

Newsletter

Spring Term

12th February 2021



Dear Parents and Friends,

As the first half of the Spring term draws to a close, I would like to offer my thanks to the whole community for how well parents, colleagues and, especially, children have persevered through this period. Nothing is easy at the moment and yet, I have been amazed by the incredible ability of our children to continue to be the core of our community and continue to be joyful, energetic, resilient and a source hope for us all.

Today, we have spent much of our time thinking about Annalise and the Luffingham family. It was wonderful to see so many of our community wear red in remembrance of Annie. Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Netherway did a wonderful job of launching 'An Adventure for Annie' from their own adventure in the woods during our Upper Junior Celebration Assembly. Annie taught us to be adventurous and so it is right that we remember her through an activity she would have loved. We are excited about seeing your adventure artwork.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Parent Consultation evenings will be held on Tuesday 23 February and Monday 1 March. Please make class teacher bookings via Firefly. Specialist teacher bookings can be made via email to juniorschool@royalrussell.co.uk

School Closure Over Half Term

The Junior School will be closed over half term. I know that you will understand that I have asked my colleagues to turn on their 'out of office' replies to emails to enjoy a well-deserved rest. If there is an urgent matter, please contact the school via this email address (reception@royalrussell.co.uk), noting the hours of opening:

Monday 15th: Closed

Tuesday 16th: Closed

Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th: Open from 9.00am - 4.00pm

We are awaiting a number of announcements from the UK Government about plans for the second half of term, which we are expecting on Monday 22 February.

It is possible that there will be some outline information and updates released next week and, if this is the case, I will share the headline announcements with you.

At this point, we plan to offer our online provision for all pupils from Monday 22 February and continue with the supervision of the children of critical workers here on site.

The second half of term is six weeks long finishing on Thursday 1 April for the Easter break. I hope that we will see the return of some pupils to the site in that time and I will keep you fully informed as plans evolve.

In light of all challenges, I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved as a community. I hope that you and your loved ones have a peaceful and restorative week and we look forward to being together again soon.

Best wishes,

John Evans
Headmaster, Junior School

Half Term Holiday Fun

We are all very aware of how hard the children have worked this half term, and, on reaching a 'holiday', there will be limitations in what you might ordinarily be able to do.

With this in mind, a group of Year 6 pupils have worked with me over the past few weeks to launch a **Writing Competition**. They sourced some inspirational images, wrote some of their own exciting story openers, planned an advert for this event, wrote to teachers to inform them of the competition, and will help with informing the judging of the competition. All entries will earn points for their house, and a winning house will be announced!

Please do scroll down in this newsletter for their full advertisement with all the details. The task has been set as an optional activity on Firefly.

In addition to this, if you are looking for something to keep your children active and as a break from screen time over the half-term, then why not plan a strategic game of **Connect4Fitness** using the grid below. Or make up your own version by filling in your own challenges!

Mrs Bannon
(Deputy Head Learning & Teaching)

CONNECT 4 FITNESS

Playing against a partner, the first person to colour in 4 circles in a row wins! You must complete the exercise in the chosen circle and then colour them in as you go, start from the bottom and work upwards/across/diagonal to get 4 in a row.

15 glute bridges	15 sit ups	15 squat jumps	25 star-jumps	1 minute plank	5 crunches	10 press-ups	20 high knees
10 leg raises	15 crunches	5 frog jumps	15 press-ups	1 minute punches	10 leg raises	20 star-jumps	10 lunge jumps
1 minute plank	10 frog jumps	10 jump squats	20 sit ups	30 seconds punches	15 press-ups	30 high knees	20 lunges
20 lunges	25 star-jumps	20 glute bridges	15 sit ups	25 frog jumps	20 squats	5 jump squats	20 leg raises
30 second plank	5 sit ups	10 squats	10 press-ups	1 minute punches	10 crunches	20 high knees	10 lunges

Writing Competition!



With writing, anything is possible!



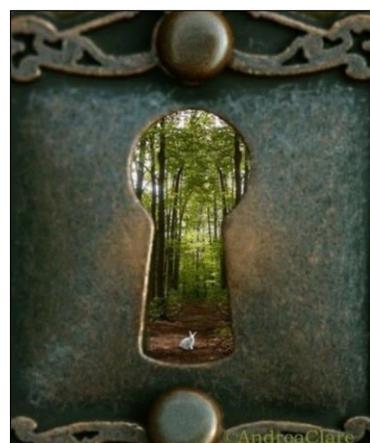
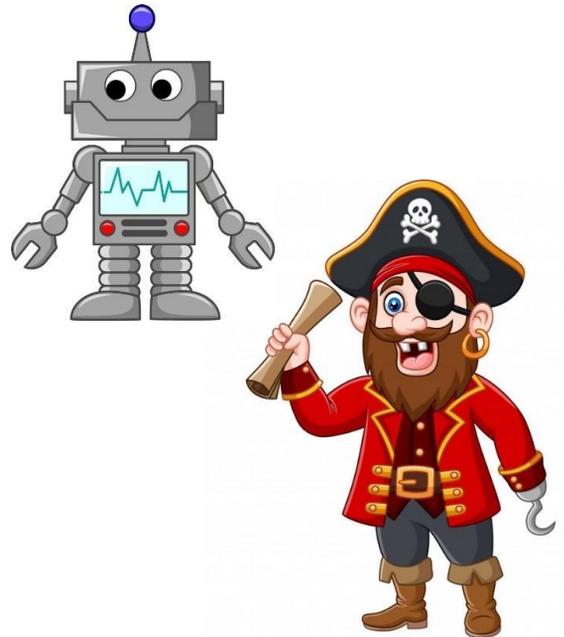
Why not try our writing competition! This is a chance to let your imagination go wild. It is open to all year groups. It's simple – all you have to do is select one of the story openers below **OR** use one of the pictures we have chosen as a stimulus. You can write a short story, or a chapter of a story, and submit your work on the optional task available on Firefly, no later than **Sunday 28th February**. For children in Nursery or Reception who would like to take part, then please focus on oral story telling. You are welcome to send in a video.

