

Spring Term 2022

A Boughton Heath Publication



Outdoor Learning



at Boughton Heath



Reception

Forest School

We have been developing our team building skills this term during Forest School. Our first session saw the children working as a team to create The Gruffalo. The children also had to create a mouse house to keep the mouse safe from all of the characters.



The children again impressed myself and Mrs Woods when they completed our pirate orienteering activity. The team work that we saw was outstanding. The children developed their thinking critically skills and brought in lots of skills from other areas to word out the pirate clues.

Class time

We have had three main themes to support children's development this term – Crocodile Creek, The Gruffalo and Pirates.



The children have learnt so much through these books and have enjoyed the activities that have been planned around them. The children have developed their understanding and skills in writing by applying fingers spaces, capital letters and full stops. The

children are continuing to master their letter formation.



Pirate Day

Captain Blackbeard stole the treasure the children had been asked to guard by Captain Black Bart!



They had to complete several tasks in order to get the treasure back. The children created their own pirate passport, applied the new vocabulary that we had learnt and had to find clues around the school grounds.



They finally all had to walk the plank in order to get the last clue. The children found an 'X' and began to dig... We found the treasure! The children had so much fun and it was lovely to see the children so animated and engrossed in their learning.



Easter

The children have been learning about the Christian celebration of Easter.



The children have retold the story by role-playing and writing it in their own words. We discussed the bible and why it is important to Christians.



It has been fantastic to see the children developing and mastering their skills in all areas of learning. Well done Reception!

Year 1

Our trip to Chester Zoo

For the first half of the Spring term, our topic was animals including humans. We learnt about the five main animal groups; mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and reptiles. We really enjoyed finding out facts about the different animal groups and were great at asking questions when playing Guess Who? To support all of the knowledge we had learnt, we went on a trip to Chester Zoo to see all of the animal groups close up. We made our own observations of various animals and learnt even more facts. We had beautiful weather and had great fun watching the animals especially the lively monkeys and we enjoyed going through the butterfly house.



Maths Day 2022

This year, our maths day theme was number facts including times tables. We all dressed up in a maths theme or as a Times Table Rock Star! Throughout the day we completed lots of maths challenges and activities. In Year One we focused on the book 'One is a snail, Ten is a crab' and made a book of our own based on this. Linked to our science topic of animals, we wrote number sentences to find totals of the number of legs different animals have.



We also used all of our maths equipment to represent different numbers of our choice. Many of us took part in our maths day competitions too which were to build the tallest tower using ten sheets of A4 paper and to creatively present the numbers 1-16. As it was Valentine's day, there was an entry which displayed the numbers 1-16 in the shape of a heart!

Art – Vincent Scarpace

This term we have been learning about the artist Vincent Scarpace. We looked at pieces of his artwork and found out that he mainly paints sea creatures.



His work is created using vibrant coloured paints. Scarpace uses circular shapes to create a sense of flow to his work. He uses patterns and dots. After looking at his art work we created our own pieces using batik. Batik is a way of producing coloured designs on textiles having first put on wax to the parts to be left undyed. The children created some fabulous fish drawing and chose bright, vibrant colours to create these banners that are now hanging in our classroom



What tales of History can our Grandparents tell?

This half term we have had a history topic. We have been learning about what history is and finding out about life when our grandparents were our age. We have looked at timelines and worked with our families to make family trees and placed the births of our family members on a time line. Also, we have made a time line of our lives so far. We have talked with our parents about significant events that we have experienced and in what year they took place. We worked out how many years ago



each event was. The Grosvenor Museum loaned us a box of toys from the past which we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring. Many of us have brought toys into school that our parents and grandparents played with when they were young too. Our history skills are improving as we look for clues of why objects are from the past and looking at sources such as photographs and people! One of our grandparents kindly came in and we asked them questions about their life when they were six years old. They also brought lots of interesting artefacts to show us, including an eleven foot snake skin!

Forest School

We based our forest school day on the book The Bog Baby. First, we all found our own Bog Baby in our school grounds! We looked after them for the day by making various creations for them! We made a tepee home for our Bog Baby using sticks, wool and leaves.



We then became creative and made beds, sofas and wands! We used weaving techniques to make our items more comfortable for our Bog Babies! We had a wonderful day outside in the glorious Spring weather.



Nawi Samaraweera artwork

For our Art topic this term we have been learning all about an artist called Nawi Samaraweera. He is a world renowned Sri Lankan artist who works with a variety of artistic materials. We chose to work with terracotta clay and bright coloured paints, which are two materials he uses. In his work, he uses bright, vivid colours and can be found to have people in his work too.



