



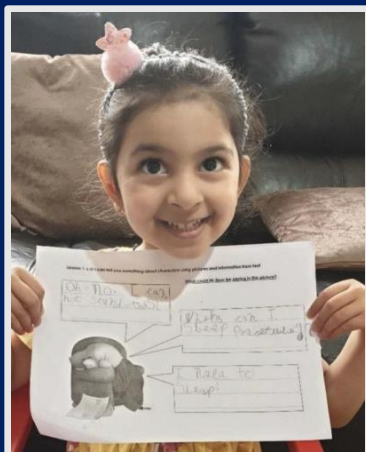
Royal Russell Junior School

# Newsletter



Spring Term

26th February 2021



Dear Parents and Friends,

The news of the wider opening of schools will have been at the forefront of our minds. I am pleased to attach to this newsletter the first detailed document which provides families with the information that they need to plan for the wider opening on the 8th March. There is a lot of information available so please do read through the document carefully.

Further detailed guidance will be sent out next week with an emphasis on the health and safety of our community onsite.

As well as looking forward, it is exciting to see some highlights from the week that has passed. I hope that you enjoy sharing in these moments.

## An Adventure for Annie

We have been so inspired by our community's response to our 'An Adventure for Annie' initiative. Just like Annie, many of you have been embracing adventure, rising to the challenge and most importantly, just having fun. It is not too late to get involved, do make the most of the current sunshine to plan an adventure of your own.

Please follow this [link](#) to view a video montage of your creative GPS artwork responses. Thank you all for keeping Annie's spirit alive. Together we have raised £1,235 for Meningitis Now which will help support those affected by meningitis and stop the disease devastating lives. You can donate on the Just Giving page [here](#).

With best wishes for a wonderful weekend.

John Evans

Headmaster, Junior School

# Russell Powers

You may recall an article last Autumn term, which spoke about our **Russell Powers** and the rationale for these. These are our learning powers that provide the opportunity to make the ‘implicit’ learning skills ‘explicit’ within the classroom.

In the Junior School, we have seven ‘Russell Powers’ that are embedded into all aspects of school life to build these vital skills from the earliest age. These are **Curiosity, Creativity, Resilience, Reflectiveness, Collaboration, Initiative** and **Reasoning**.

To make these Russell Powers as effective as possible, all colleagues have been involved in revamping them and establishing very clear and consistent use of language for learning. Each Russell Power now has clearly defined criteria, ensuring a consistent approach across all areas, which can be seen in the various accompanying shields in the images below. We continue to celebrate these Russell Powers in our weekly assemblies and have new stickers for each of these for when children return to site. Each classroom/phase will incorporate a display area to celebrate these Powers. Our tree in the central lobby area has been ‘refreshed’ to reflect these new Powers and definitions. We include a sneak preview in the photos below and we are excited for the children to see this for themselves when they return soon.



<b>Collaborative</b> We use: • Initiative • Reasoning We are: • Curious • Creative • Resilient • Reflective • Collaborative	<b>Initiative</b> We are: • Independence • Drive and motivation • Seeking challenge
<b>Curious</b> We are: • Asking questions • Showing intrigue • Awe and wonder	<b>Creative</b> We are: • Originality • Imagination • Vision and flair
<b>Reflective</b> We are: • Looking back • Evaluating • Improving	<b>Reasoning</b> We are: • Problem Solving • Good judgement • Explanation & clarity
<b>Resilient</b> We are: • Persistent • Never give up • Courage to make mistakes	





# Writing Competition!

With writing, anything is possible!



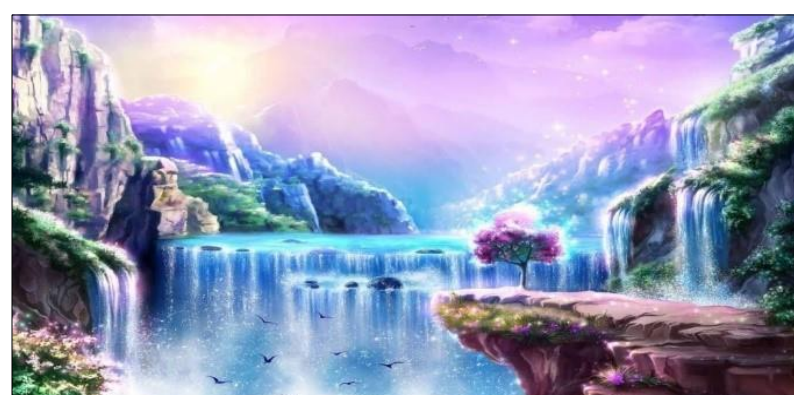
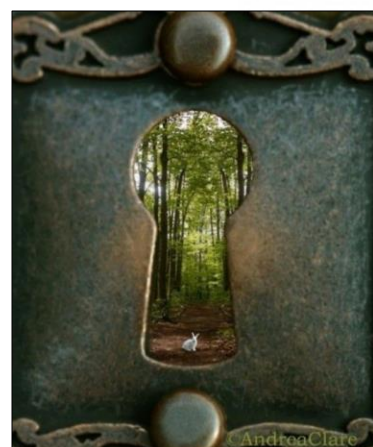
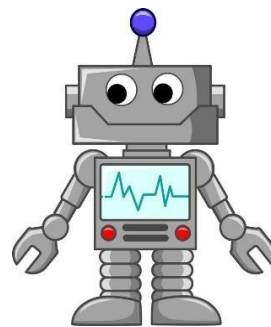
Why not try our writing competition! This is a chance to let your imagination go wild. It is open to all year groups. It's simple – all you have to do is select one of the story openers below **OR** use one of the pictures we have chosen as a stimulus. You can write a short story, or a chapter of a story, and submit your work on the optional task available on Firefly, no later than **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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...