The best part is – everybody is a winner! Every entry will earn a point for their House and the winner from each phase will earn 10 points for their House. Which House will earn the most points?

Alice walked nervously into the quiet, dark forest. She stepped carefully as the floor was uneven. She hadn't even been in this part of the woods before. She stopped, amazed, and stared at it.

Alice walked with trepidation through the unfamiliar surroundings. She had never ventured this way through the wild woods before. Apprehensively, she made her way through the knotted, overgrown, forest floor. Her heart raced and her eyes grew wide as she saw it.

The fire dragons had been enemies of the water dragons for some time. In spite of this, Aqua the water dragon loved Bernie the fire dragon. One day, when Aqua was on her way to meet Bernie...



Music Mix

A selection of work carried out in Music lessons this week.

Brass Instruments – Quick Quiz

1. What are Brass Instruments made of?
Brass instruments are made from brass but some are made from wood like the saxophone.
2. Which Brass Instrument has the lowest sounding pitch?
Tuba
3. How many valves does a trumpet have?
3
4. Why is the Saxophone NOT a Brass Instrument?
It is in the woodwind family and has a single reed mouthpiece.

Astrid's Brass Instruments Quiz Sheet (Year 3)



NAME: Jaiden Shah CLASS: 1E

Learning Objective:
Join up the dots to reveal a musical instrument and then write a few sentences about what sort of instrument it is (Strings/Woodwind/Brass/Percussion) and how it is played.

This is a Xylophone. Sometimes it is called a Glockenspiel. It is a percussion instrument. You play it by using mallets.

Jaiden's research on the Xylophone (Year 1).



NAME: YEAR 4 CLASS: BRING TERM - BAROQUE MUSIC CHALLENGE

Learning objective:
To demonstrate your musical knowledge by completing this Baroque-themed Musical Challenge!

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) was a priest and a musician who lived and worked in Venice, the great Italian city of canals, islands and churches. He was known as the 'red priest' because of the colour of his hair, but most of his working life was spent writing operas, concertos (over 500) and other vocal and instrumental pieces. Many of his works were written for the musicians at a girls' orphanage in Venice, where he worked. Vivaldi is perhaps best known for his four descriptive violin concertos known as 'The Four Seasons'. For each concerto, Vivaldi provided a 'programme' to explain what he is describing in the music. He includes such details as raindrops, a dog barking and hunting calls.

Find the names of some of Vivaldi's pieces and the instruments he used in the wordsearch.

SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER	MANDOLIN	VIOLIN	MANDOLICA	GLORIA	CELLO	TRUMPET
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ANTONIO VIVALDI

- Provided a programme to explain what was being described
- Wrote the four seasons "Le Quattro Stagioni"
- He was a priest
- Known as the 'red priest' because of his hair
- Head Violinist at an orphanage
- Lived in Venice
- Wrote over 500 operas and concertos
- Lived between 1678-1741



Henry's research on Vivaldi (Year 4).

NAME: Gio YEAR 6 CLASS: 6T OPERA

Learning objective: To write down as many different roles that you can think of, that are needed to produce an Opera – and a brief explanation of those various roles.

RRI: Write an explanation of the following:

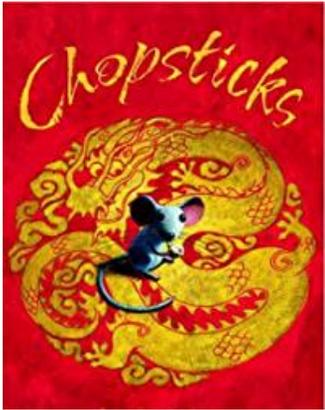
- Recitative** is a type of song that is close to speech.
- Aria** A solo song sung by the main character.
- Libretto** is the text used in the songs.
- Overture** is the beginning of the opera performance.

Gio's research on Opera (Year 6)



Nursery Celebrates Chinese New Year

Nursery have immersed themselves in Chinese New Year celebrations this week, expanding their 'understanding of the world'. They have used their **Russell Powers**.



Curious

Nursery shared the Chinese New Year adventures of '**Chopsticks**' (the mouse) with Mrs Warner.

They listened to 5 year old Ian share his Chinese New Year experiences and carried out some role play of their own.



Creative

The children are also learning the art of ribbon dancing with Mrs Bridgewater.



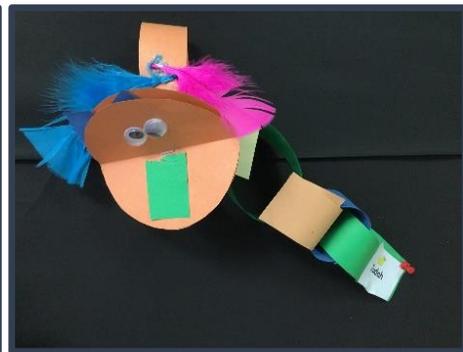
Look how **Resilient** they were, preparing their own Chinese inspired noodle dishes with Mrs Vallance.





