



**Royal Russell Junior School**



# **Newsletter**

**Spring Term**

**22nd January 2021**

Dear Parents and Friends,

When the week ends with all the excitement of a day spent in fancy dress and the bright sunshine lifting spirits, it is easier to imagine the world at large, and the School, in better circumstances. Thank you for supporting the children (and thank you to those parents who joined us) in getting ready for a day that has done much to lift spirits and help us to feel a bit closer together.

This term's theme of Dreams and Goals has continued to permeate throughout this week. In Monday's assembly, I explored the link between the dreams and goals that we may have for the future and how careful questioning and critical thinking can help us to begin to realise them. One of the reasons that I, and many of my colleagues, were drawn to teaching was the excitement of guiding and supporting children as they start this journey of realisation. It continues to be a joy for me to see how well we are engaging, as a School, with our learning and with each other during the week as we continue to take these steps together throughout this term.

It felt positive last week to highlight the patterns and rhythms that exist during the School week. I am pleased that many of these have continued throughout this week and that families are more and more au fait with our online learning. Mrs. Bannon has worked with colleagues to produce an FAQ sheet designed to support you with any queries you may have (attached for Years 1 to 6 with Reception to follow next week). We continue to keep well-informed of developments within the software that we use, one of those being 'break out rooms' that are available in Microsoft Teams. Due to hardware restrictions, this feature is not available to all teachers at this time, however, where it can be used, it has proven to be an interesting tool.

I know that we all hope for the time where we will be back on site and learning together. Beyond just hoping, we can all do our part to keep the community safe by staying at home, being vigilant for any signs of COVID-19 within our households and following the rules and guidance during this national lockdown.

I wish you all a very safe and happy weekend.

Best wishes,

**John Evans**

**Headmaster, Junior School**

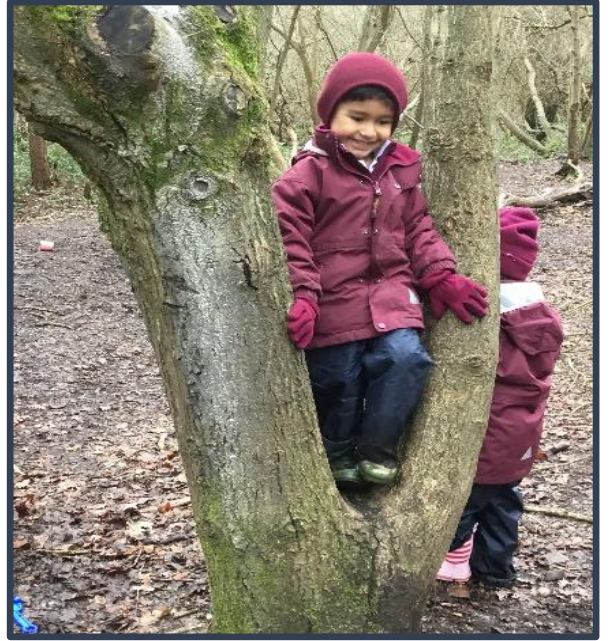


# Fantastic Forest Fun for Nursery

Nursery have been using their **Russell Learning Powers** to have fun the Forest this week.



We are **Resilient**



We use our **Initiative**



We are **Creative**



We are **Curious**

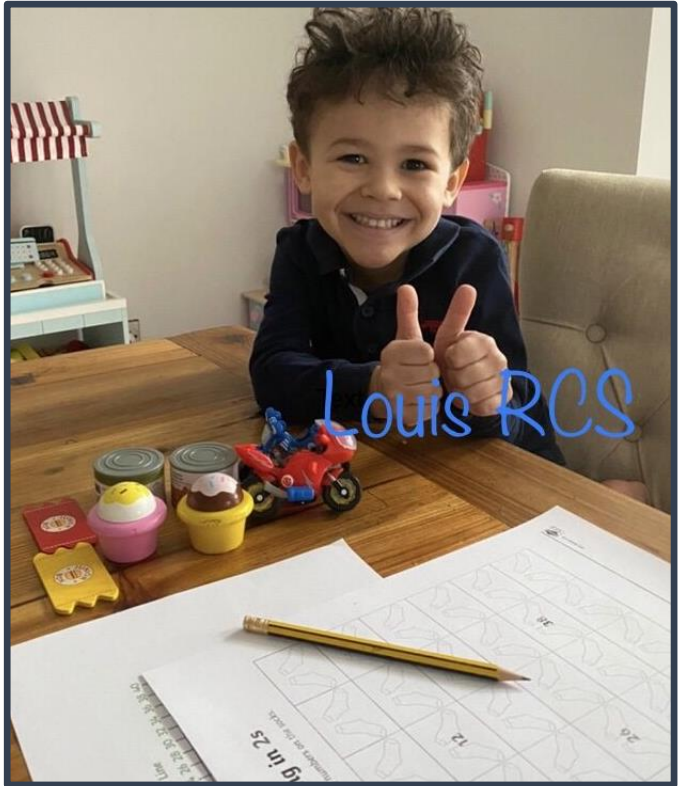


We are **Collaborative**

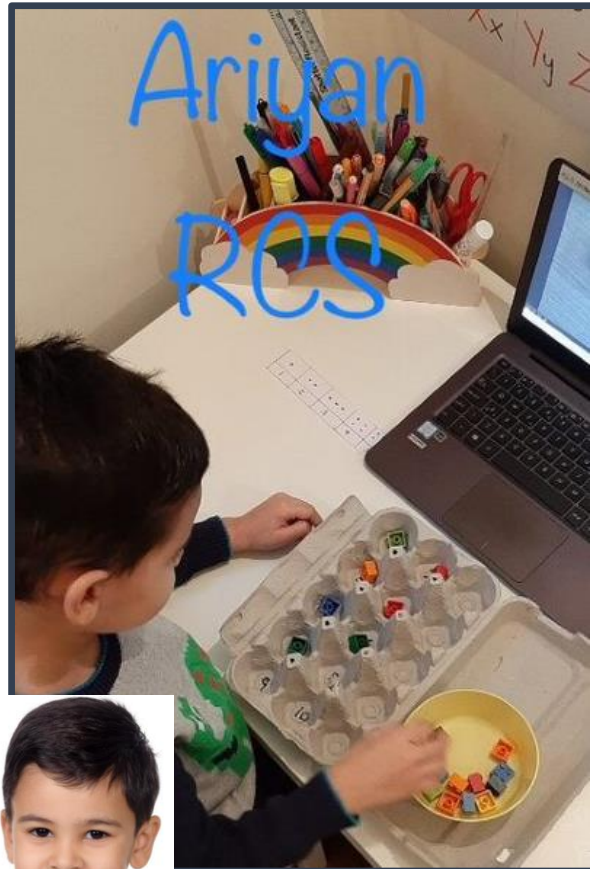


# 'Double' the fun in Reception

In Reception this week, we have been learning how to count in 2's and solve problems involving multiples of 2's.



An 'egg box 2's frame' is a great idea to help count reliably.



Well done  
Foxes and  
Squirrels



# Wellbeing Wednesday in Year 1

This week Year 1 used their creative and writing skills to draw a picture or write a message to someone they are missing.



**Florian**



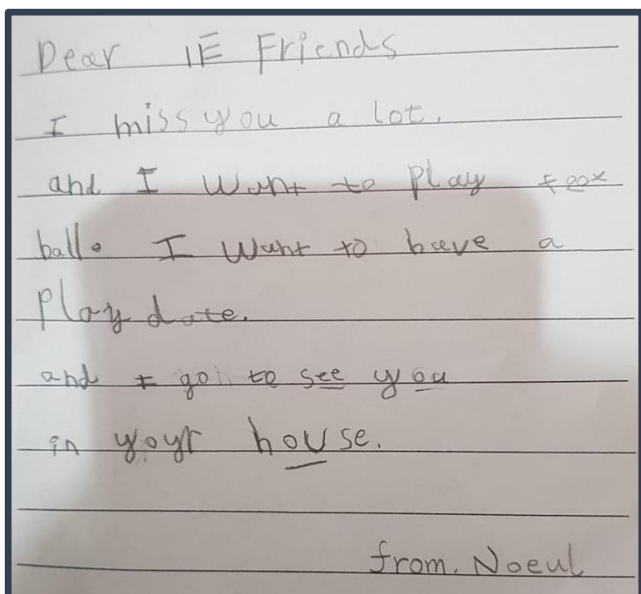
**Jaiden**

They could choose a family member or friends.

They planned to share it with their special person, to brighten up their day.

