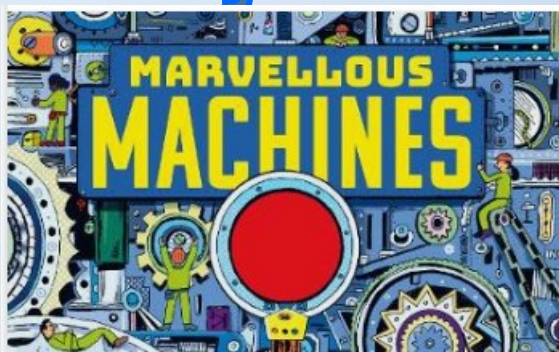
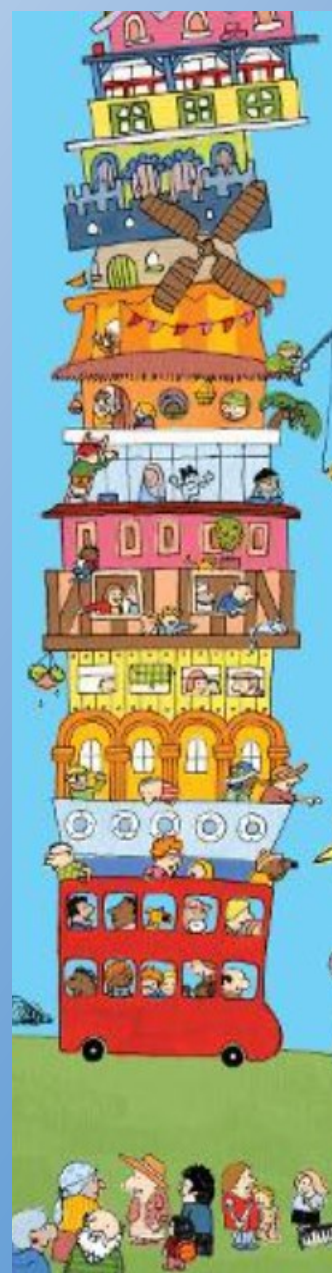


Nursery and Reception



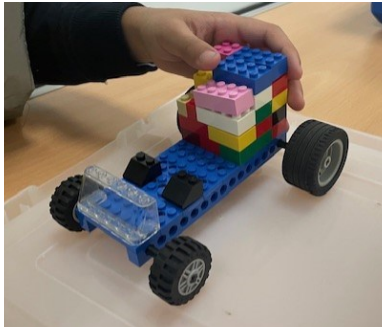
This week, Reception have been exploring a fabulous story called 'The Hundred Decker Bus' by Mike Smith.

The children have used their imaginations to create a new layer for our own collaborative bus as part of Drawing Club. Look how tall the buses are!





Year 1 & 2



BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM

Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a fantastic trip to The British Motor Museum to take part in their 'Material and Movement' workshop which links with our Science learning in school. They worked as Scientists to investigate aerodynamics, friction and down force, learning about how the design of a car effects it's movement. Using this knowledge, they worked in pairs, as engineers to design a Lego car, which they then tested on a variety of surfaces.

The children were thrilled to be invited to touch some of the real cars exhibited, enabling them to identify different materials they were made out of and how they felt. They learned that earlier cars were made out of wood, some cars today are made out of carbon fibre and how in the future 'yogurt pots' will be utilised to make parts of cars.

At the end of the session, the children were able to sit in 'Bessie,' a London bus which is over 100 years old. They learned that women and children were only permitted to sit downstairs on the bus, leaving the open top for the men who smoked smelly pipes!

What a fantastic day out! Well done to all the children who were engaged, well behaved and came back to school with lots of new knowledge.





Year 1 & 2

On Monday afternoon, the children in Years 1 and 2 took part in an online workshop led by staff from The National Gallery in London.



Linking to our topic, 'Bright Lights, Big City', the children were given a tour of some of the main monuments outside the London gallery before taking a look inside the gallery itself.

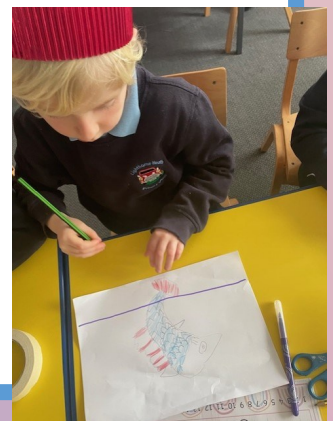


They were given time to explore one of the galleries paintings, 'Seaport with the Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba' by Claude Lorrain, which tells the story of the Queen of Sheba embarking on her journey to see King Solomon in Jerusalem.



