



# St. Andrew's CEVA Primary Newsletter February 2023



Head Teacher Mrs Val Griffiths

**Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Isaiah 64:8**

Belated Happy New Year to all of you. It has been a cold start to 2023 but I hope you have kept warm and healthy.

For a very short term we seem to have managed to pack an awful lot in! As I write this I can hear the wonderful sound of African drumming filling the corridors. Year 3 have been enjoying their lessons and making great strides in their musical skills!



Year 6 enjoyed their trip to London to visit the Natural History Museum even though traffic made it a longer day than anticipated.

Year 3 were equally inspired by their visit to Oxford and could not wait to share what they had learnt. Reception have continued their Welly Wednesdays adventures, even though the weather has not been on their side.

The whole school was involved in our World Religion Days, when we were fortunate to welcome Mr Singh from the Sikh Education Service into school. He worked with every year group to share his faith and beliefs and answer questions about some of the similarities and differences between Sikhism and other religions. The children were excellent participants and asked some very deep questions. Mr Singh was also able to stay with staff after school to improve our knowledge and support the teaching of Religious Education in our school even more. – *More information further in this newsletter.*



We are currently enjoying our Mental Health focus week, with our Dress to Express multi day today. Mental Health is very rightly a huge area of focus for us as a school. We work hard to ensure we offer our pupils, staff and wider community the best possible support and guidance we can. Miss Davidson is our Senior Mental Health lead and has planned a number of activities for this week, but also to ensure we keep well-being as a focus throughout the year. Mrs Spikings is our Well-being Mentor for the pupils. She works with children as and when they need additional support. Mrs Francis, our Family Support Worker, is available to speak to parents who may need help in accessing further support or just to have a chat with. Please do not hesitate to contact if you wish to speak to her.

Please enjoy the half-term break. Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you in Spring 2, which will include Parents' Evenings when we will be able to see you all in school. We have our whole school trip to Peterborough Cathedral, where we will be focusing on Easter and using the experience to support our in-school learning.

**Have a wonderful week, Mrs G**

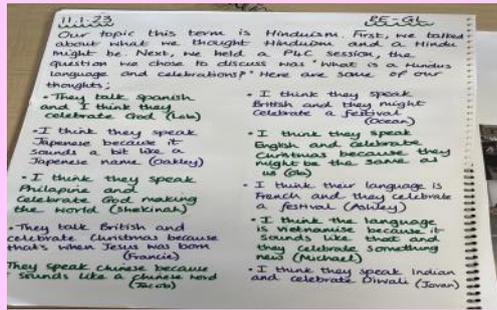


# R.E. news

## Hinduism

Year 3 have begun learning about the Hindu faith as the Year 4 children have continued to study this faith, to deepen their knowledge and understanding.

Year 3 have enjoyed learning the story of Rama and Sita, linking this to the festival of Diwali.



## World Faith Day

On Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th of January we were very lucky to have a special visitor in school from the Sikh faith, Mr Harkirat Singh, who is a Sikh Education Officer from the Sikh Education Service.

He spent the two days working with each year group, doing lots of different activities and workshops which allowed our pupils to better understand the Sikh faith and their beliefs. All of our children really enjoyed their time with Harkirat and gained lots of knowledge and understanding of Sikhism.



## Creation and Science - Conflict or Complimentary

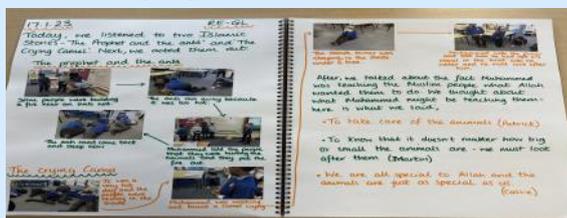
Year 6 have been studying the different views of the creation of the Earth in both Connected Curriculum and R.E. and now have the challenging task of thinking about whether they personally believe the different views conflict or compliment each other.



## Islam

Year 2 have been continuing their learning of Islam by answering the big question of 'Who is Muslim and how do they live?'

They particularly enjoyed learning the Islamic stories of The Prophet and the Ants and The Crying Camel.