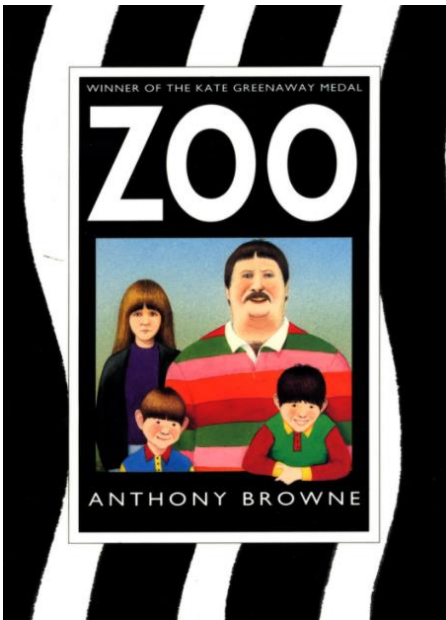


**Noeul**



**Royal Russell School**

# Year 2

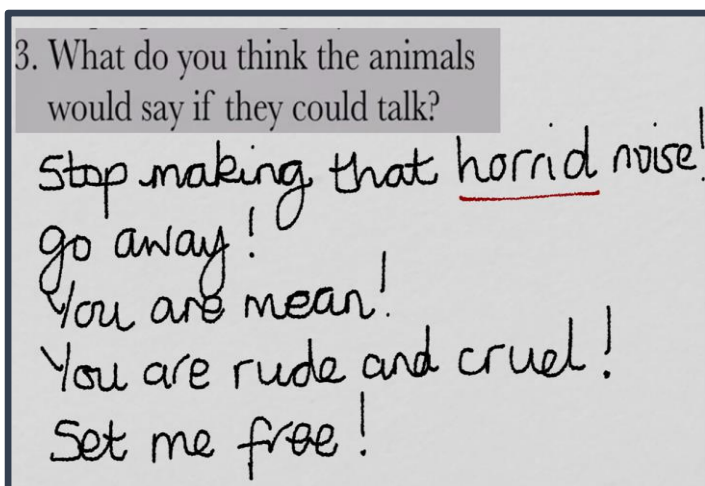
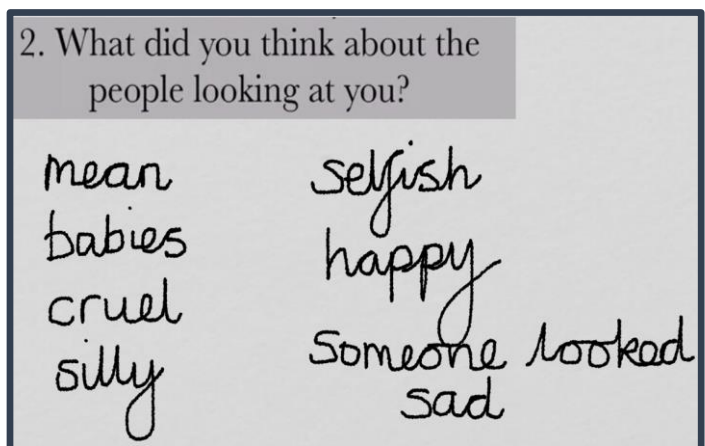
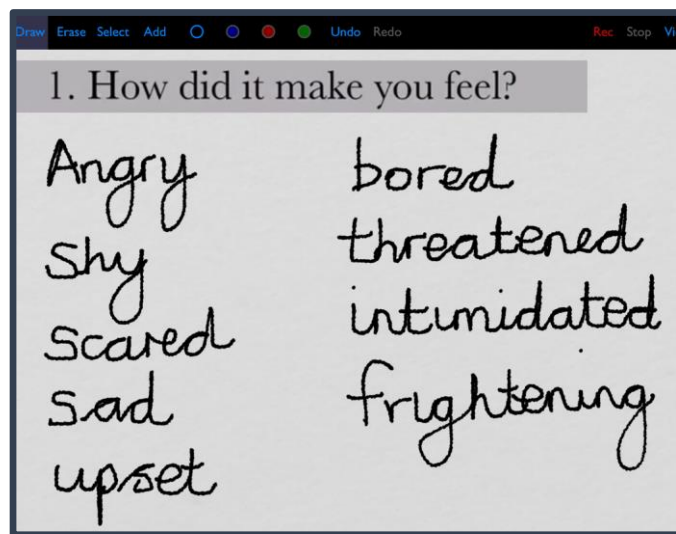


For the past two weeks in English, Year 2 have been looking at the book '**Zoo**' by Anthony Browne. Earlier this week, we used role-play to help us understand the animals' point of view and describe their thoughts and feelings.

In our Live Lesson, we recreated the crowd scene from the book. We took it in turns to pretend to be the animals in the zoo, whilst the rest of the class laughed, pointed, and reacted to the animals.



Once we had finished role-playing, we thought about how the crowd made us feel as animals, what we thought about the people looking at us, and what the animals might say if they could speak.



As you can see below, we had a lot of fun acting and used our power of **empathy** to come up with some really good ideas.



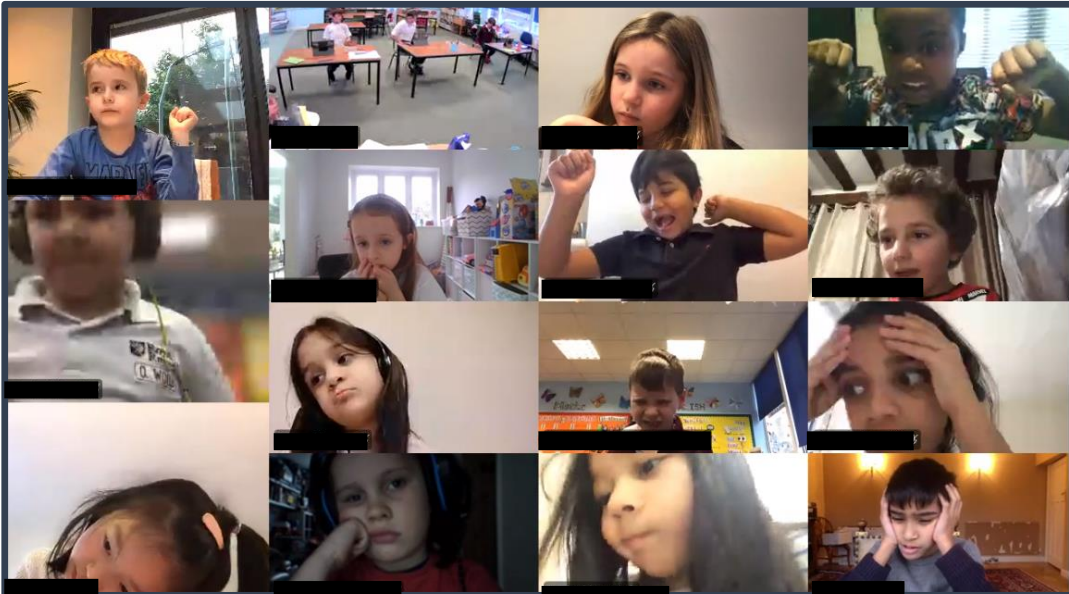
Elephant



Penguin



Tiger



Worried



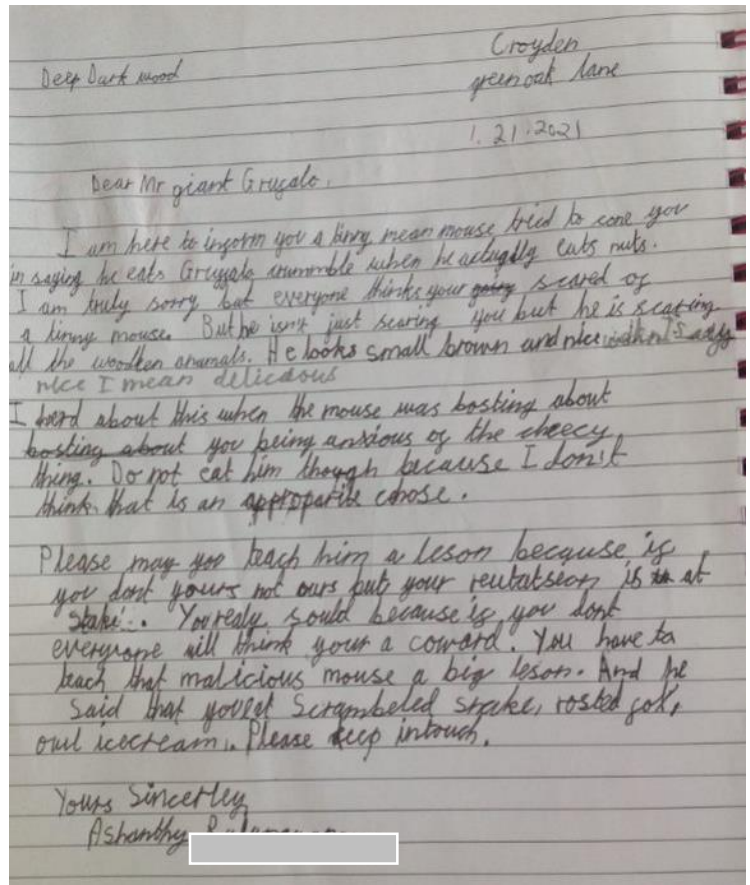
# Year 3



In Year 3, Jasper and Ashanthy have written formal letters to Gruffalo. They have remembered to include all the features used in the formal letter.