Creative

Nursery Ducklings have thoroughly enjoyed making their own Chinese dragons with Miss Heasman.



Reception

Reception have been finding out about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated. They have made decorations and masks and wish everyone who is celebrating, a Happy New Year.



Fateh Duleep



Anastasia



Daniel



Eppie



Eva



Leo



Olivia



Harrison and his sister Maddy



Oliver

Reception Squirrels and Foxes had great fun in the snow.



Year 1 in a Jam (Sandwich)

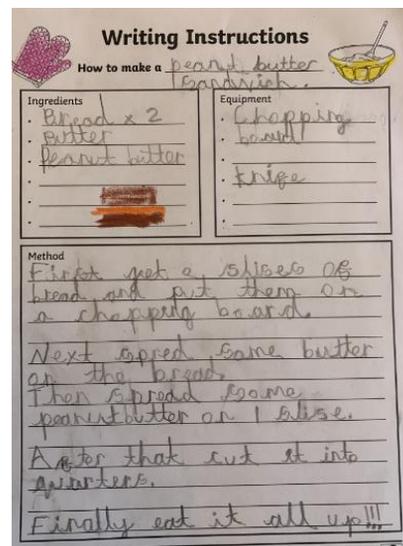
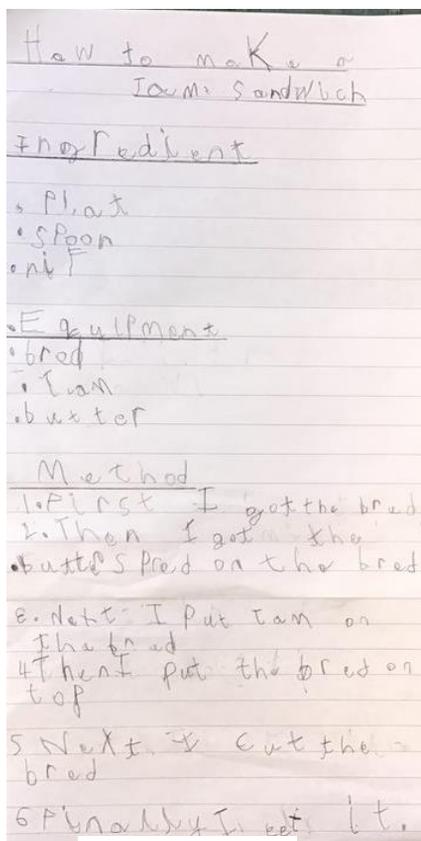
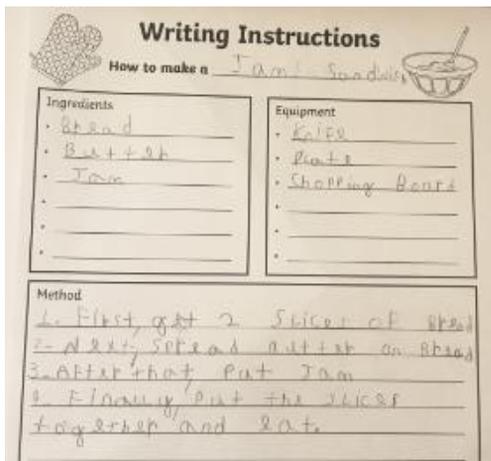
In English this week, Year 1 were tasked with making a jam sandwich. Why? You may ask, but there was more to it than meets the eye. First, they could choose their own fillings (if they didn't like jam). Then the children filmed themselves making their sandwiches, then wrote up their instructions using time connectives and verbs. Mrs Edwards and Miss Insuli were so impressed with their work, well done Year 1.