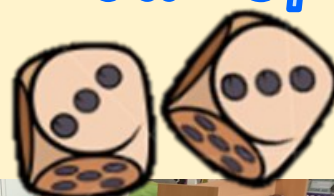
They then drew elements of the story, considering what the Queen would have seen, what she might have taken on her journey and the types of weather she may have sailed in.

Using their images, they worked in groups to tell a story about her journey, learning to work collaboratively and to use their imagination creatively.





Year 3/4



As part of our DesignTechnology lessons, the children in Years 3 and 4 have created their own board games. A variety of board games were distributed among the class, sparking discussions about their distinctive features and roles. We brainstormed ideas, and the children were tasked with designing a neatly organised game board, ensuring it was colourful, included spaces, and featured unique pieces with a clear goal and name. They then had the opportunity to bring their ideas to life using various art supplies.

Over the following lessons, the children dedicated time to crafting their unique games. Eventually, they had the chance to play their creations and explain their concepts clearly to others. Now, they are busy writing up their instructions to share their games with others in the school.



MUMMIFICATION

5/6

The children in 5/6 have been learning about the process of mummification in Ancient Egypt and the different stages that happened as part of the approximately 70 day long process.

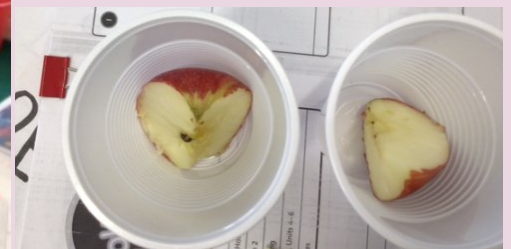
As a way of testing out the Ancient Egyptian's scientific theories, we decided to have a go at mummifying some fruit to see if their methods would work in the modern day.



First, we made our own natron (a salt preservative used in Ancient Egypt) using 50g of bicarbonate of soda and 100g of salt



Next, we took our apple and cut it in half, and then half again. We will need to use two of these quarters in our experiment. We put them in two separate plastic cups.



We covered one of the apples completely with our natron mix and then we placed both cups out of direct sunlight and we will check on them in a few days time. We left one empty and labelled it control, so we can check how successful our mummification process has been.



ROMEO + JULIET

THE PERFECT INTRODUCTION TO SHAKESPEARE FOR ANYONE AGED 7 AND UP

On Wednesday this week, the whole of KS2 were excited to go to Sydenham Primary school to watch an extra special RSC performance of Romeo and Juliet. This First Encounters performance was specially designed for a younger audience, or for people who have not watched a Shakespeare performance before.

A fantastic time was had by all. We loved having an opportunity to see the play we have been studying during our English lessons being performed by real RSC actors and also some children of a similar age to us.

CAST



Juliet
Zensi Alleyne



Benvolio
Chloe Fenwick-Brown



Mercutio / Prince
Qasim Mahmood



Lady Montague /
Nurse
Caitlin Drake



Tybalt / Paris
Dinarte Gouveia



Lord Capulet / Friar
John
Thomas Vernal



Diary Dates



Spring Term		*= New additions to the diary dates
January		
February		
Monday 5 th February	Year 5 netball workshops (selected pupils)	
Thursday 8 th February	Chinese Dragon Workshops	
Thursday 8 th February	Years 5 & 6 trip to Ashmolean museum	
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th February	Half Term Holiday	
Monday 19 th February	Spring 2 begins	
Tuesday 20 th February	After school family Change Makers sessions begin	
Friday 23 rd February	MUFTI day, 50p donation to school funds in exchange for wearing your own clothes to school.	
March		
Thursday 14 th March	Years 3 & 4 to Lunt Fort	
Friday 22 nd March	MUFTI day, 50p donation to school funds in exchange for wearing your own clothes to school.	
Monday 25 th March – Friday 5 th April	Easter Holiday	



Lighthorne Heath Learning Heroes

Nursery & Reception

Mrs Hartley and Mrs Manley have chosen Ruby-Mae as their class learning hero this week. Ruby is always keen to join in with classroom routines. She impresses us all with her confident manner when speaking and her smiley manner. Well done Ruby!