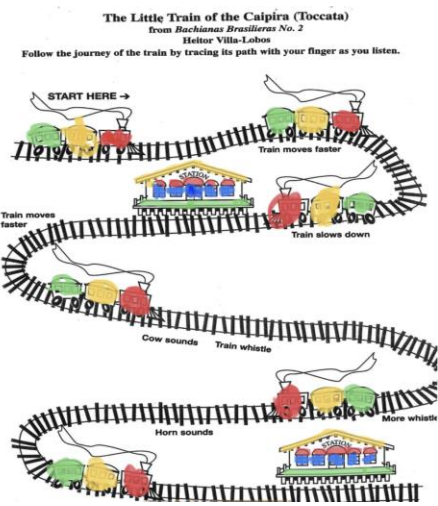
**Deadline  
this Sunday.**



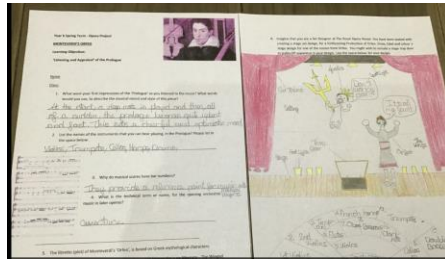
# Music Mix

The children have had so much fun in their Music lessons across the Junior School this week.

Year 1 have enjoyed listening to '*The Little Train of Caipira*' by Villa Lobos.



Keli (Year 1) produced a wonderfully colourful plan of the train journey.



Allegra (Year 6) undertook wonderful research on Opera.



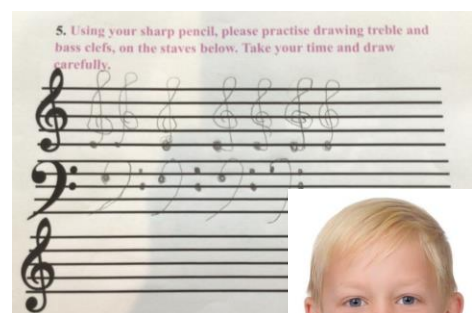
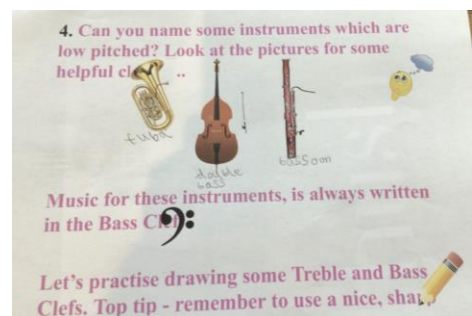
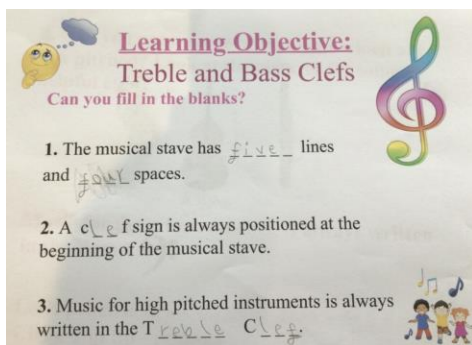
Allegra

Oscar and Lucas (Year 1) made fantastic instruments of their own to reflect the sounds of a steam train.