Castora



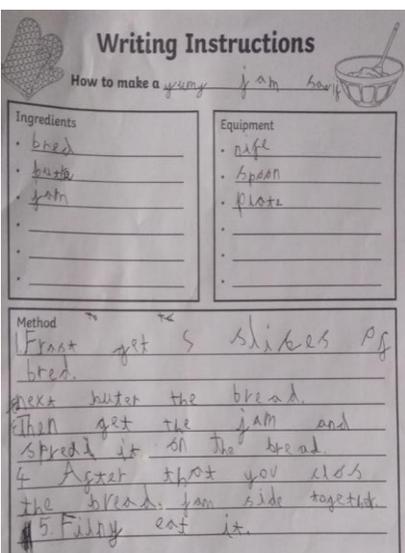
Dhian



Liam



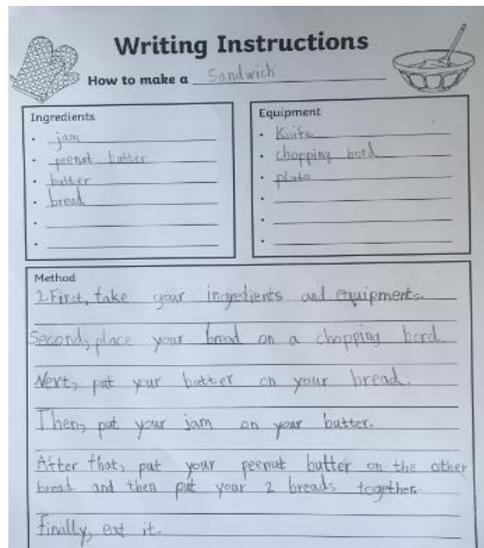
Lana



Abigail



Eloise



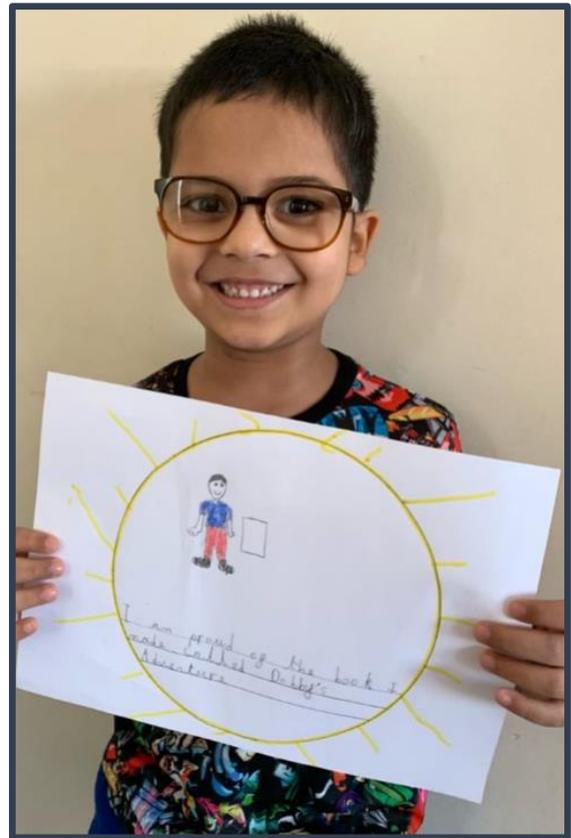
Keli

Wellbeing Wednesday

Year 1 drew a picture for Wellbeing Wednesday, compiling their proudest achievements of the half term.



William



Dhian



Noeul



Amelie



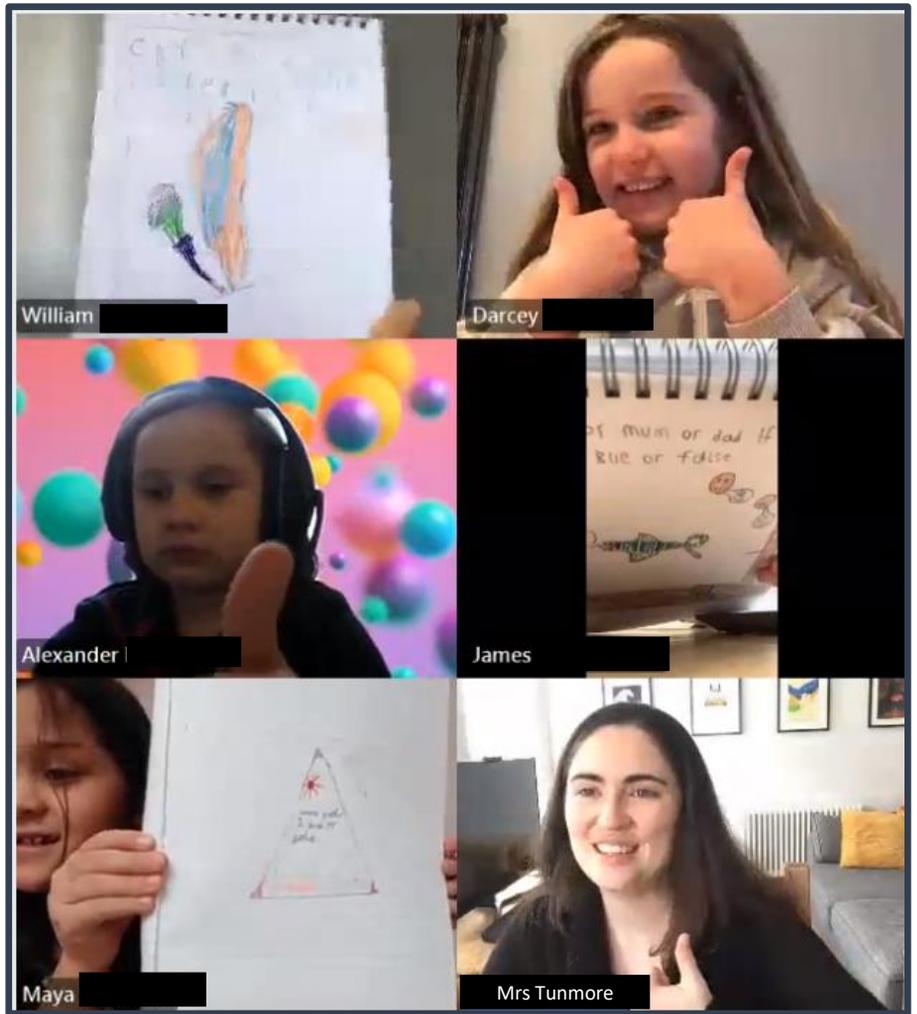
Year 1 and 2 enjoying a Hot Chocolate treat.

Safer Internet Day

As part of **Safer Internet Day** this week, Year 2 thought about the way we use the internet as a source of information. Lots of information we find on websites can be useful and factual, however, sometimes fiction and opinions are presented as facts instead.

The children listened to a story about *"Digi-Duck"* and how not all information on the internet is true. They then thought about how we can check the information we find, by asking a trusted adult, checking another website, or even using our own experience of the world as evidence.

Finally, they designed their own posters to remind others to consider whether the information they find online is trustworthy and what to do if they are unsure.



Year 3 Get Busy

'I want to paint' In English this week, Year 3 have been painting their own wonderful worlds.

I want to paint the glittery snow coming from the bright sky.

I want to paint the sparkling food on the plate.

I want to paint the fluffy warm clouds that swoosh in the sky.

I want to paint the beautiful sun.

I want to paint the crystal Tower on the sparkling sky.