**Ashanthy**



**Jasper**

Dark Cave  
Deep Dark Wood

13 Linqua Street  
Buisy Town  
RT456FG

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Dear Mr Gruffalo

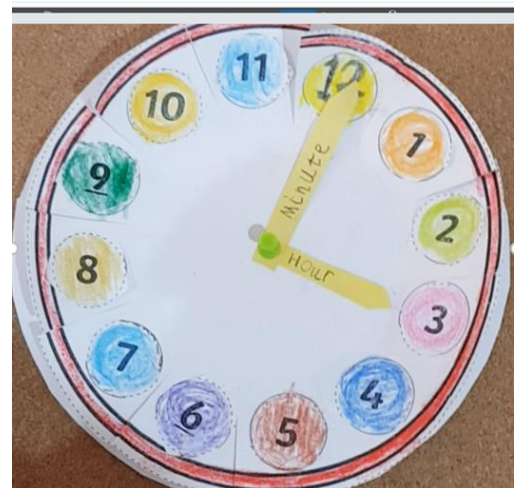
I am writing to warn you about Mouse because he has been telling tales about you. He looks small, brown and nice but he is not, he is evil.

The reason why the animals were scared is because you were behind Mouse. Acherly it was you that the animals were scared of. Eurlier on that day Mouse met the animals and told lies about you. He told Fox that your favourite food was roasted fox. Next he met Owl and told him your favourite food was owl ice cream. Finally he met Snake and told him that your favourite food was scrambled snake. This made all the animals scared of you.

Now you know Mouse was tricking you and that he is not the scariest creature in the wood. I hope that now I have warned you, you will now go and talk to Mouse about his behavior.

Yours sincerely,

Jasper



Aurum made a clock with flaps and when you lift each flap it tells you the digital time.



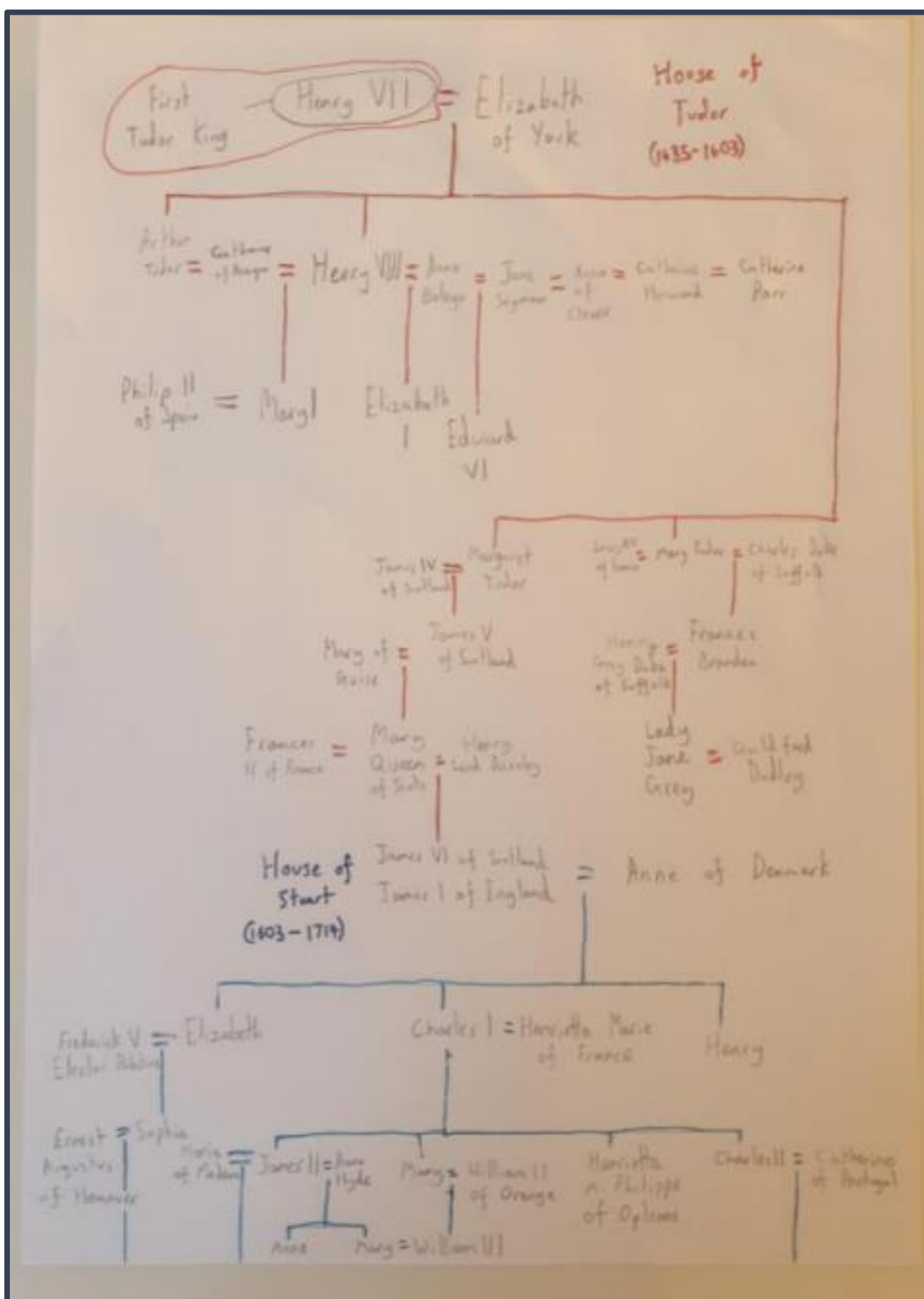
# Year 4

Year 4 incorporated pizza making into their lesson about Fractions. It isn't often them get to experience a Learning Lunch.





Arseny created this incredible Tudor time line.

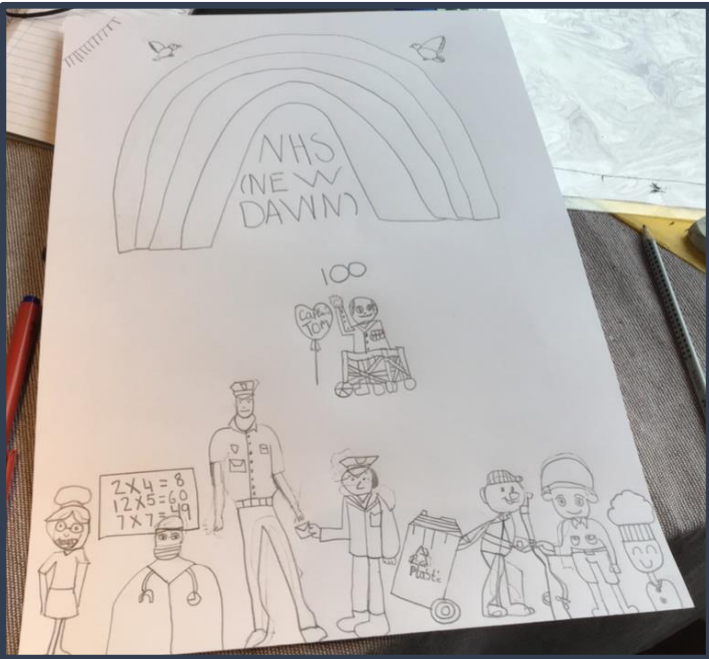


And Raaj enjoyed some down time after a hard day's work.



# Year 5's Vision of Hope

In Year 5 this week, the children were challenged with creating a poster of Hope in their English lessons.