Lucas

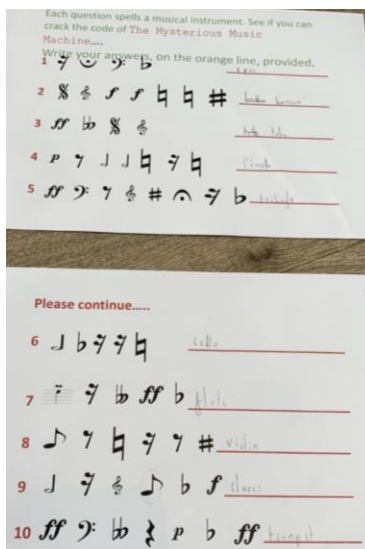


Oscar



Noah

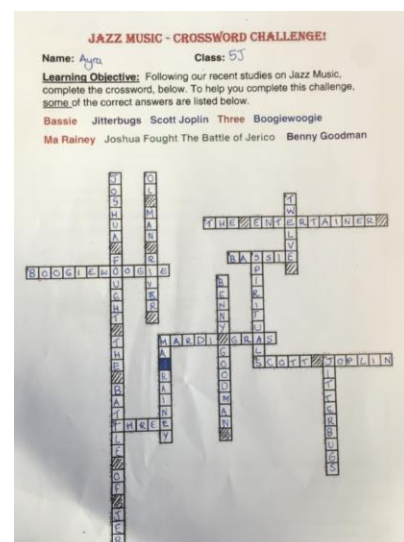
Congratulations to Noah (Year 2) for successfully completing a Music Quiz.



Lou Lou (Year 4) demonstrated impressive music code cracking skills, by solving The Mysterious Music Machine.



Lou Lou



Well done to Ayra (Year 5) for completing a Jazz Crossword to demonstrate her knowledge of this music genre.



Ayra

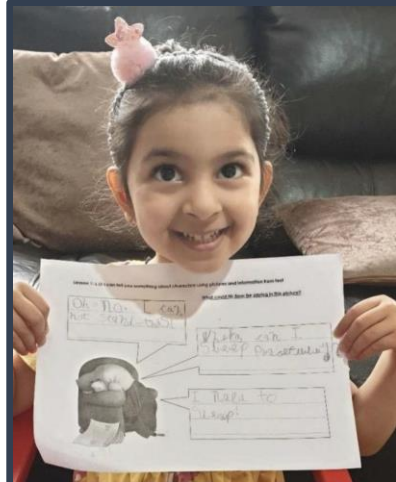


# Reception

In Reception this week, we have been reading ***Peace at Last*** by Jill Murphy. We have been sequencing the story and imagining how Mr Bear is feeling due to lack of sleep.



**Amelia**



**Vani**



**Rafael**



**Eva trying fish pie.**

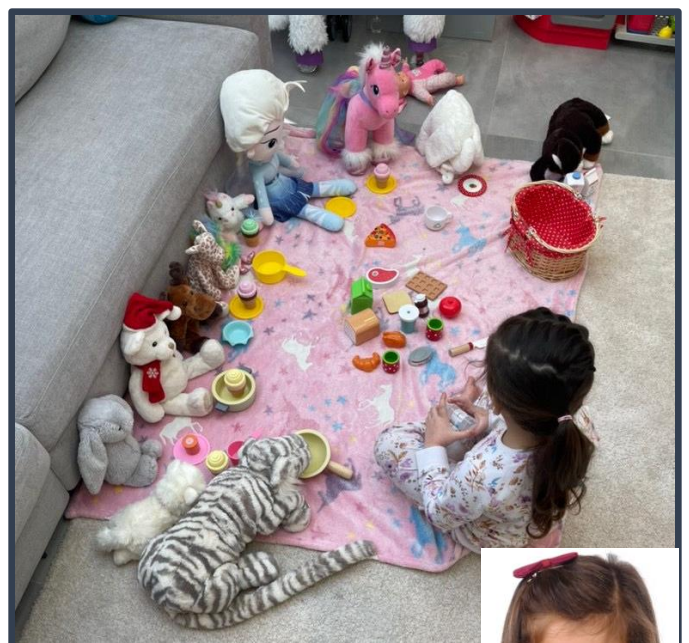


**Harrison**

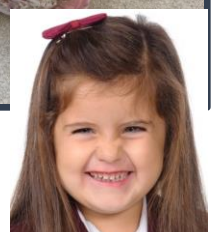
For Well-being Wednesday, we have been trying something new - sporting snazzy glasses, trying new foods, new sports and a visit to the dentist. The teachers are so proud of their Reception class children.



**Hyde visited the dentist.**



**Anastasia arranged a picnic**





# Year 1 go 'Crazy for Art' after reading 'The Dot'

During Well-being Wednesday this week, the children in Year 1 listened to the story of **'The Dot'** by Peter H Reynolds.