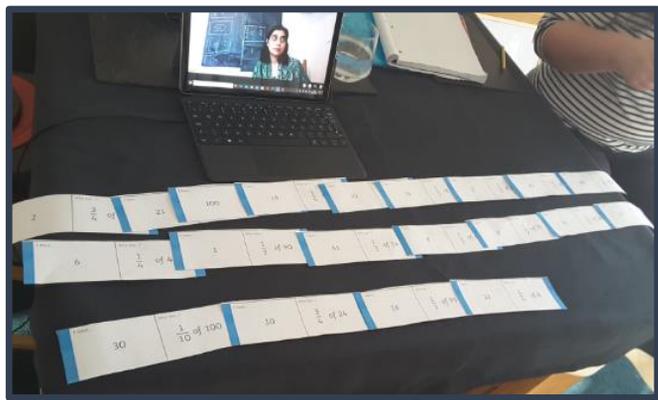
I want to paint the beautiful mountains on the glistening sands.



Lucas



Sienna



Arionas and Max played a game, matching fractions to the quantity.



Arionas



Max

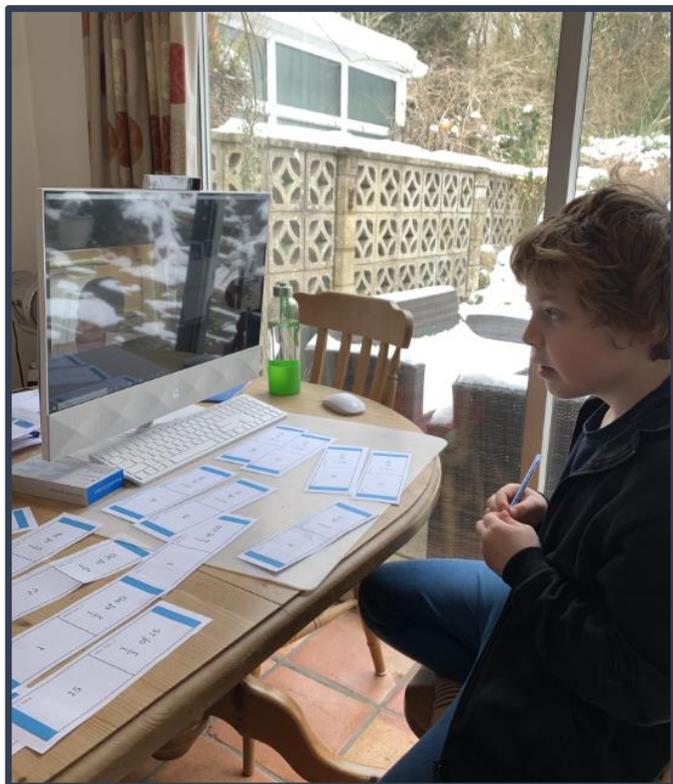


The children also created their own Maths games.

<p>skill 4</p> <p>player 1</p> <p>I have 15</p>	<p>player 1 starts</p> <p>who has $\frac{2}{5}$ of 30?</p>
<p>player 2</p> <p>I have 12</p>	<p>who has $\frac{7}{8}$ of 16?</p>
<p>player 3</p> <p>I have 14</p>	<p>who has $\frac{1}{10}$ of 32?</p>
<p>player 4</p> <p>I have 20</p>	<p>who has $\frac{3}{4}$ of 20?</p>



Lily



Kayan and Mayan faceted each other to play their games together.



Kayan



Mayan



Daniel

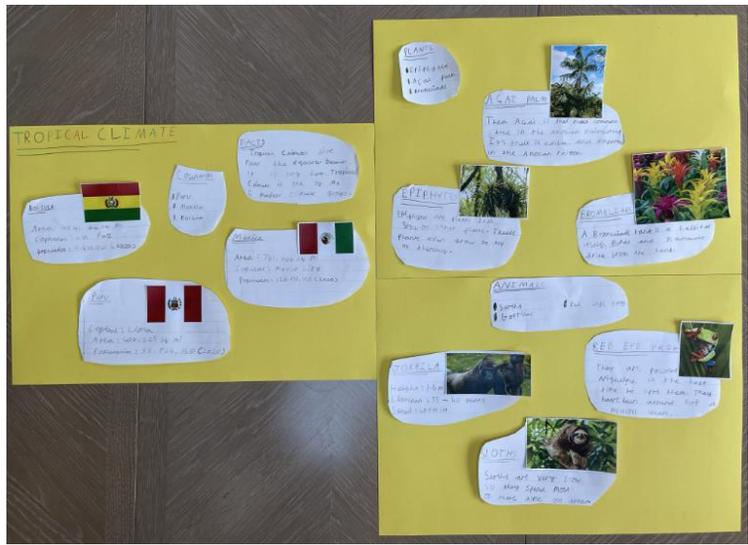


Daniel played the Maths fraction loop cards.

Aniyah produced a well presented non-chronological report on a climate zone in Geography.



Aniyah



The children were set the challenge of building a snowman.