**Arthur**



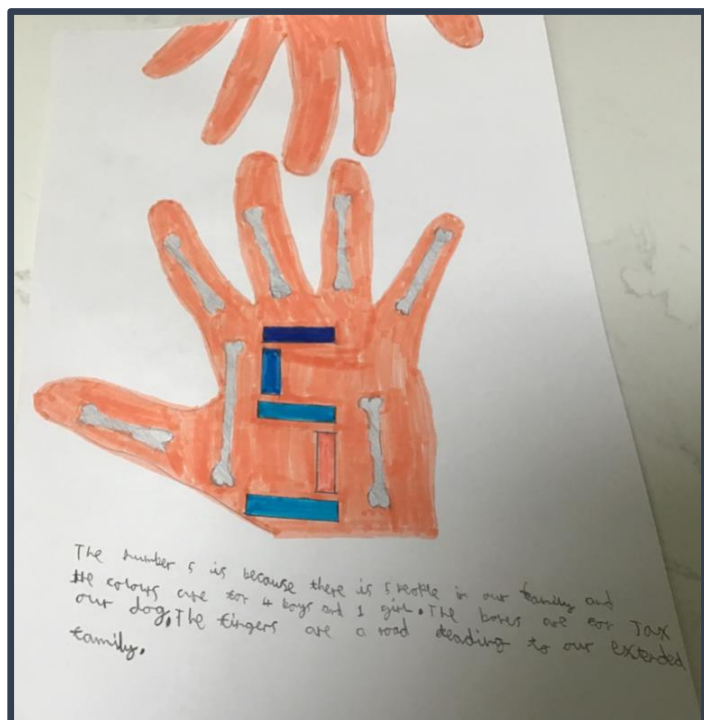
**Kailan**



**Joshua**



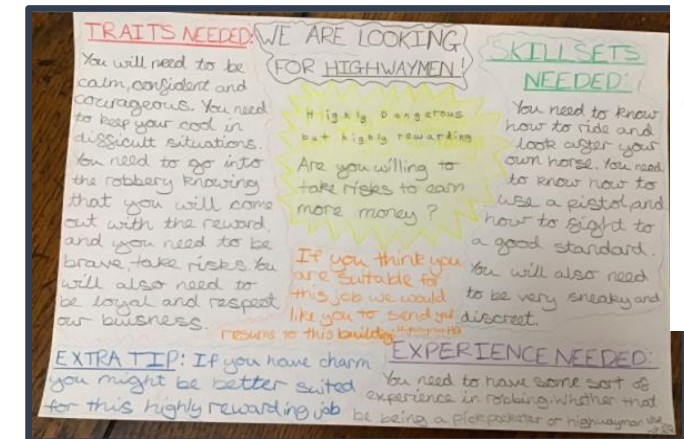
**Ollie**



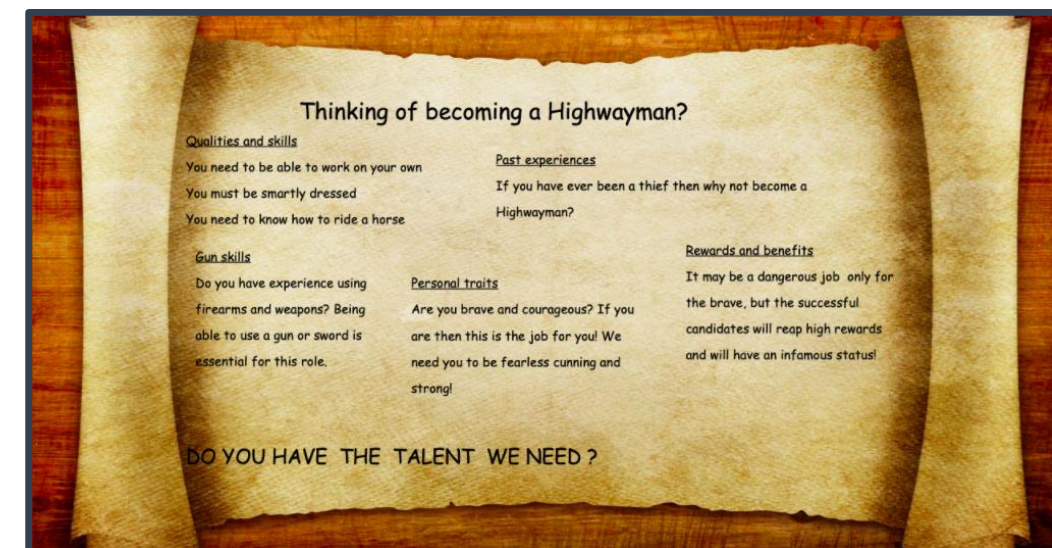


## Year 6

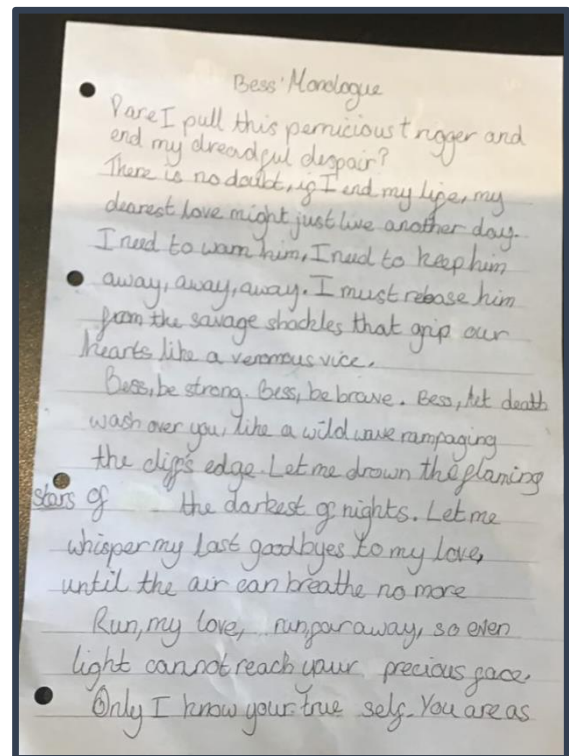
In English this week, the children have been creating job adverts for the role of *The Highwayman* and thinking about their persuasive language.



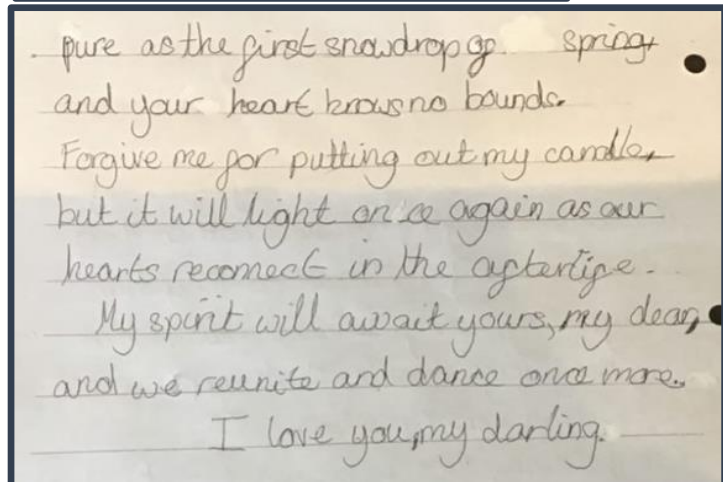
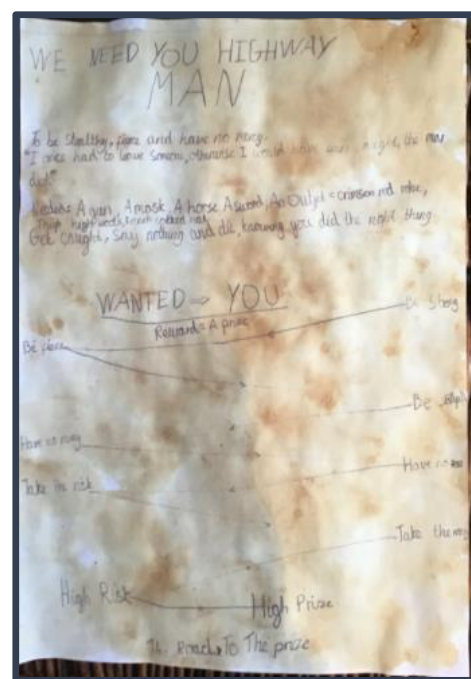
## Arabella



## Sophie



James



## Maria



They have also been writing inner monologues as the main characters in the poem using lovely examples of figurative language.



Allegra

Filled with fear, the thick strong rope is pushing against my chest like a snake around its prey. My heart is pounding and I'm starting to think on what to do before the highwayman, who I'm in love with, comes back. I'm starting to panic but I don't know if my best idea is good enough; the soldiers are all staring at me and the rifle next to me and they have the nastiest smirk ever on their faces. I'll give them all a certain look to show them that I'm annoyed. I don't think they know because all they are doing are rudely snorting and walking away. I'm about to give up but I can hear a sound, a sound that I hear everyday. It's going clod clod dot; it's my lover, the highwayman; I know what I have to do...

Bess Jones Monologue

I feel like I'm in a panic, a scene in a dark cell when the destined hero is formulating a plan but for me, it's a tragic film. I come to the dark truth and I know what I must do. Silently, I find the rusted with my ginger tips and angle it against my chest. The soldier doesn't see, but I know what must be done.

Gentle galloping comes into earshot and I draw my last breath. I close my eyes. And...

• BANG •



Maisie

In Geography we have begun to learn about Tropical rainforests.

**Emergents**

1) Describe the trees.  
They are up to 200ft above the forest floor.

2) Describe the climate conditions.  
At the emergent layer of the rainforest there is lots of wind, heat and rain all year round.

3) Name the trees and animals found.  
Some of the animals that live here are eagles, monkeys, butterflies and even sloths.

**The four layers of the Tropical Rainforest.**

emergents  
canopy  
under canopy  
shrub layer

**Canopy**

1) Describe the trees  
The trees form a roof over the other layers. Most of the leaves are oval with a point at the end.

2) Describe the climate conditions  
At the top of the canopy the rain is heavily falling. winds are strong and it is humid.

3) Name the trees and animals found  
There are lots of banana trees, oak and oak trees in this layer.

**Under Canopy**

1) Describe the trees  
The leaves on the trees are much larger so they can reach the sunlight.

2) Describe the climate conditions  
It is dark, humid and damp with lots of tropical plants.

3) Name the trees and animals found  
Animals like jaguars, tree frogs and coatis live here.

**Forest Floor/Shrubs**

1) Describe the climate conditions  
It is very dark with decomposing plants and shrubs.