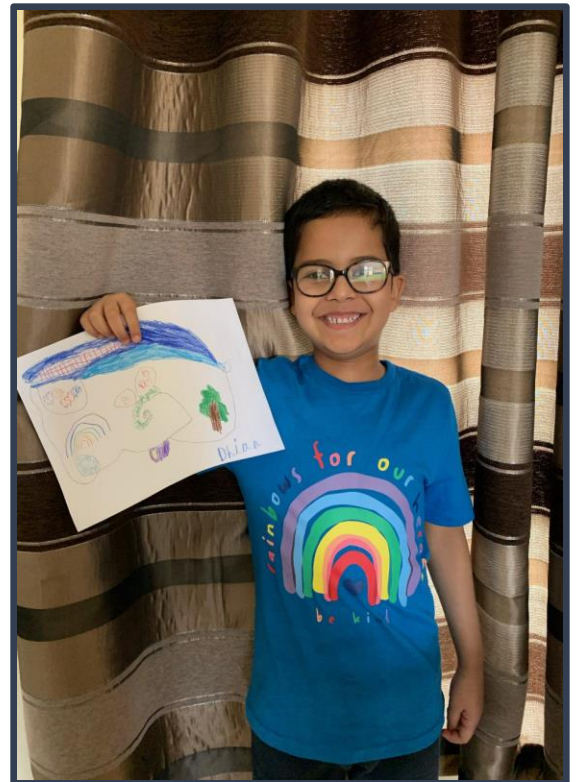
They then created their very own **'Crazy Art'** where the children squiggled a pattern and then filled in each section with a colourful design. We even had some parents joining in, which was lovely.



Oscar



Dhian



Jaiden



Noeul

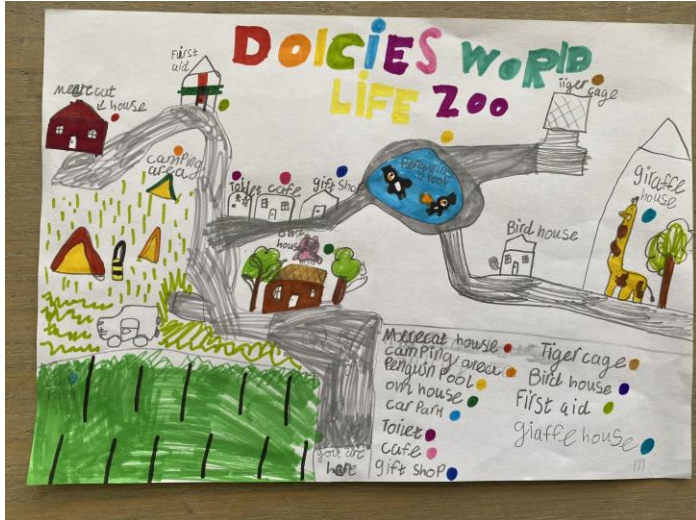


Sunny



# Year 2 Design a Zoo

In English, Year 2 have designed and created their very own zoo. They started by drafting ideas of things that they should include (apart from animals) for the visitors, such as, café, adventure playgrounds and even a water park.



**Dolcie**

They then created individual maps and carefully positioned the different facilities, before adding a key to show where everything was.



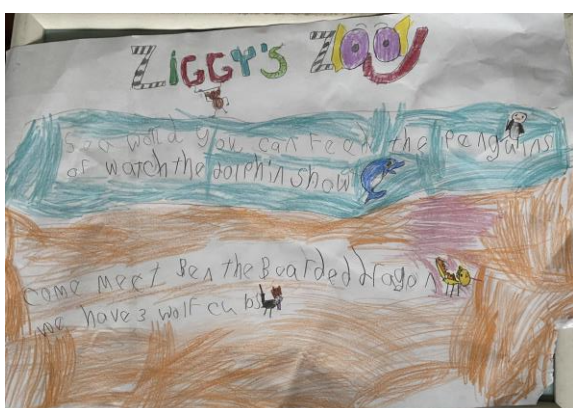
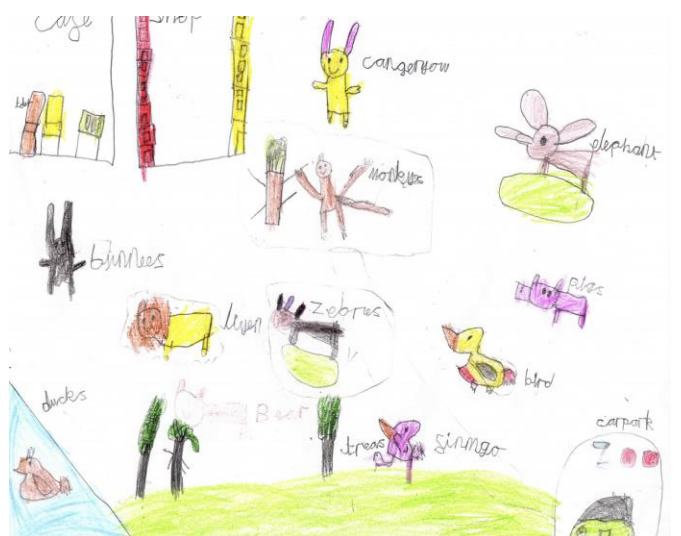
**Sindy**



We finished off our task by writing a visitor information leaflet to accompany our maps. We made these very interesting so that lots of people would want to visit our zoos.