Alfie



Mateo



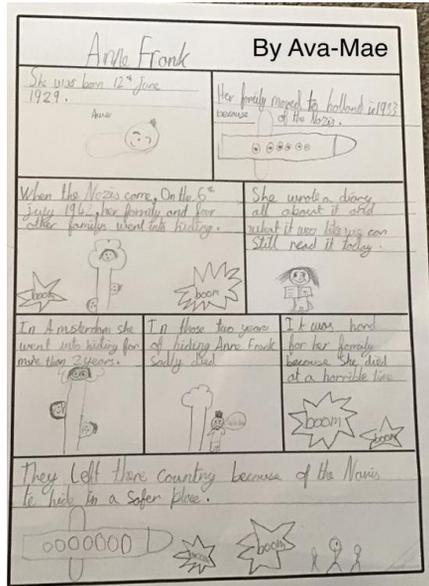
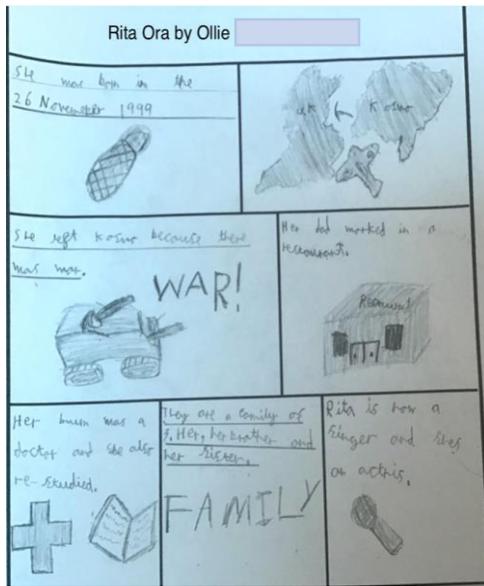
Jayshaan



Isabella

Year 5 Learn about Migration

In Year 5, the children are studying the topic of migration in geography. Last week they were learning about forced migration and refugees. We had great discussions about what it means to be a refugee, the difficult circumstances they have gone through and famous refugees who have contributed to our country.



Rubie

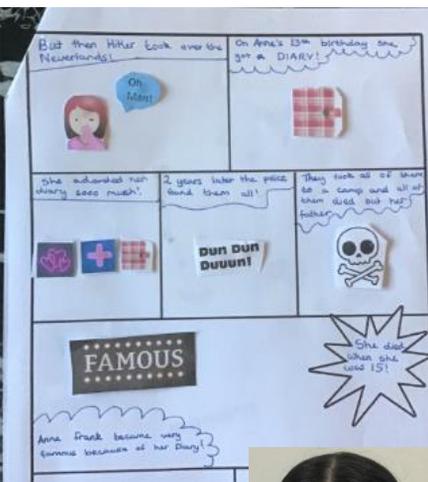
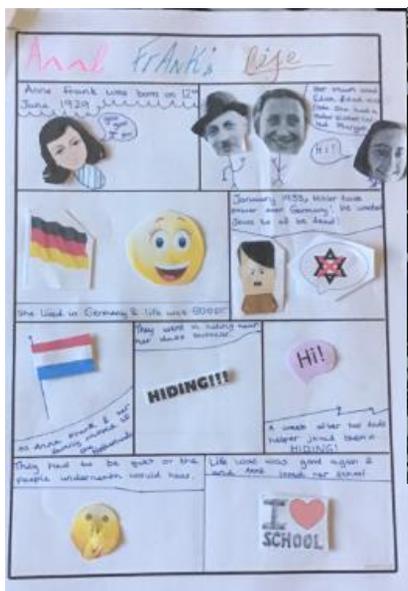


Ollie

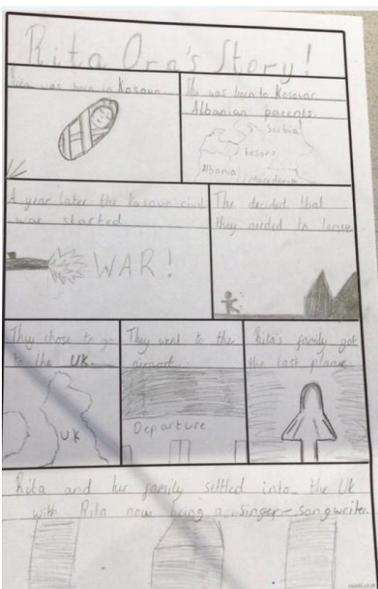


Ava-Mae

The children were then asked to select one famous refugee and create a storyboard of their life. A very thought-provoking lesson in which the children showed great empathy.



Ayra



Amy



Zachary



Samuel

Refugees

It is important for us to learn about what refugees bring as often we are not aware of the many great things these people have achieved.

Migration is all about people moving to an different place for a benefit. Sometimes this is to move away from an issue or something bad and other times it is purely the pull of something great.

For refugees, they immigrate because they feel they have to and they are looking for a better life. Once they settle into that new life it can open up many opportunities for both them as individuals, their families and also for the country they have moved to.

Sometimes it is easy to see they need help and support with homes and education and maybe even hospital treatment. This all costs the new country lots of money but actually, they often provide an awful lot back to their communities or to the country as a whole. I also think that everyone is entitled to have the best opportunities and help if needed.

I found this really interesting.