2) What is decomposition?  
Decomposition is where something is broken down into organic matter. Living organisms decompose - shortly after death.

3) Name the animals found here.  
Giant anteaters, gorillas, tigers and many more amazing animals.

Geography 24/1/24

**The four layers of the Tropical Rainforest**

1) Emergents:  
1) The trees in the emergent are really tall around the highest of 60-20m.  
2) Up here it is very hot and humid but also when it rains and there's strong the leaves make sure that the moisture that goes down.  
3) Birds, butterflies, small monkeys, bats, snakes and lots of little bats live here.

2) Canopy:  
1) Here the trees are quite, you will find them in any forest.  
2) The climate here is quite, cooler than the emergent and there is plenty of protection.

3) Under canopy:  
1) There are lots of animals living here such as birds, monkeys, frogs, sloths, as well as, lizards, snakes and many more.

4) Forest Floor/Shrubs:  
1) Here it is very similar like the under canopy so dark and damp.  
2) Decomposition is when plants are broken down for different plants.  
3) There are lots of animals different like: S. America have jaguars and leopards and in other countries there are tigers and elephants.



Sophie

The children have explored the different layers of the rainforest and the differing climate, animals and plants that are found within each layer.

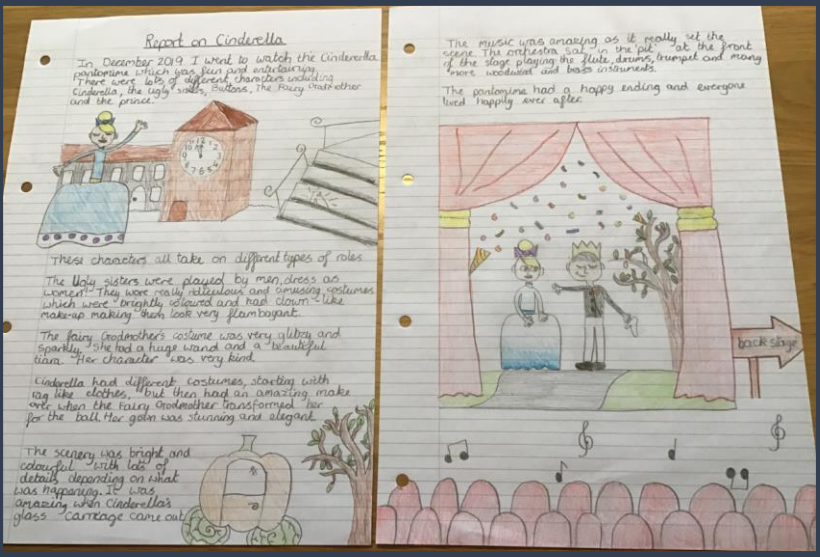


Maddi



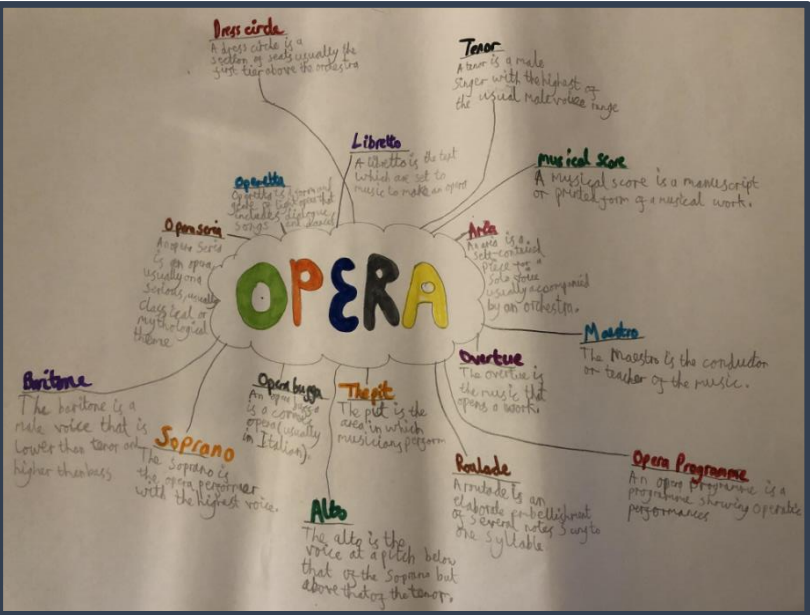
# Music

In Year 6, we are enjoying learning about Opera and Musical Theatre, this term. They have recently researched terms connected to the genres and written their own reports about their experiences of live music productions.