**Jonathan**



**Jaden**



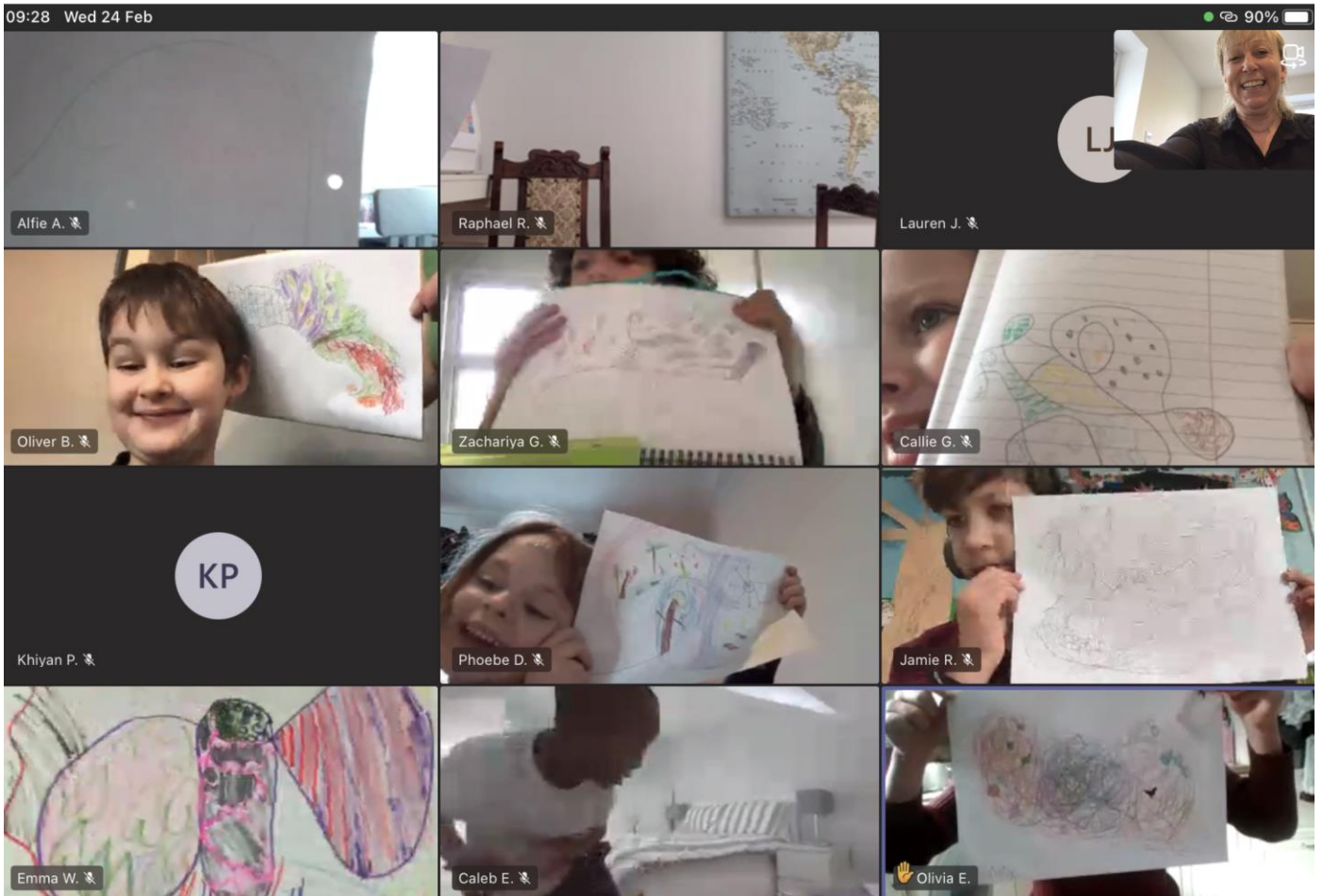
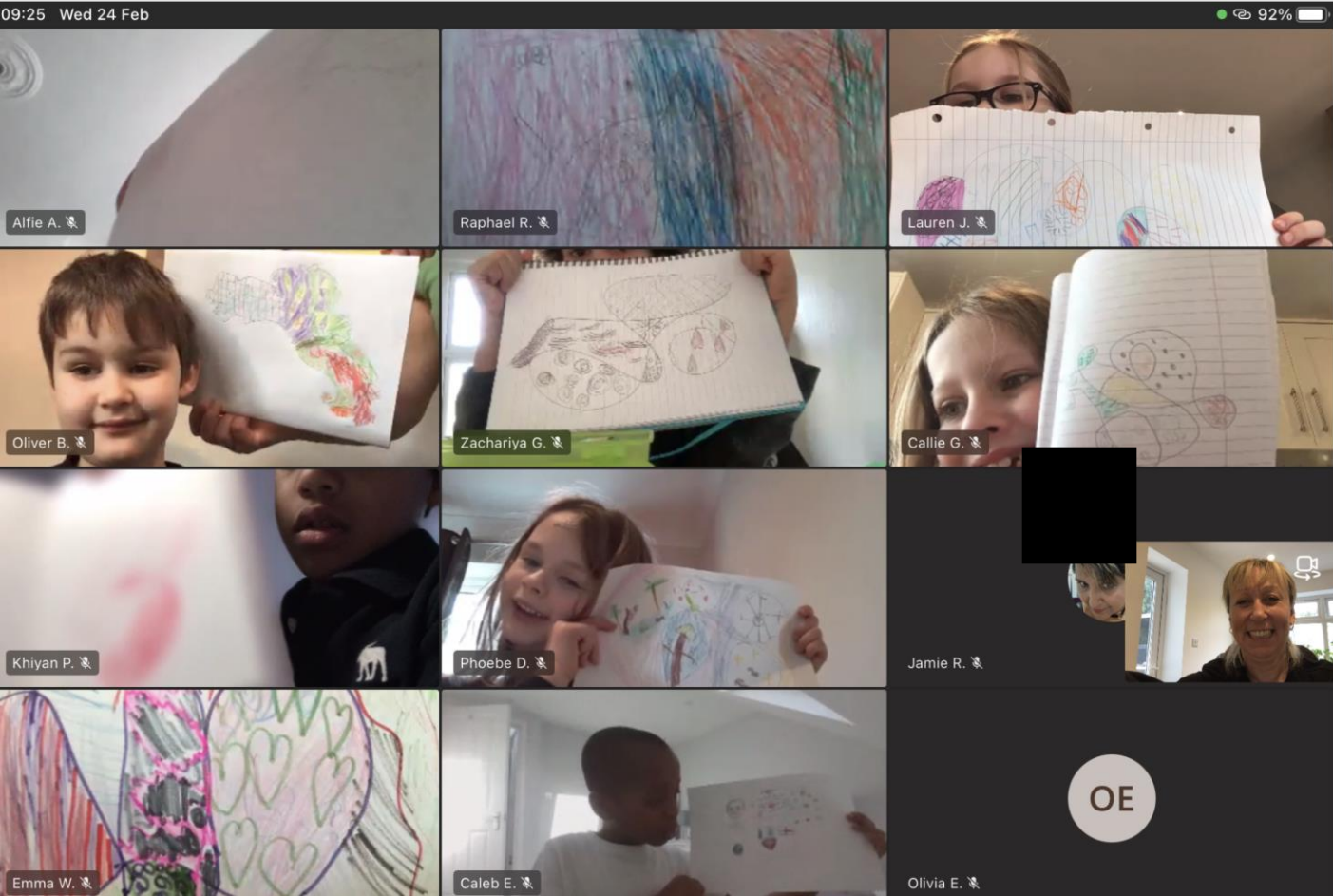
**Maya**