We also incorporated a few other art techniques into our work too which were sowing and weaving. We first of all learnt all about the primary and secondary, how to make colours lighter and darker and how to mix colours too. We also studied his art work closely and learnt that he has a particular style when it comes to drawing faces so we practised drawing eyes, nose and mouths in the style of him.



Once we had learnt all the skills, we drew our own pictures using one of his images as inspiration. We used bright coloured inks to create the vivid shades and then used oil pastels to highlight the light and dark in the picture. Finally, we added a woven section using bright, vibrant colours to add more detail to the pictures.

History

One of our History topics this half term has been The Gunpowder Plot. We have loved

learning all about this event in History. We have learnt all about the important people involved in the plot and what their names were.



We used our Kagan groups to help research why each person was important and what role they had in the plot. We learnt that religion played an important part in the plot and learnt who were the Catholics and who were the Protestants. We have used a lot of different drama skills to help immerse ourselves in the Gunpowder Plot.



As you can see above, we have some pretty angry Guy Fawkes impersonators who were being quizzed (hot seating) about their lives and why they started the plot to kill the King. We also acted out the timeline of the Gunpowder Plot using freeze framing.



Forest School

We had so much fun on our forest school day this half term. We created bug hotels using sticks, grass and other natural materials.



To do this we used a plant pot and crammed in as many sticks as we could so the insects had lots of nice little tight places to hide in. After that we made clay pots for our Mother's day presents and imprinted leaves and flowers onto the side of the pots to make a pattern.



Our favourite activities were making habitats for our pet rocks, which we added some googly eyes too. We also loved our hot chocolate too! In the afternoon, we created friends for the characters in our Literacy story using peg dolls, wool, felt and glue. They look amazing!

Year 3

Where do we start? Year 3 have worked their socks off and fully immersed themselves in everything this half term. It has been a busy term which saw the return of maths day where the children dressed as maths rock stars and spent the day completing various challenges. In Maths, we have continued to embed the understanding of the four basic operations, money, statistics and measuring! Finally, we have finished by touching on fractions which we will continue with in the summer term. The children have continued to make excellent use of our class library and from my Go Read records have read over a whopping 150 books this term.



As a class, we have learnt the song 'Three Little Birds' and learnt to play the glockenspiel alongside it. The hardest part of this was performing it all together and staying both in time and tune; but we did it!

Finally, after two years of lockdowns and school closures we were allowed to get back out on our residential. Something that is great at bringing classes even closer together.



During our History topic, we continued learning about the Stone Age and went on to look at the Bronze and Iron Ages. We spent a day out at forest school looking at how people of these ages cooked, kept warm and caught their food. Following on from this, we completed our Science topic which was 'Animals including Humans' and have looked into the importance of fuelling our bodies with the right things and how skeletons have incredibly important jobs.

All who attended got involved in the different activities from rock climbing to target shooting, there was something for everyone and it was great to see children challenge themselves. It was also lovely to sit around the campfire each evening toasting marshmallows, eating biscuits and singing songs!



They have continued to pick up more interesting vocabulary which they have then transferred into their writing. A great piece enjoyed by the children was writing a letter to Sir David Attenborough to ask him questions about our current topic of whales – fingers crossed that we get a response next term.

A favourite experiment was looking at how nutrients were absorbed and transported around the body which you can have a look at if you scan the QR code.



Have a restful Easter break and I look forward to seeing everyone in the summer term!

Year 4

Wow! What a jam packed term this has been, and to finish it all off a fantastic residential to Conover Hall.

Here are some of the amazing learning Year 4 have got up to.

The Romans

In Spring 1 we spent the afternoons diving into the history of the Romans.

We were lucky enough to be loaned some Roman artefacts from the Grosvenor Museum. We explored these and tried to discover what they were made from and what they were used for. It gave us a great opportunity to discuss archaeology.



The Museum also lent us a fabulous Roman soldier outfit with equipment. This really helped the children to understand what the soldiers wore and why. We also used the shields to learn about Roman military formation



Roman Roads were next and the children loved following the instructions to create their own mini Roman Road. Other areas that the children found interesting were trade and medicine. The children learnt about the herbs that the Romans grew, and how these were used medicinally. They also discovered lots about Claudius Galen and his understanding of dissection and the heart.

Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes

In Spring 2 we have been exploring our active world. The children have been developing their skills such as map reading. They learnt how to use six figure grid references and the symbols on an OS Map. The children explored using playdough and objects how the earth is structured and how mountains are formed. Excitement built when we moved onto volcanoes and the children had a go creating their own volcano. Following on from this, the children learnt about why people live near volcanoes.



Special Days – Maths and Literacy



Year 4 rocked the Maths Day this term with some incredible outfits! Times tables are a real focus in Year 4 and it was brilliant to see the children's commitment to The Battle of the Bands on TTRS. Over the day the children took part in lots of mathematical challenges. The favourite was definitely the tower one!



Another fabulous day was world book day where the children read the book from Little People Big Dreams – Harriet Tubman. The children were fascinated to learn about how Harriet had walked for days to save both herself and others. After reading the book, we wrote speeches as Harriet Tubman, and also about things that we were passionate about.

Thank you for supporting the Potato Characters that day. There were some amazing entries!



Literacy

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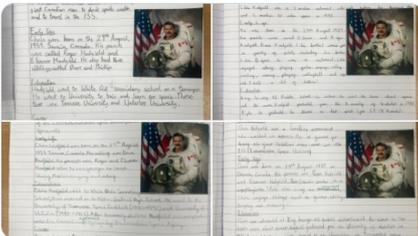
Year 5

This term, Year 5 have continued to make fantastic progress! The children have all shown brilliant attitudes towards their learning and have been a delight to teach!

English

In Spring 1, we studied the Vikings. We read a story called 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' and wrote our own myths. This half term, we've investigated Space and wrote biographies about

 Boughton Heath Academy @BoughtonHeath · Mar 24
After reading The Darkest Dark written by @Cmdr_Hadfield, Year 5 wrote biographies all about the astronaut's fascinating life!



 Chris Hadfield @Cmdr_Hadfield
Astronaut, back on Earth after 3 spaceflights. For events and media, please write to info@chrishadfield.ca Order books at chrishadfield.ca/books

Chris Hadfield, the first Canadian astronaut to perform a spacewalk. When we uploaded our biographies to Twitter, Chris Hadfield even liked our writing about him!

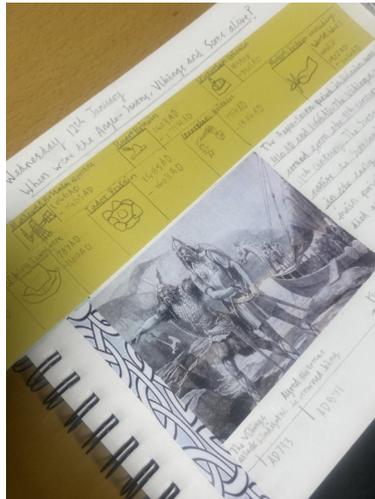
Maths

We have covered lots of Mathematics strands this term, including Multiplication, Division, Fractions and Decimals.

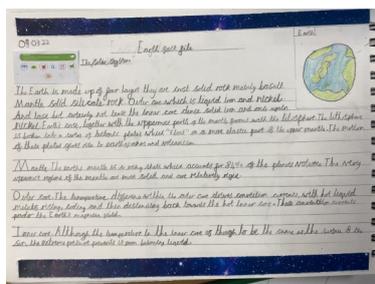


Topic: History and Science

During this term, we started the year learning about The Vikings. We focussed on investigating different historical sources and understanding why The Vikings have such a bad reputation in history.



In Spring 2, we learnt all about Space. This was a favourite amongst the children, who were fascinated with learning about our solar system, plants and moon!



Science

During our first half term, we studied life cycles of different types of animals, including amphibians, birds and mammals.

We looked at sexual and asexual reproduction in plants and dissected a flower to look at all their different parts

DT

Based on our Viking topic, we designed and made our own boats. We focussed on making the boats fit for purpose so that they would float and survive the water. We had lots of fun racing them!



A huge well done to all members of Year 5. It has been a wonderful term and I wish you all a restful break!

Year 6



Science has been exciting this term in Year 6. We learnt about the circulatory system in our bodies and how to identify and name the main parts. After completing a heart dissection (thank you Mrs Tabb) the children were then also able to describe the parts and functions of the heart.

This term, the Year 6 children have studied World War 2. They began by investigating the Treaty of Versailles and the impact that would have had on the German people before researching Adolf Hitler and his rise to power.