It has been another good term with lots of exciting lessons happening in R.E. across the school and as always, the children have been working really hard and have produced some really good pieces of work that you will get to see next term during Parents' Evening.  
**Mrs Connors and Mrs Lightfoot**

# SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Safeguarding Leads: who you can speak to if you have any safeguarding or wellbeing concerns:

## Designated Safeguarding Lead:



Mrs Gentry - Assistant Head

## Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:



Mrs Griffiths - Head Teacher



Miss Davidson - Deputy Head



Mrs Francis - Family Support Worker



Mrs Day - Attendance and Family Support



Mrs Spikings - Wellbeing Mentor



## Mental Health and Well-being Tips

### Be there to listen

Whilst doing an activity they enjoy talk to your child about how they are feeling and how their day was so that they get used to talking about their emotions and feel safe to do so.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health/#Talkingtoyourchild>

### Support them through difficulties

Notice changes in behaviours or emotions and help them to work through difficulties. Remembering that whilst supporting them can be difficult, all behaviours are communication.

<https://maudsleycharity.org/familiesunderpressure/>

## Online safety tips:

It is really important to chat with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online.

Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help.

- Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.
- Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
- Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.
- Encourage them to help someone! Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
- Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

### Talking about their time online:

The holidays are also a good opportunity to talk to your children about their online friendships, the sites they use and encourage best practices online. Why not check out the free resources on [saferinternet.org.uk](https://saferinternet.org.uk)

Watch Red and Murphy talk to Freddie and Alisha about asking before they watch videos online

Read Digiduck's Big Decision and help educate children aged 3 - 7 about how to be a good friend online

Take the 'Be the change' quiz and help 8 - 13 year olds to explore how children and young people share images and videos online

Have an adventure with Kara, Winston and the SMART Crew and help them to make SMART online decisions

For more information and advice please check out:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/> <https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

### Stay involved in their lives

Show interest in your child's life and the things that are important to them. This will help the child to value themselves and help you to know when something is wrong and how to support them.

### Encourage their interests

Support and encourage them to explore their interests, learning something new, being active, creative or part of a team helps us to stay connected with others and are important ways in which we can all help our mental health.

### Take what they say seriously

Listen to what they say without judging their feelings will help them feel valued.

<https://www.annafreud.org/schools-and-colleges/resources/7-ways-to-support-children-and-young-people-who-are-worried/>

### Build positive routines

Routines help children to develop life skills, feel safe, have consistency and develop healthy habits.

Introduce or re-introduce structure around regular routines, healthy eating and exercise. A good night's sleep is really important so get them into a routine that fits with school. In the holidays don't deviate too much from the sleep routine, otherwise it will be harder when the children return to school.

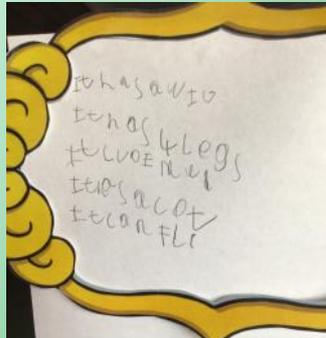
<https://www.petitjourney.com.au/10-reasons-a-daily-routine-is-important-for-your-child-and-how-to-set-one/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/health/sleep-problems-in-young-children/>

## Year R News

We have had another busy but great half term :)

In Talk for Writing this term we focussed on 'We're going to find a Monster', the children had a go at writing sentences to describe different settings. We came up with lots of new settings and some



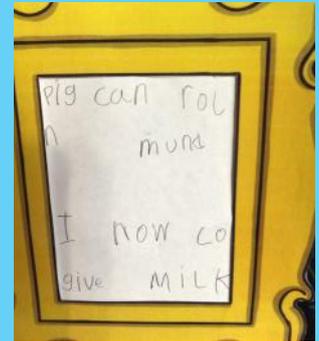
lovely adjectives to describe them. It was so nice to then be able to share our book with some parents last week, thank you to those parents who came in. We will be trying to organise other times where you will be invited in, so keep checking Dojo and your emails.

Please continue to share photos and work from home on Class Dojo, we love to see it.



**ClassDojo**

The children have been working hard at using their sounds to write some words, and even trying to write sentences.



**Welly Wednesdays** have been the favourite part of our week. We have been out in the sunshine and the rain and have seen lots of different wildlife when out on our walks. We are going to have a short break from our Welly Wednesday walks, we will continue these after Easter, where we look forward to seeing more signs of Spring!