# Year 2 enjoy 'Crazy Art'

This week in Well-being Wednesday, Year 2 enjoyed creating some 'Crazy Art'.

The children drew a large squiggle then took time to decorate it. Everyone listened to some relaxing music whilst we all doodled together.



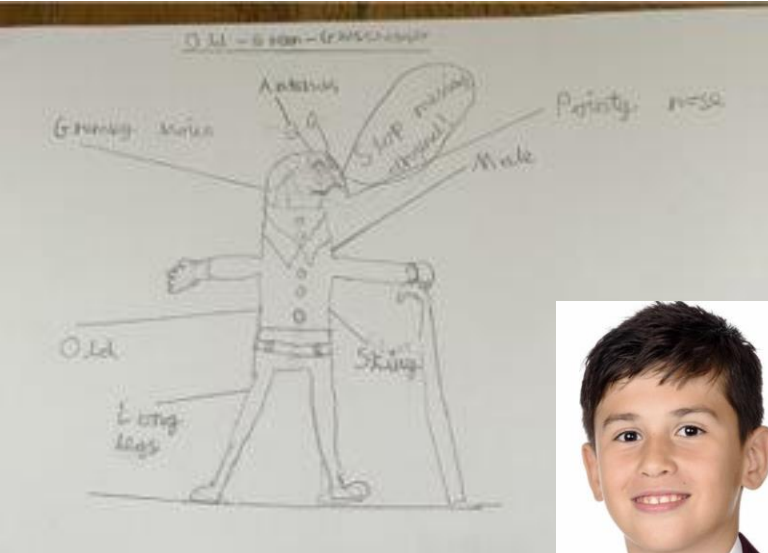


In 3R, Zachary and Mayan carefully made their design brief for their shoe box habitat. The product will be ready by next week. So please look out for it.