Taylor

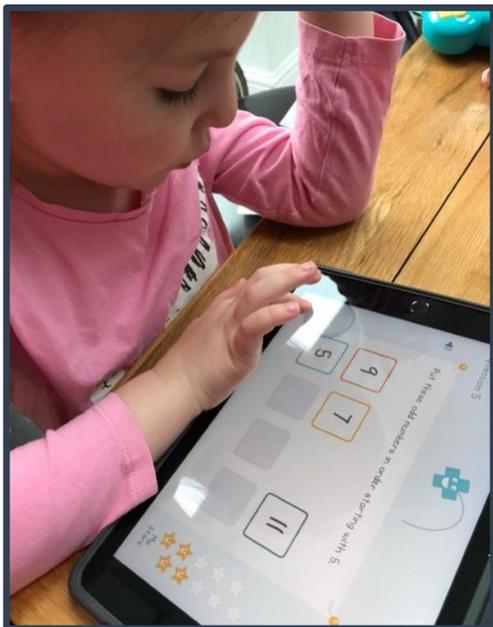


Kaya

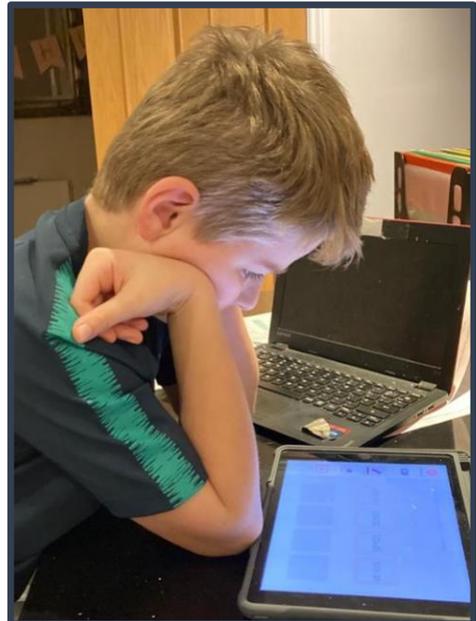
DoodleMaths Update

We have had so much engagement with DoodleMaths this half term during Online Learning. It is great to see so many pupils working towards their targets in Maths.

This week's Top Doodlers are 1E at 62% on target. Congratulations 1E, that's two weeks running.



Eva



Harry

Year 6 Junior Bake Off



Year 6 have been busy this week taking part in the Great Russell Bake Off. We have calculated recipe quantities using ratio and proportion, written descriptive recipes, including imperative verbs, adjectives and adverbs, baked our cakes and iced them using symmetrical designs.



Rupert



Ivy



Cupcakes

You will need

- 110g soft butter
- 110g Golden castor sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 110g self raising flour

For the buttercream

- 150g softened butter
- 300g icing sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 tsp milk

STEP 1
Heat oven to 180c /160c fan / gas 4 and fill a 12 cupcake tray with cases

STEP 2
Using an electric whisk beat 110g Softened butter 110g Golden castor sugar together in till paste and fluffy and whisk in 2 large eggs One at a time, scraping down the sides of the balls after each addition

STEP 3
Add 1/2 Teila extract, 110g Self rising flour and pinch a of salt, whisk until just combined then spoon the mixture into the cupcake cases

STEP 4
Bake 15 minutes until golden brown and insert a skewer into the middle of each cake if it comes out clean leave them to cool

STEP 5
To make buttercream whisk 150g softened butter until super soft! then add 300g icing sugar, 1 tablespoon of vanilla extract and a pinch of salt. Whisk together until smooth (start off slowly to avoid icing sugar cloud) then beat in 3 tablespoons of milk

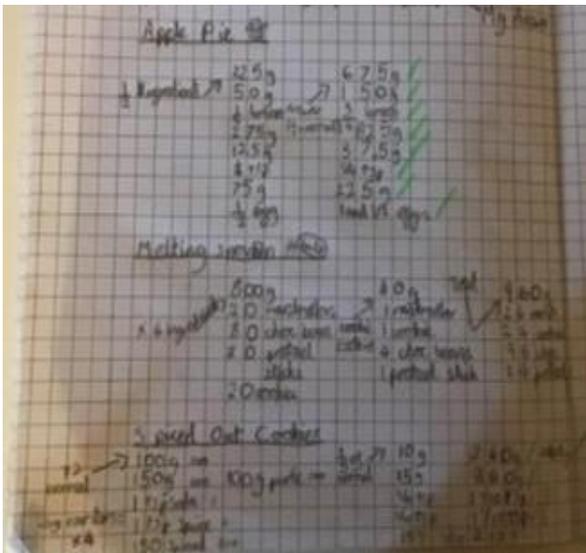
Tip
If you want colour then put food coloring into the icing all batter before you put it in the cases



Mia



Isabella



Maisie

The Bake Off theme was applied across both English and Maths lessons, some calculating the quantities using ratio and proportion.

The children had great fun learning, then reaping the rewards of their efforts.

These comic strips show the steps they are going to take to make their recipes using the imperative.

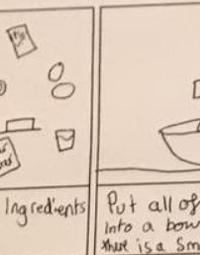
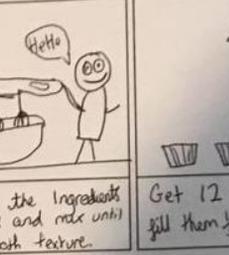
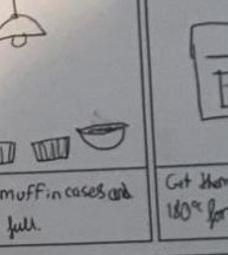
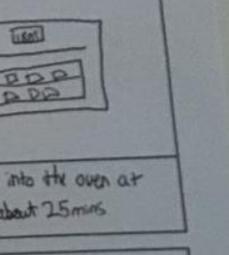
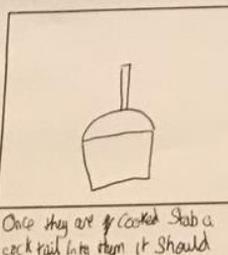
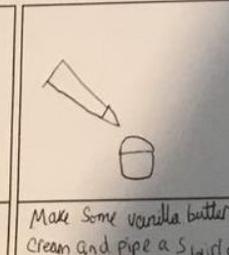
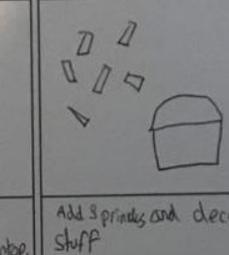
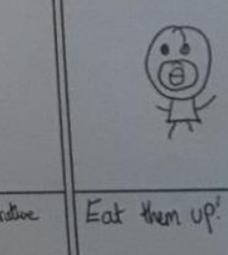
Comic Strip