## ANIMALS



In Maths we have been looking at numbers to 10, the children are now able to see patterns of numbers and talk about what they can see. We are getting more confident recognising numbers to 10 and representing numbers in different ways.

We have been looking at animals in our Connected Curriculum sessions, we have talked about animals from all different places. We ended the term by having a visit from different pets, where we learnt all about what they need.

## IAspire

Well done to our IAspire winners this term:

Fernando, Lily, Duke, Leonardo, and Shem in Holcot and Toby, Tara, Lucas, Eilayah and Sulla in Sywell.

## P.E.

After half term PE day will continue to be on a **Friday** so please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school for that day and that all earrings are removed or covered up. Thank you .

## Year 1 News

Year 1 have worked incredibly hard this term and we would like to thank you for all your continued support. We have been working hard on our Phonics and learning new sounds. Keep up the reading at home, especially over the half term. Remember that it doesn't have to just be the reading book you share together, let us know of any other stories or other reading you do at home too!

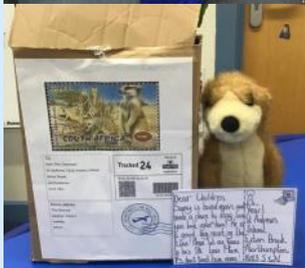


### English

This term we have been learning about journey stories.

We have enjoyed learning the story Meerkat Mail. The children were very excited to have Sunny the Meerkat come to visit Year 1. Sunny even went on a journey around the school and visited different places. The children took responsibility and looked after one of Sunny's friends and went on another journey to your homes. Thank you for looking after the Meerkats.

The children have been able to innovate the story changing the characters and setting of the places he went to visit.



Well done to these children in Year 1 for receiving their I-ASPIRE certificates this term:

Sasha	Simba
Ruben	Myrah
Godsway	Elsie-Rose
Leighton	Noah-James
Stephan	Matthew

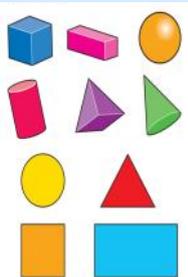
### Connected Curriculum

#### What can we learn about our world from stories



We have read lots of stories from all over the world this term including: The Lion Dance, The Ginger Bread Man, The Diary of a Wombat, Little Red Riding Hood, Tiddalick and many more. The children have continued to learn about the 7 continents and 5 Oceans.

They have all enjoyed singing the songs.



### Maths

We have continued to learn the fact families within 10. We have explored using number lines to count backwards, investigating related facts in addition and subtraction. 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. The children learnt the names of the different shapes and identified some of the features that determined how they are classified.

## Year 2 News

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this term and we would like to thank you for all your continued support. We can't believe we are half way through the year already!

### Mrs. Armitage

In our Connected Curriculum unit this term we have been learning all about transport, with the intention of creating a vehicle for Mrs. Armitage.

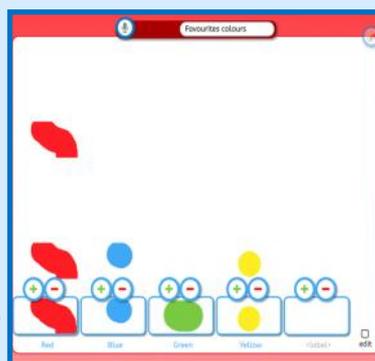
As scientists we have carried out lots of different experiments this term to make sure that the materials we use to create Mrs. Armitage's vehicle are suitable. Our favourite was looking at how different materials can be waterproof and why.

We have also worked hard to develop our awareness of road safety by going on a walk around the local area. Whilst on the walk we looked at the use of different road signs, crossings and the importance of stopping, looking and listening. Within this we also looked at bike safety and had the opportunity to build a bike with Mr. Reed!



### Computing

In Computing the children have used the iPads to develop their awareness of pictograms. We have had a great time collecting data, learning about tallies and how to represent the data we have collected correctly. Here is an example of one of the pictograms we have created!



### P.E.

We were very lucky this term as some children from Year 2 were given the opportunity to represent our school in a curling tournament. The children selected were a credit to the school and performed brilliantly!