Have a go

Years 1 & 2

Our hero this week is Lettie who had so many ideas to share both in our online gallery workshop and during our trip to The British Motor Museum. She is polite, hardworking and a great team player, it's wonderful to welcome her as a new addition to our class. (Thank you also for Lettie's Mum for helping this week on our trip, you are a superstar!)



Concentrate

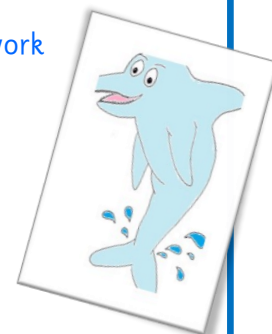
Years 3 & 4

Miss Singh has chosen Joseph as this week's hero for his dedication to reading nearly every night and for genuinely enjoying it. He has shown commitment and resilience. I am very impressed by his efforts. Keep up the great work!



Years 5 & 6

Mrs Cox's hero this week is Niamh. We have been impressed with her hard work and perseverance particularly in her maths work this week. Keep it up!



Enjoy learning

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



5 REASONS TO LOVE FEBRUARY



1. Less rainy days

One reason to love February is that it gives us less rainy days. February gets *less* rainfall on average than August!



2. It's cosy

Despite less rain, February is still very cold meaning it's our last opportunity before the spring arrives to get cosy and enjoy hibernating. Soon enough we'll be filling our social calendars with outside activities and evenings in the garden. Use this opportunity to snuggle down, drink warm comforting drinks (maybe a hot chocolate) and prioritise resting

3. One whole day to celebrate love

Valentine's Day an opportunity to show those that you love how important they are to you.

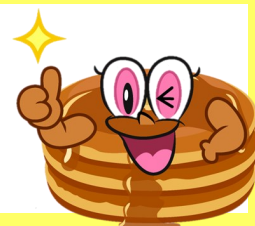


4. Daffodils

As we get to the end of the winter, there is nothing more uplifting than seeing rows of daffodils springing up. Daffodils have long been a symbol of hope.

5. Pancake Day (or Shrove Tuesday)

It is estimated that 157 million pancakes are consumed across the UK on pancake day.



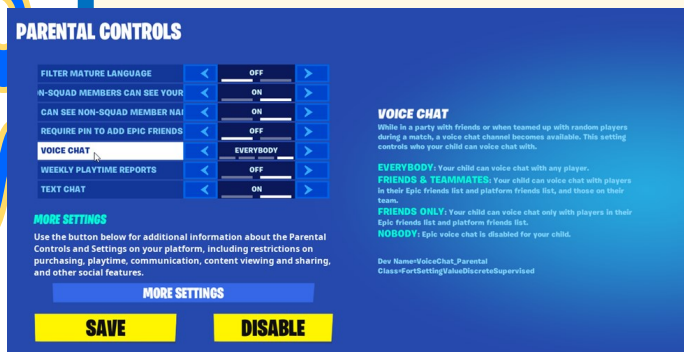


It has been brought to our attention that a number of our older pupils have been behaving unsafely online., particularly when playing Xbox live (or similar) at home.

This has resulted in a number of arguments and disagreements that have been brought into school.



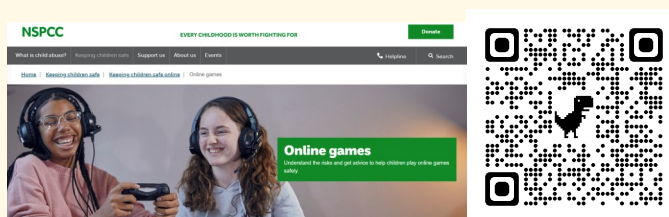
From what we understand, children have been chatting (usually via headsets) while playing the game Fortnite. These chats usually go unrecorded and are not monitored. It appears that some of these chats involve children shouting at one another, using inappropriate language and making threats towards each other.



We are concerned that some children are reporting playing this game very late into the evening (with little parental control or monitoring).

From our research, it appears that there are ways to control these chats. We would strongly recommend that if your child uses these games or devices that you have a conversation with them about their behaviour online, your behaviour expectations of them and also that you consider restricting access, monitoring interactions or exploring the parents safety features that are available.

The NSPCC has more information about keeping safe while playing online.





Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow



Attendance Matters

Unfortunately, we still have an unacceptable number of pupils for whom attendance and punctuality is causing concern.