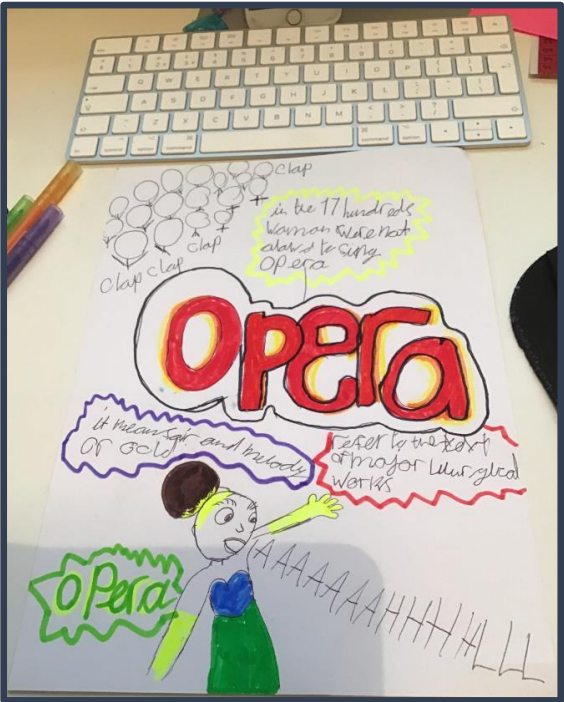


Sophie

Sophie's Music Theatre Report



Cameron and Mia's Opera Mind Maps

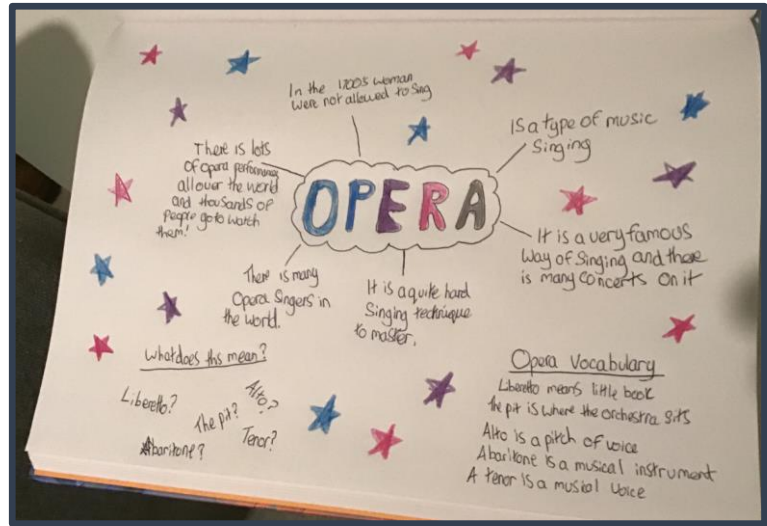


Cameron

Lara's Opera Glossary



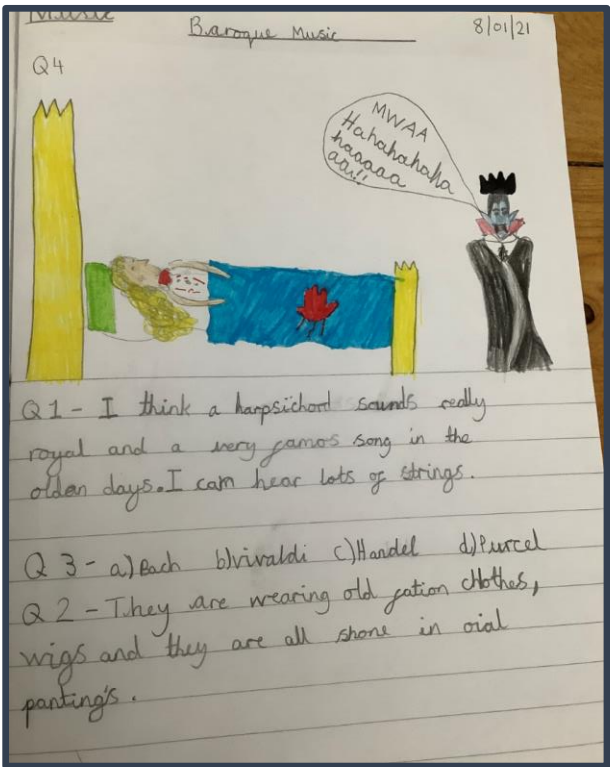
Mia



Lara



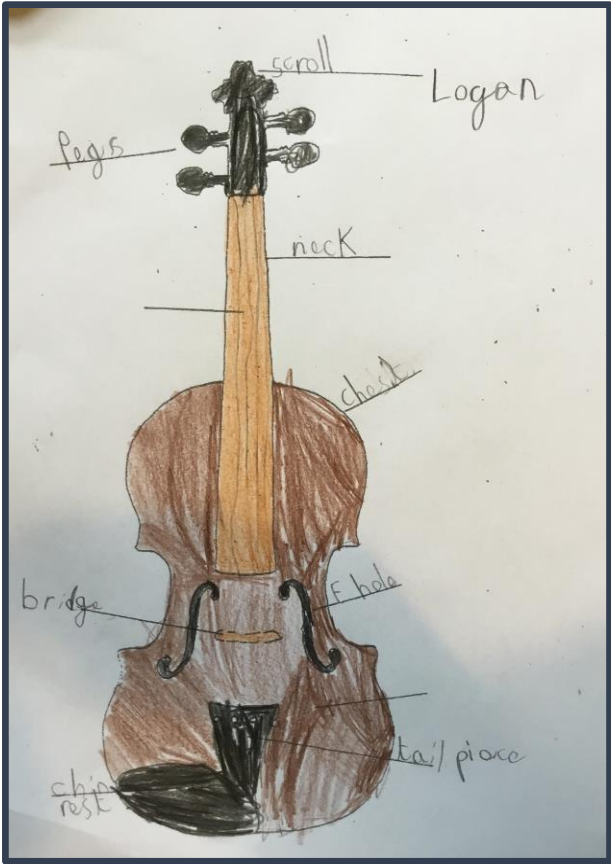
Year 4 are currently learning about the wonderful music of the Baroque era.



Emily



Logan



Year 2 recently explored Vivaldi's wonderful 'The Four Seasons' Concertos and then learnt about the violin which features in Vivaldi's music.


Year 1 presented some lovely work about their favourite musical instruments.

Emily’s Baroque music research.




Krish’s report and drawing of the Guitar

**Starting sentences.....**



1. My favourite instrument is the Guitar.
2. It is my favourite instrument because you can make different sounds.
3. It has a fun and happy sound.
4. It is played by lots of people.
5. It make me feel happy when I hear it being played.
6. It is made of wood and strings.

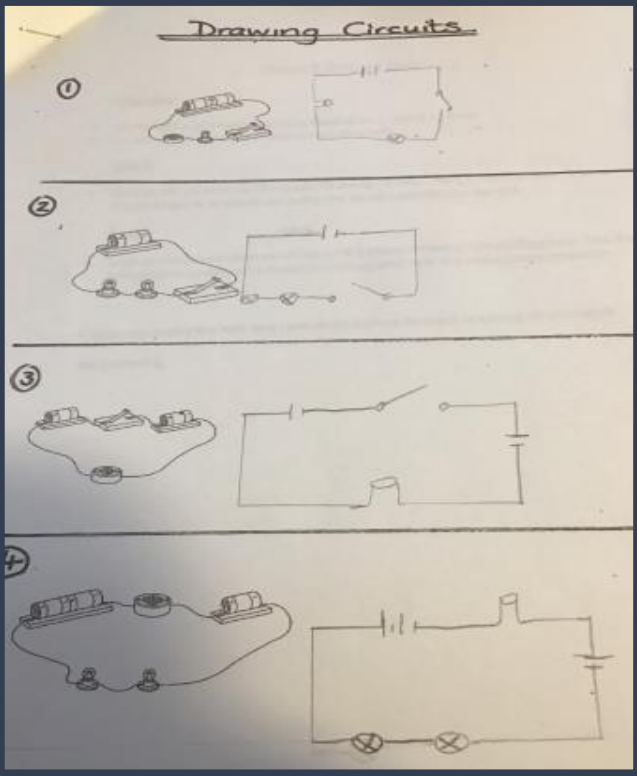
**Learning Objective:** Draw and colour a picture of your favourite instrument. Next, please write a few sentences about why you like it. You might like to use the frame for your picture and the starting sentences and word bank on the following Slides, for your writing.





# Circuits in Science

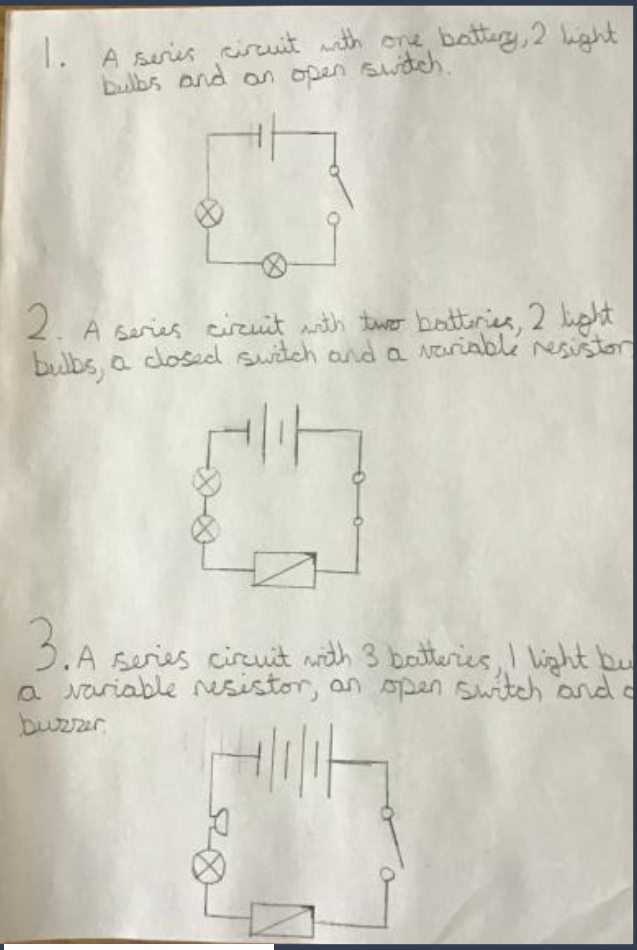
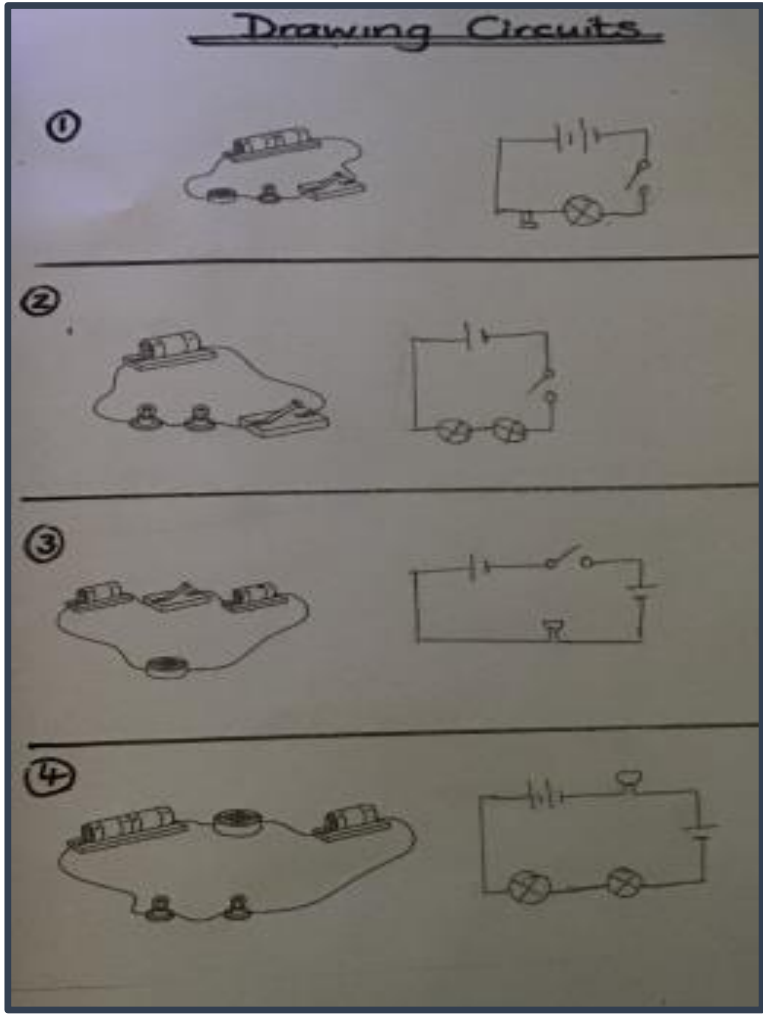
In Year 6, the children were challenged to use their knowledge of circuit symbols to draw their own circuit diagrams.