Year 6 loved their residential at Lake Windermere this term; the mud and the constant rain made it more fun! The children were very excited about what was to be their first residential experience in two years and the location and the activities certainly lived up to their expectations. After splitting into three groups, the children challenged themselves with a multitude of activities, none of which left them clean or dry. Leaving the children in charge of map reading, with compasses, in the dark, was a particular worry for the teachers but the children excelled at their task and we all made it back to the accommodation in one piece. Other activities included canoeing, abseiling, climbing, the nightline, the obstacle course and team building initiatives, but the out and out favourite, and the one that caused the most adrenaline to flow was the giant swing. This involved wearing a full body harness, being winched up a tree by friends and then being released from a great height. On many occasions the children were quiet upon release before screaming with joy in a delayed reaction.

In the afternoon, the children made their own blood and were able to confidently discuss the components of blood, their functions and the percentages of each that were present. The children learnt about the function of blood vessels and the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals and humans. Finally, an investigation into heart rate, before and after exercise, supported the understanding of a healthy diet and exercise on the human body and how different drugs and lifestyle choices can further impact that.

The children were fascinated by his methods of gaining support, especially with children of their age, and the class unanimously decided that they would not like to receive and play with a wooden puzzle that, when solved, depicted our Prime Minister's name.

The children looked at secondary resources in the form of propaganda cartoons and posters from the Allies and the Axis countries to try and understand a balanced view of that period in time. After researching and reading eye witness accounts from the Battle of Britain, the children enjoyed a Field Hospital and Spy Camp forest school experience which involved cooking ration cakes on an open fire. Finally, the children studying the work of Patrick Cockayne- Keely and enjoyed learning to use press prints and lino prints to create their own propaganda posters to warn the British public of the perils of war.

Well done this term Year 6!



Other news

Chester U11s Football

A HUGE well done for all the Y5 and 6 children who represented school in the Chester FC National League U11s tournament this week. We entered three teams and all the children involved were fantastic ambassadors for school.



Many thanks to the parents who helped transport children to and from the venue, and for your fantastic support during matches.

Save the date: St George's Day PTA event

The PTA will be holding their first event of the year on Saturday 23rd April between 12pm and 3pm.

ST GEORGE'S FUN DAY
Free event entry
Saturday 23rd April, 12pm - 3pm
Boughton Heath Academy, Becketts Lane


Complete the quest trail and claim a prized chocolate Dragon Egg!
£2 per trail 


Games + Refreshments +
Cakes + Bouncy Castle + more
Bring a picnic and join us for some springtime fun!

Hopefully the weather will be good enough to allow families to join us for lots of fun for all the family. We encourage you to bring a picnic along, and you can also support the event by baking a cake for the cake stall, donating a bottle for the hoopla or an item for the kids tombola. For more details, please see the flyer sent out via ping.

Share the Learning

We are delighted to be opening school up to parents once again and shall be bringing back the popular 'Share the Learning' mornings after. For parents new to school and those who have missed these events due to the pandemic, these events see parents come into classrooms when dropping their children off at school. Staying for around 15 minutes, this gives parents the chance to see the wonderful work children do in school, discussing this with their children. It is also a great opportunity to see the environment your child learns in. Further details and dates will be sent out to you after the Easter break.

Conscious Discipline parent event

It was lovely to welcome parents into school last week to take part in a workshop regarding Conscious Discipline. For those parents who could not make it, we will be providing videos on the school website which can be accessed at home.



We had great feedback from those in attendance and are sure other parents would find the Conscious Discipline approach of interest.

Progress Postcards and Parents' Evening

Your child will have already brought home their Spring Progress Postcard which details their attainment throughout this term.



Parents will be able to discuss the content of their child's postcard at parents' evenings on the week beginning 25th April. Further details regarding how and when to book parents' evening appointments will be sent out prior to this.

KS1 and KS2 SATs assessments

Miss Bladen and Mrs Gell have both run information evenings for parents regarding the KS1 and KS2 SATs. Feedback from parents is that these events have been really useful and informative. Should you have any queries or questions regarding these national assessments, please don't hesitate to get in touch with school.

Phonics screen information event

Year 1 pupils will be undertaking the national phonics screening test in the summer term. This is a nationwide assessment all Y1 children are expected to undertake. Any children not meeting the expected standard will repeat the assessment in Y2. To prepare parents for this assessment Mrs Sumnall will be running an information event on Wednesday 20th April. This event will fully explain the nature of the assessment and be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Thank you

A huge thank you to the entire school community for their efforts and support of school throughout this term. Whilst this term has still been affected by restrictions, I look with excitement to the summer term; which promises lots more exciting opportunities for our children.

I wish all families a restful and safe Easter break. Children return to school on Tuesday 19th April, as Monday is the Easter Monday national Bank Holiday.