			
Pre heat the oven to 200°/ 400° F. Grab your cases and place them in the 12 hole tin.	Measure all your ingredients into separate bowls.	Gather up your tools like a bowl, spatula, electric or hand whisk.	Sift your powdered ingredients into a bowl and give it a quick mix.
			
Next stir all of the other ingredients into the powdered stuff.	Fill your cases with your smooth mixture and place in the oven for 15-20 mins.	NOW WAIT	after your cakes are cooled you can decorate them.



Bea

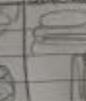
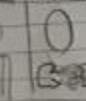
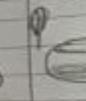
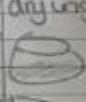
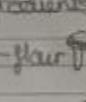
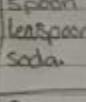
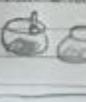
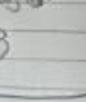
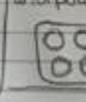
Comic Strip

<p>Flour = 200g Caster sugar = 200g butter = 200g eggs = 2 1 tbs vanilla extract 2 tbs Milk</p> 			
Get all your ingredients ready in bowls.	Put all of the ingredients into a bowl and mix until that is a smooth texture.	Get 12 muffin cases and fill them 1/3 full.	Get them into the oven at 180° for about 25 mins.
			
Once they are cooked stab a cocktail stick into them it should come out clean.	Make some vanilla butter cream and pipe a swirl on top.	Add sprinkles and decorative stuff.	Eat them up!



Lara

Monday 8th February 2021

half a cup of unsweetened cocoa powder	half a cup of hot boiling water	Add 1 cup of sugar into the same bowl	half a cup of vegetable oil into the same bowl	add 2 eggs in the same bowl and mix	add a tea spoon of vanilla extract mix thoroughly
					
Mix until everyone is fully combined	in a smaller bowl add dry ingredients	3/4 cup of all purpose flour	1/2 tea spoon salt	1/2 a tea spoon of baking soda	
					
Mix all dry ingredients and then pour into the wet mix thoroughly.	get muffin tray and line up the cupcake holders and pour batter	Preheat oven to 180° and keep cupcake in there for 18-20 min			
					



Mehreen

PE

This week's PE task was to create your own workout. The children could choose their activities to be included in their workout, based on things they liked to do. For example star jumps, hopping, dancing, yoga and running. The pupils had a coloured wheel to pop their chosen activities onto, it was then spun and the activity it chose could then be completed.

Due to the wonderful snowy conditions, many of the children chose to do a 'snow' workout where they made snow angels, threw snowballs at targets, ran around in the snow and tried to throw and catch snowballs. We even had some live sledging when Lou Lou dropped into Mrs Lloyd's live PE session whilst going down a big hill! Brilliant.





'An Adventure for Annie'

As you are aware, today we have launched '**An Adventure for Annie**' to celebrate the wonderful life of Annalise Luffingham. This is an event to bring the whole school community together remotely to keep Annie's spirit alive. We want to encourage everybody to have some fun and go on an adventure, just like Annie did every day of her life. We would love for everyone to get involved and our challenge to all is to create a GPS picture whilst on a family walk, run, cycle or ramble!

Below you will find a link to the designated Firefly page where you can read all about this exciting whole school adventure.

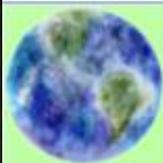
Pupils in Year 3 to 6 will have received a task today on Firefly and images should be uploaded directly onto this task. Please note that any family pictures uploaded may be used for the purposes of school social media.

Pupils in Nursery to Year 2 may upload their image using the form available on the 'An Adventure for Annie' Firefly page. Please note that any family pictures uploaded may be used for the purposes of school social media.

<https://royalrussell.fireflycloud.net/well-being/an-adventure-for-annie>

We do hope that you enjoy going on '*An Adventure for Annie*'. We would also welcome any donations in support Meningitis NOW, a wonderful charity that supports families affected by Meningitis, a link for which is on the Firefly page.

Many thanks in advance for embracing '*An Adventure for Annie*' and we look forward to sharing all your adventures after half term.



OUR WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE



Following on from the amazing artwork being made remotely, we are launching a new Photography challenge on the theme of 'Our World'. We have so much to celebrate in 'Our World', from nature and animals to our favourite hobbies, people and places.

Take on the challenge of creating a photograph to share with our Royal Russell community and show us where you are finding inspiration whilst working remotely.

The Photography challenge is an opportunity to build on our Photography skills and to get creative in our home communities. You could take your photo in your house, in your garden or at your local park - working safely nearby to your home. All photographs will be shared in an online gallery.



Art Tip - Upload your photograph at original size for best quality. Aim for sharp, clear photos!



All entries must be uploaded to Firefly by **Monday 22nd February 2021** or emailed to Miss Ciccone cciccone@royalrussell.co.uk.

We will have a winner in every phase.

Good luck, everyone!



Deadline: Monday after half term break