Anya



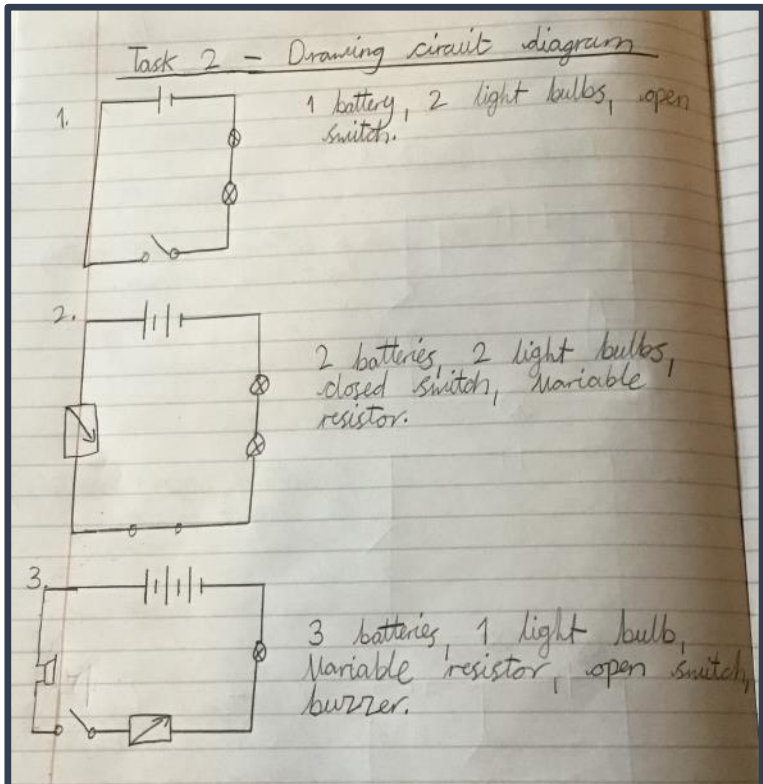
Lara



Ava



Yasmin





# Bonus Star in Art and DT Home Learning

This week, Sofyan has earned a bonus star in his Art and DT Home Learning by creating a step-by-step video tutorial whilst cooking this incredibly delicious meal.



Sofyan used skills of creativity , perseverance and collaboration throughout his cooking tutorial, prioritising safety, and patience.



Miss Ciccone was so impressed by the outcome - a chef in the making!

Well done to Sofyan.



# PE with a Twist

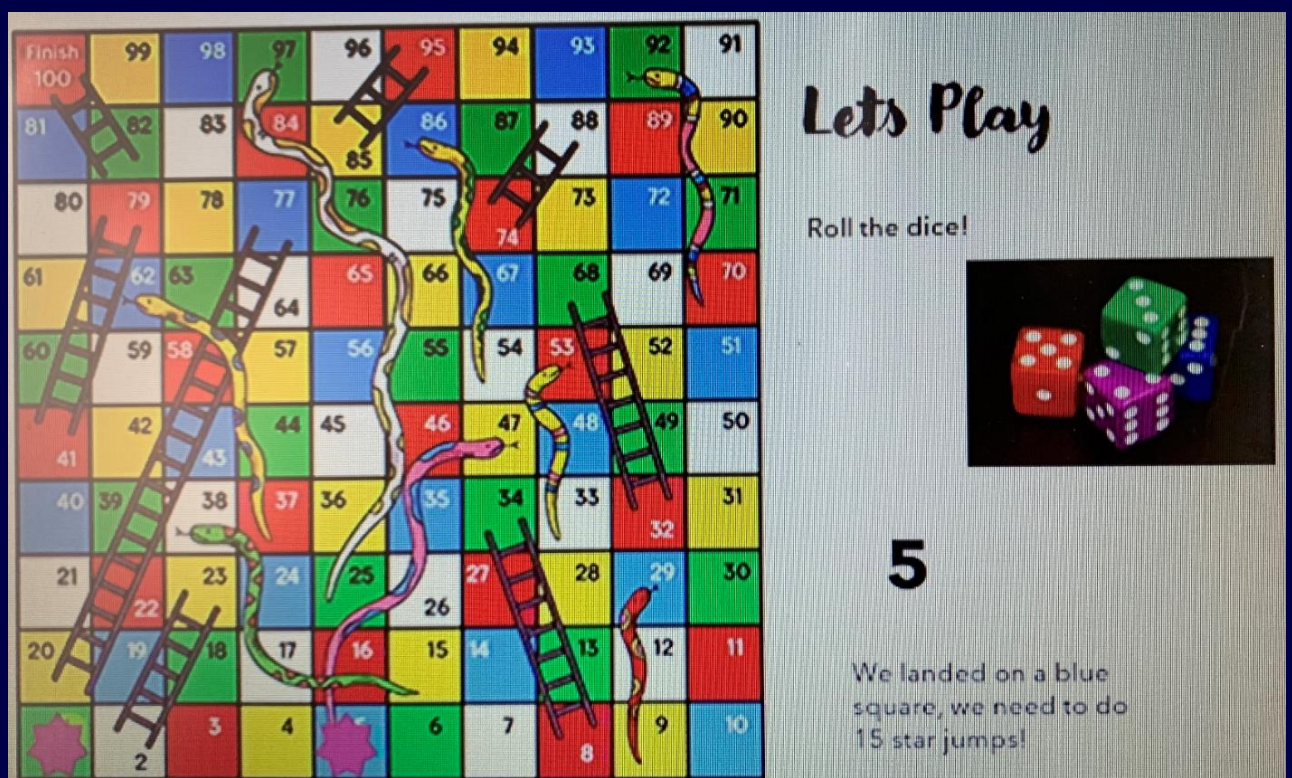
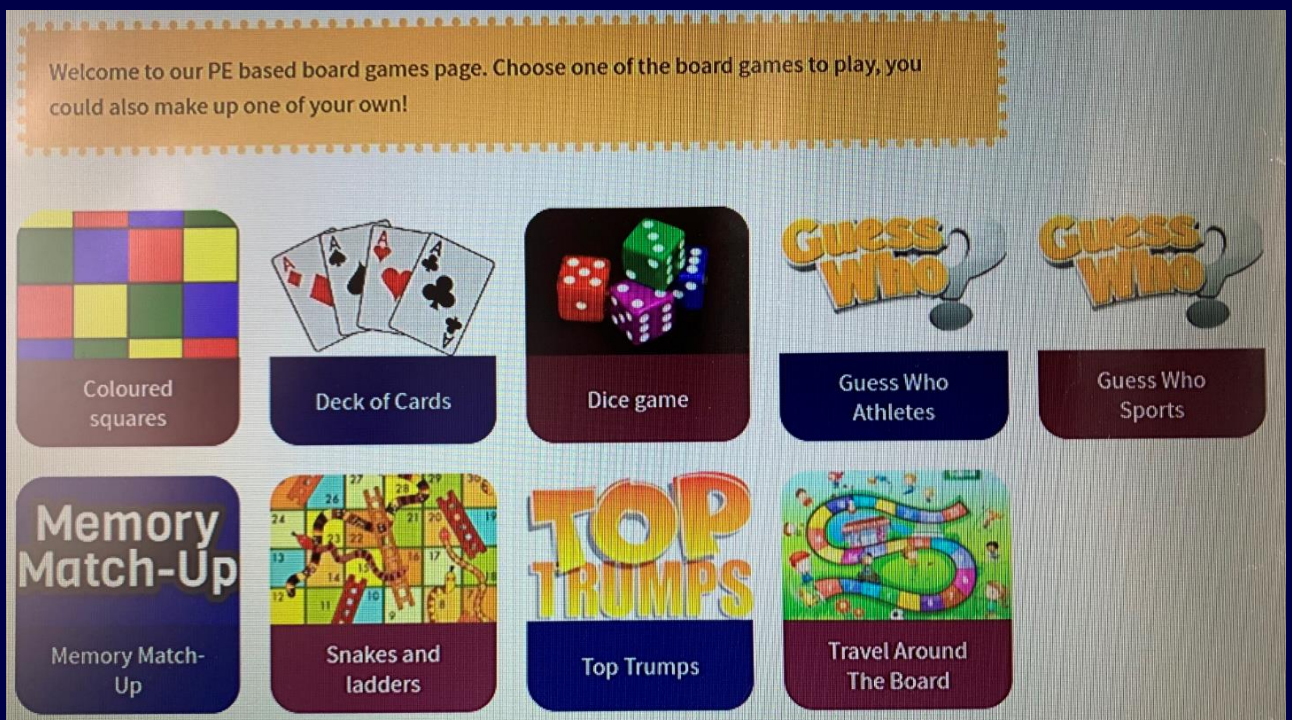
In PE this week, the pupils have been playing board games with a PE twist!

They have enjoyed mixing activity with fun board games and it has been lovely to hear all about how they have been getting on.

Year 1 and 2 played a live game of snakes and ladders in their lesson and climbed the ladders and slithered down the snakes as well as completed star jumps, hopping and dancing.

For lesson 2 there was an option to complete Mr Hudson's workout and lots of the pupils popped back to the live PE session tired after working hard.

Look out for more PE workouts coming in the next few weeks.