Well done to the **IAspire** winners this term:

**Wilby:** Patrick, Cairo, Markas and Malakai  
**Ecton:** Julia, Ebenezer, Estela and Ishan



## Year 3 News

Welcome to our newsletter! Term 3 has been an exciting one and we have continued with our learning with lots of fun along the way!

### Let's Go On An Adventure

This term, we have been studying the Ancient Mayans. We had a very exciting start to our topic as we visited three museums in Oxford: Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford University Museum of Natural History and the Ashmolean. Whilst there, we were able to look closely at different artefacts that were used by the Mayans and got to explore how and why they were used. These artefacts included clothes they would have worn, their calendar and some jewellery. Alongside this, we also learnt about the importance of corn and hot chocolate. We then went on a tour of the museum to look more closely at Mayan headdresses. We discussed their importance and how different headdresses could be worn on different occasions. Back in class, we took our knowledge and understanding of the Mayans and created our own headdress and masks again thinking carefully about when and why they would have been worn. Alongside this, we also compared the Mayan creation story with the Christian creation story. Here we found some similarities and differences and found it really interesting to learn about another culture's beliefs. As well as this, we made and tried cornbread which is a traditional Mayan food staple. We thoroughly enjoyed it!



### Warning Tales

This term, we have been learning how to write a warning tale and have used the story of Little Red Riding Hood as our model text. We have studied the features of a warning tale and looked closely about how to describe a setting.

We have also reminded ourselves on how speech can be used to move a story forwards as well as remembering how to punctuate direct speech correctly. We then planned, wrote and edited our own warning tales.



### I ASPIRE STAR

Once again, this term, we have all shown the I ASPIRE values.

Here are the children who were I ASPIRE stars:

**Moulton:** Veronica, Eli, Alexandra, Ezra and Markas.

**Pitsford:** Cayden, Michael, Shekinah, Ola and David N.

### African Drumming

Over Term 3 and 4, we have been given the fantastic opportunity to learn how to play the djembe which is a type of African drum. We have thoroughly enjoyed the project so far and look forward to continuing after half term.



### Maths

This term in maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division and how to solve both arithmetic and word problems using different methods. We have also started to look at money and how to add and subtract different amounts as well as solve word problems.



### Spanish

¡Hola! We have continued our Spanish lessons and have enjoyed adding to our knowledge of the language so far. This term, we have revised how to ask someone what their name is, looked at the Spanish alphabet and learnt how to say different colours in Spanish. Ask us to show off our Spanish at home!



# Year 4 News

A great start to the New Year- Year 4 have been swimming, designing chocolate and learning a rap.



Connected Curriculum – Should we stop eating chocolate?

We have been learning about chocolate! Whilst we have been learning about chocolate, the children have learnt what is used to make chocolate and what the nutritional differences are between white, dark and milk chocolate.

## Maths

Our main focus in Maths is Division and Multiplication. Year 4 have been working hard on their times tables, which they need to know by the end of the year. We have been learning words such as factor, product, divisor, dividend and quotient.

## English

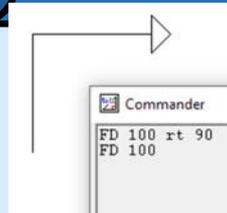
In English, we have been writing a transformation story. The children have had to transform their characters. We have been reading *Mr Big*, *Willy the Wimp* and *There is a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* to help us with our writing.



We have been learning the rap Stop! The rap is about bullying and telling bullies to stop. The children have loved rapping to it and are excited to share it with another year group.

## Computing

We have been using code to program a turtle to move. We have used code such as FD 100 , BK 50 , RT 90 and LT 90. If the code is entered incorrectly, then it would not move!



What are these lines called?

## PSHE - DREAMS AND GOALS

We have learnt about the importance of dreams and goals. We have learnt in life we don't always get what we hope for and we have written ways that we can cope when this happens.

This term, the I-ASPIRE certificates were given to:

**Brixworth— Kayden, Roy, Stephanie and**

**Denton— Ayrtion, Beverly, Calin, Freddie and Harrison**

In R.E. we have been learning about Hinduism and have focussed on 'What it means to be a Hindu in Britain today'.

Denton are on fire with their reading! They have won the reading certificate 4 times this term. Brixworth are steadily improving and hopefully will win next term.



## Year 5 News

Although we have had a short term, Year 5 have been very busy.