# Year 4 had a 'Peachy' Week

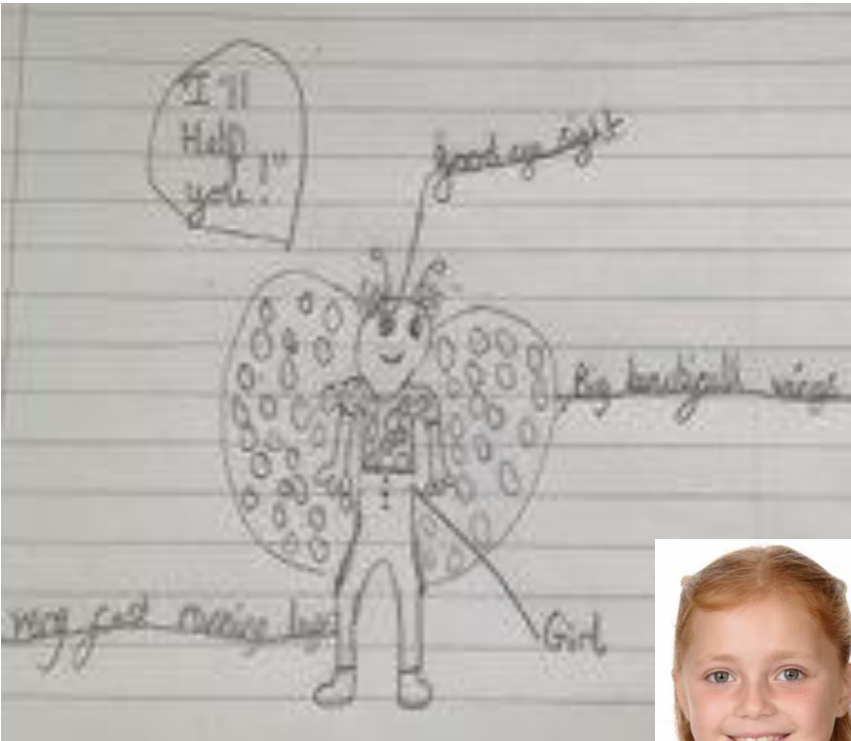
In English, Year 4 have been reading *'James and the Giant Peach'*. The children drew some of the characters from the book.



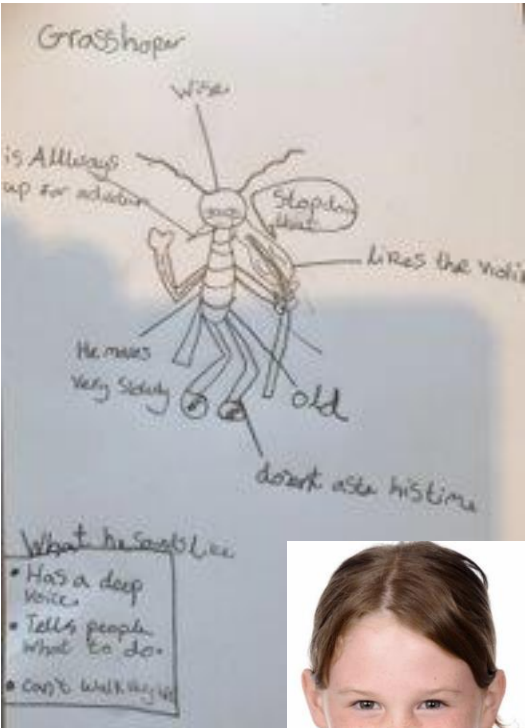
Sebastian



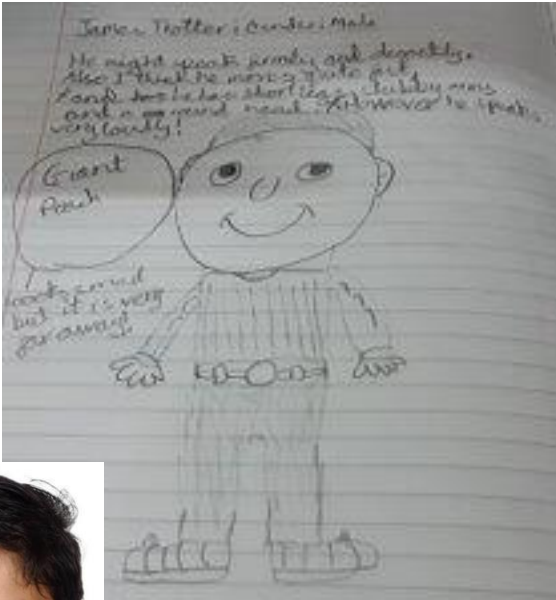
Chloe



Emily



Freya



Raaj



In Maths, Year 4 used their Mathematical skills to bake cookies.