# Fun Fancy Dress Friday

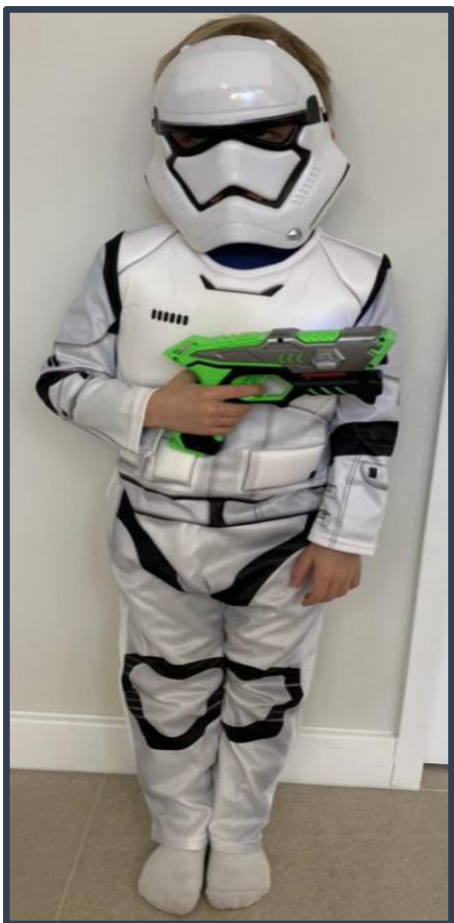


On Friday we enjoyed a very special Fancy Dress Day, simply for a bit of fun and to put a smile on everyone's faces.

The Nursery children were delighted with their visit from the Big Bad Wolf, aka Mr Evans!

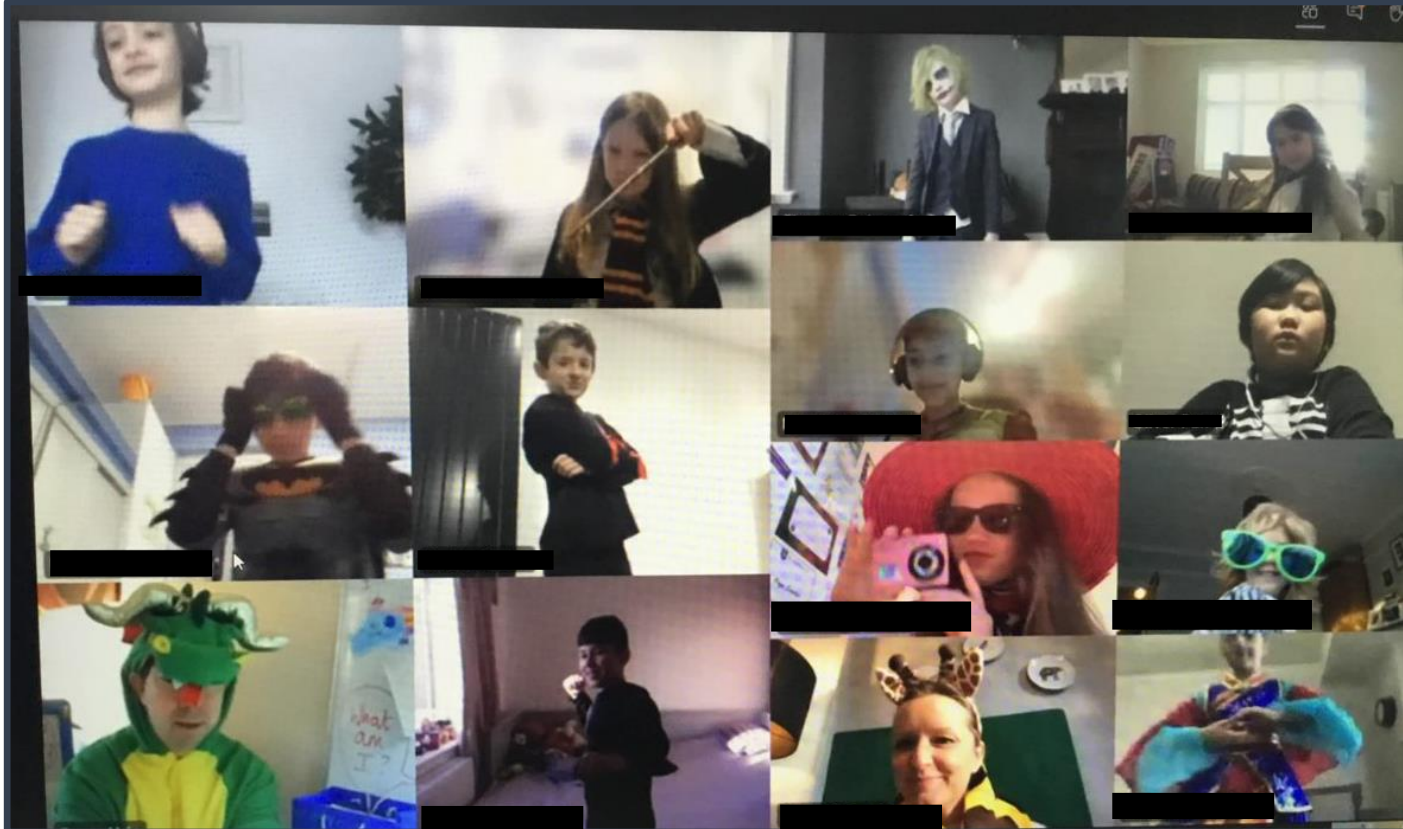




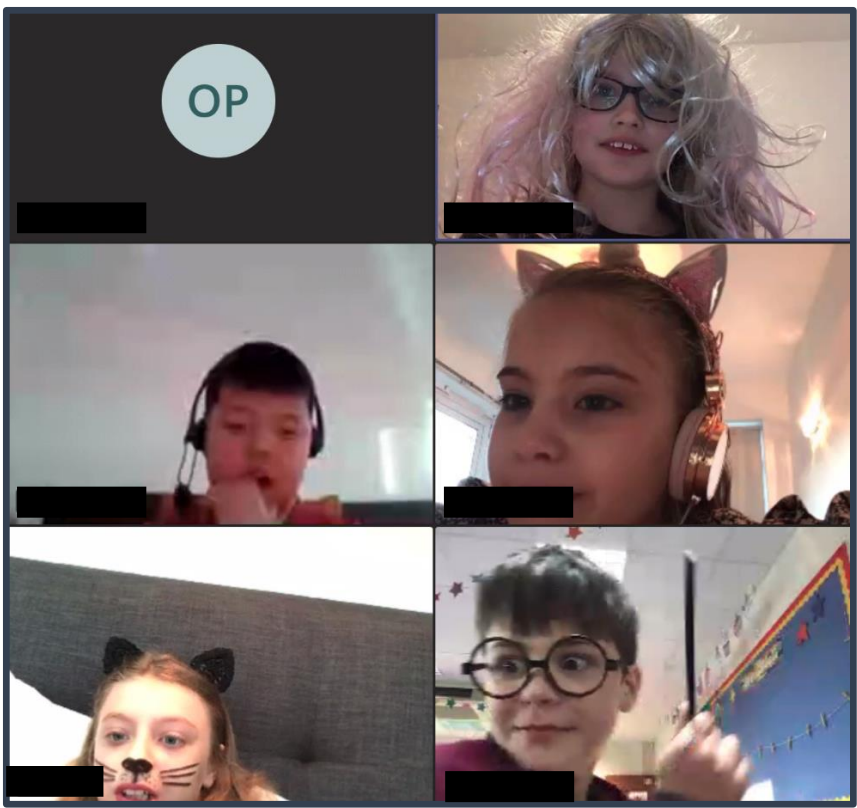




The children had so much fun, seeing all of their friends and teachers dressing up as well.







Well done to everyone who made such a terrific effort to be all dressed up and ready for action this morning.

You all looked fantastic and we hope you had lots of fun.





# Thank you Letter from the Salvation Army

We are delighted to share with you this heartfelt letter of thanks from the Salvation Army, following our incredible response to their Christmas appeal in December.



Salvation Army  
New Addington

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Royal Russell Junior School

Dear students, parents and staff,

## Re: Salvation Army New Addington Christmas Appeal

On behalf of The Salvation Army in New Addington/The Vine Foodbank I want to thank you for your amazing response to our request for help over the Christmas period. We were overwhelmed by the amount of food, gifts and financial donations we received this year. It was an incredible show of love and compassion in a year that has seen so much hardship for so many.

This year, The Salvation Army in New Addington was able to provide 170 families with a food hamper and gifts, and without your support, many of the children in those families would have received nothing for Christmas.

This year many more families faced a tough Christmas due to the impact of Covid and so as you can imagine parents were thrilled to receive gifts for their children and indeed a little something for themselves too! We cannot emphasise enough what it has meant to have your support this year.

We look forward to working with you again in the future and wish you every blessing for 2021.

Many thanks again.

Yours sincerely

|

Emma Spencer

Major

The Salvation Army New Addington

## Doodle Maths Trophy Winners



Week 1 Mr Urie 71%

Week 2 Mrs Edwards 56%

Week 3 Miss Insuli 72%

Well done to those children working so hard to remain on target with their DoodleMaths.





# 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](mailto:cciccone@royalrussell.co.uk).

We will have a winner in every phase.

Good luck, everyone!