Our school monitoring records show a clear correlation between children with poor attendance and those that do not make the academic progress that we aim for.

Children should be in school every day (the school day begins at 8.55am and they should be ready to enter the classroom at this time).

Children should attend school every day and should still attend if they feel tired or are a little 'under the weather'. Sibling and family illness is not an acceptable reason for absence. For more serious or contagious illnesses (vomiting bugs, diarrhoea, chicken pox etc.) then any absence from school should be reported (by telephone or email) to the school office.



ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY



Did You Know... ?

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child will get access to free school holiday activities and food?



To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact: freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or call 01926 359189



If you think you may be eligible for benefits selected free school meals then please let us know even if your child gets a Universal Infant Free School Meal.

Mrs Hendriksen and Mrs Manley are able to help families to make this application if you require support.



Eligibility for benefits-related free school meals (FSM)

Families who receive the following are eligible for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your child is eligible for means tested Free School Meals then please read the following. A FINAL cost of living payment (by supermarket voucher) will be made to families in February.



Resources Directorate
Craig Cusack
Director of Enabling Services
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4RL

www.warwickshire.gov.uk

January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

The government's Household Support Fund has provided local authorities with one-off funding for families, and vulnerable residents, who may need financial help with significantly increased living costs. **This funding finishes on the 31 March 2024.**

As a parent or carer with one or more children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, Warwickshire County Council will be providing vouchers to support you during these challenging times.

You will receive this **final** cost-of-living payment on 3rd February 2024. This will be a £30 voucher for each child at home who is in receipt of benefits related free school meals in addition to one £100 voucher for each eligible Warwickshire household to help with your household costs. Please note an eligible Warwickshire household is someone residing with a residential address within Warwickshire.

The supermarket vouchers will be processed automatically, and you **do not** need to contact us to apply. You will be sent an SMS text message or email from our voucher scheme **Huggg**, with a message from Warwickshire County Council that will have a link to the supermarket vouchers attached.

You will need to activate your voucher by:

- clicking on this link and then 'Tell me more' followed by 'I'm ready to claim',
- selecting which supermarket you would like to shop at (the choices are Aldi, Asda, Farmfoods, Iceland, M&S, Morrison's, Sainsbury's, Tesco, and Waitrose),
- selecting 'Claim now' and,
- once you have chosen your voucher, hitting 'Click for your voucher'.

The final screen will reveal the voucher from your chosen supermarket, and you will need this to pay for your shopping. Vouchers can all be used instore and those from Asda, M&S, Sainsbury's, and Waitrose can also be used online. The voucher value does not have to be spent all at the same time, so please ensure you keep your vouchers safe.

If we do not have a valid mobile number for you, we will send the voucher link to you by email from hello@huggg.me If you do not have a smartphone, we will post the voucher.

If you have a problem with activating your voucher, please use the 'Frequently Asked Questions' online at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme> or use the Chat facility on the Huggg website <https://www.huggg.me/>

*Working for
Warwickshire*

Please check the expiry date on your voucher as it cannot be redeemed or reissued after the expiry date, so ensure you activate your voucher within this time. Do also check your spam or junk folders just in case the emails have gone in there.

The Local Welfare Scheme can help with the following issues. Please call 0800 4081448 or 01926 359182, between **10am and 2pm**, when staff will be available to assist you.


- You do **not** receive the SMS text or email voucher link for your child or children by **Monday 5th February 2024**. You can call us between **5th February and 16th February 2024** and will still receive the full voucher value. We receive an exceptionally high volume of calls so you may wish to consider calling after the 9th February 2024 when the phone lines may be less busy.
- If a supermarket from the options listed is not easily accessible and an online delivery is not possible.
- If you have other children who are not yet attending school and would like to claim an additional Huggs supermarket voucher for these children, please call us between **5th February and 16th February** only to apply. Again, we receive an exceptionally high volume of calls so you may wish to consider calling after the 9th February 2024 when the phone lines may be less busy. Remember that calling us later will not change the amount of the award you will receive.

Please note: The Local Welfare Scheme will be using the Household Support Fund to support other Warwickshire residents with utility costs during March 2024. As part of this cost of living payment in February, you have received a £100 voucher for your household, therefore **you are not eligible to apply again in March**.

Further information on support is available for residents on the following websites:

- <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme>
- <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/costofliving>
- <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely



Craig Cusack
Director of Enabling Services

*Working for
Warwickshire*