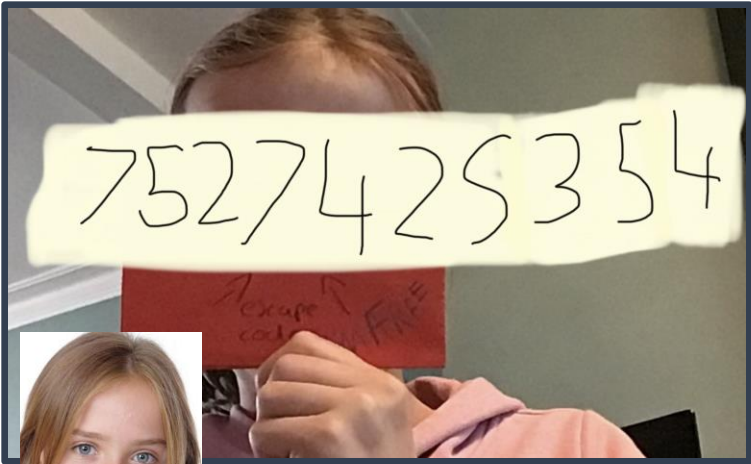


# Year 6 Escape Room Challenge

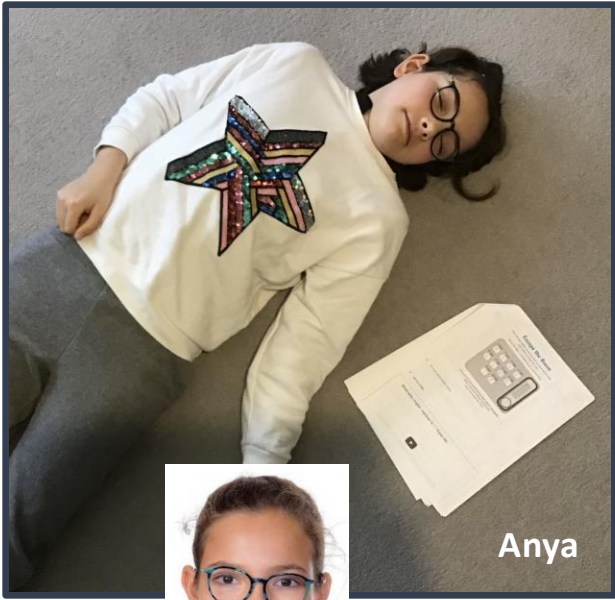


In English, Year 6 have been working on grammar features including modal verbs, passive voice, formal language and parenthesis this week.

On Thursday, the children were 'LOCKED IN' a virtual Escape Room and had to use their investigative powers and grammar knowledge to escape!

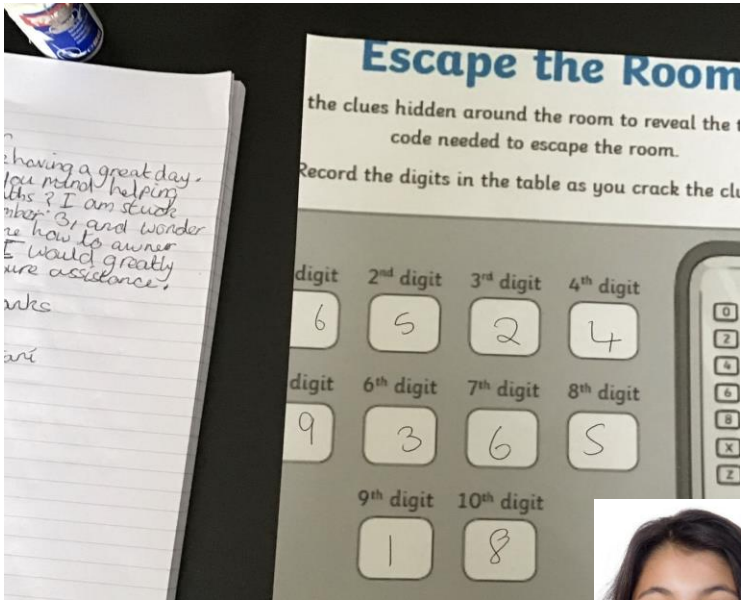


Scarlett



Anya

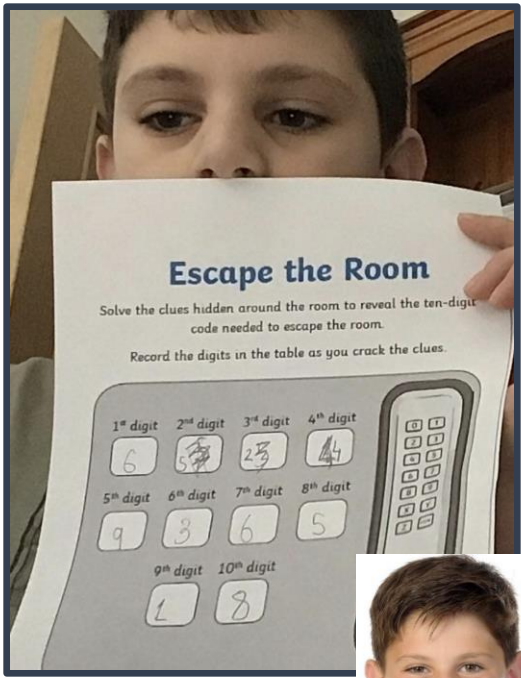
Anya



Saya



Maria



Fabian



We are pleased to report that all the children succeeded, and everyone made it out in one piece.





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