and 6. It was really fun! Ted

SPORTS LEADER training: Our Year 5 teachers had the very difficult task of choosing 12 children from the many who volunteered to be one of our Y5 Sports Crew. The training itself lasted 90 minutes and was run by Mrs Brewington over at Downlands. The children found out how to organise a variety of activities to develop individual skills or to improve fitness. A key part of the training was how to adapt activities to suit different groups of children by varying the use of equipment, time or space. After honing their skills, our Sports Crew got to practise what they had learned by running activities for a group of Y4 children. They will then go on to support in PE lessons and clubs in their time with us, further developing their leadership skills and love of sports. Well done team for volunteering and stepping up to do something for others.

I learned that being patient and listening to what people might find difficult is how we can become more confident and we can even learn from our mistakes. Iris

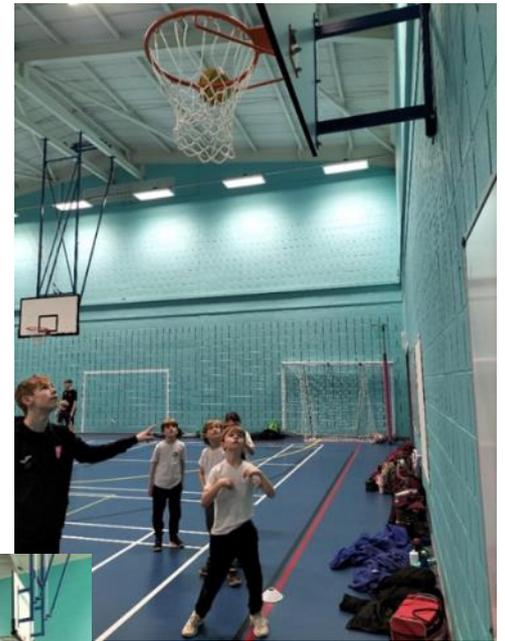
I learned that you don't need much to make a fun and active game to play at break and lunch time. Matthew

We were asked to make our games easier and then harder. I enjoyed making it super-hard! Marnie

I learned a lot of things in Sports Crew training. How to teach people, how to set things up quickly and how to help people who are stuck. Arthur

We have taken part in two basketball festivals this month — one for Y3 and one for Y6 at Haywards Heath College. The sessions were run by a coach from Storm basketball club assisted by sports leaders from the college. The emphasis was on taking part in fun sessions and on learning and developing the main skills of basketball. The children practised their passing, dribbling and shooting skills and made big improvements as the sessions progressed.

The children then made good use of the skills they had been learning in a series of small-sided games against other schools.



Year 6 cricketers attended The Triangle for an Indoor Cricket Festival hosted by Sussex Cricket Foundation. A fantastic effort was made by all of the participants. The team displayed incredible teamwork, enthusiasm and cricketing skills. They faced several strong opponents and should all be incredibly proud of an outstanding performance.



Results Group Stage

Windmills 1—0 Birchwood Grove

Windmills 6 —0 Harlands

Windmills 7 —0 Bolnore

Windmills 2 — 1 Holy Trinity

Windmills 4 — 0 St Wilfrids BH

Windmills 0 — 3 Lindfield

Semi-Final: WJS 2 — 1 Southway

Final: Windmills 1 — 1 Lindfield *

Final score 1—2 Golden Ball

(*at end of extra time)

This Wednesday afternoon, we took a super team of Year 6 netballers to Downlands for a netball tournament with 13 different local primary school teams. Despite the very wet weather our children gave it their all for every second of every match. Our team played fantastically, showing such strong teamwork and determination. We won 5 out of 6 games which meant we made it to the semi-finals which we won 2:1! We then were up against a very strong team from Lindfield where our team continued to show determination and great skill, making it a draw and going into extra time. The fate of the match then rested on a golden goal which Lindfield skilfully scored.

We couldn't be prouder of the progress, positivity and perseverance they have shown. Not to mention the dedication to practising during break times—this made such a difference. Bring on the finals!