We were fortunate to have a visit from a member of the Sikh Education Service, Harkarit Singh, who spoke to the children about what it means to be a Sikh.

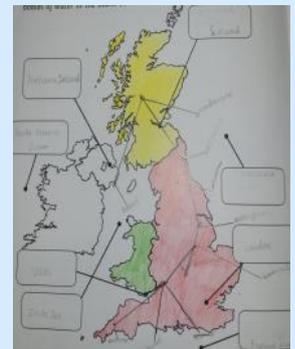
The children were introduced to the theology of Sikhism and asked lots of questions.

It was a very interesting session.

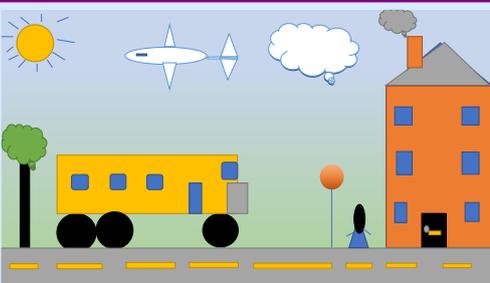
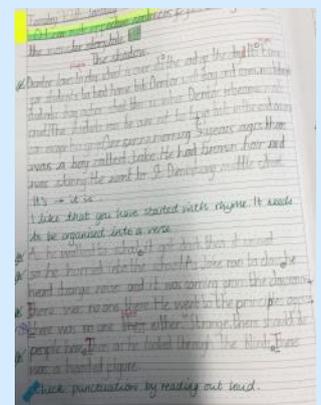
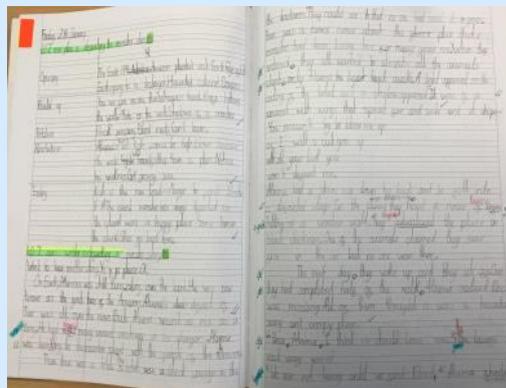


In Connected Curriculum, we have been learning about the history of fairgrounds and even had a visit from Mr. Whitfield (a.k.a. Mr. Lightfoot), who told us that he was a fairground owner. He talked about the different rides he owns and even asked us to design our own fairground ride that might be suitable to join his travelling fair called Zappo's.

We also followed the journey that his fair would take as it travelled around the UK, identifying countries and capital cities along the way.



We have been writing 'Defeating the monster' stories in English, using description, action and dialogue between characters and commas to give additional information.



In Computing, we have been creating Vector drawings using the skills of layering, duplicating, rotating and manipulating shapes in powerpoint.



## I-ASPIRE

Well done to all of you for your hard work this term.

**Althorp:** Antonia, Chelsey, Vlad, Harvey and Harry

**Isham:** Maja, Tayshaun, Yazdan, Ellie and Mason.

## Year 6 news

### Our trip to the Natural History Museum in London

On Wednesday 18th January, Year 6 had a great day learning all about evolution at the Natural History Museum. We learnt all about Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection and got to see some great exhibits. We all had a fantastic day (even if it did take us nearly 4 hours to get home on the coach!!)

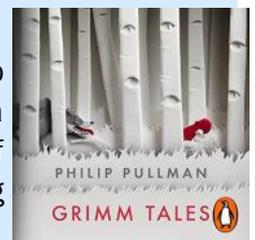


As part of our Connected Curriculum work, we created collages in the style of Eric Carle (author of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*). We used a range of art materials and textures to create them. Here are some of them:



### English

In English, we have been writing traditional tales with a twist. Inspired by Philip Pullman's *Grimm Tales*, we have been writing traditional fairy tales but made them a lot grimmer and scarier! We really enjoyed being creative and coming up with lots of "grimm" ideas. How will Mrs Connors and Mrs Worth sleep at night after marking them all!



Well done to those children who have been awarded an I ASPIRE certificate this term for all of their hard work.



\* Norris, Maks, Teaghan, Vanesa and Alivia in Grendon.



\* Bailey, Armandas, Andreea, Amalia and Diya in Lampport.

