



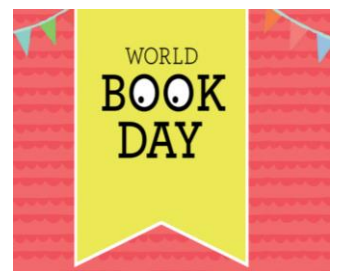
SACRISTON
ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

16th February 2024

World Book Day Competition!

This year we are holding a World Book Day competition. All children from school can enter by sending in a photo to admin@sacristonacademy.co.uk of a weird and wonderful place they have read. Your child could read up a tree, in a park, upside down or even in a box. The children with the most unusual reading places can be in with a chance of winning one of five £5 book fair vouchers. All entries need to be in before World Book Day on Thursday 7th March 2024 and will be announced before lunch.



Homework

We're thrilled to announce an exciting change in our homework approach at Sacriston Academy. In line with the latest research findings, we're introducing a fresh way for our children to engage with their homework.



Understanding the importance of independent learning and the challenges traditional homework methods may present, we're transitioning towards tasks that are designed to be completed independently by your child, fostering their sense of responsibility, and enhancing their learning experience. Children will have the opportunity to use programmes which they are already familiar with from their work in school.

Our aim is to increase the number of students completing their homework regularly while ensuring that it remains a meaningful and engaging activity. By embracing this new approach, we believe we can better support all children's academic journey and cultivate essential skills for their future success.

We're excited about the positive impact this change will bring to our children's learning outcomes, and we appreciate your support as we embark on this journey together.

Each week children will receive:

1. A Maths Task
2. A Spelling Task
3. Reading Homework

Children will also continue to receive a creative task, linked to the teaching topic in school as so many children enjoy demonstrating their creativity.

Class Teachers will post on Dojo each Monday morning outlining the homework tasks for the week ahead.

Nursery 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'

This week has been a very busy one for Nursery! They have started their new book 'We're going on a bear hunt' by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury, the children loved using their wondrous words in the role play area and thoroughly enjoyed going on a bear hunt! It has also been pancake day, the children enjoyed trying different toppings on their pancakes and creating their own pancake mix with lots and lots of flour! But that's not it... the children have also had a Valentine's Day Stay and Play! Where the children were able to spend precious time with their loved ones creating masterpieces and playing lots of fun activities!



Early Year's Valentine's Day Stay and Play

Nursery and Reception had bundles of fun on Wednesday celebrating love learning with their family and friends. The children searched for the hidden hearts around the enchanted garden and tallied them up as they explored. The children used their fine motor skills to create collages, hearts and threading hearts with ribbons. The children used their Mathematics skills to match different amounts of hearts with the domino cards, create symmetrical finger painted hearts and matched the broken number hearts to make them whole again. Here is what the children thought:

Sam- *"My favourite thing was matching the love hearts in the maths area."*

Hunter- *"I loved making the paper people with my mum."*

Alivia- *"I made a valentine's card for my dad. I stuck pieces of tissue paper on the heart."*



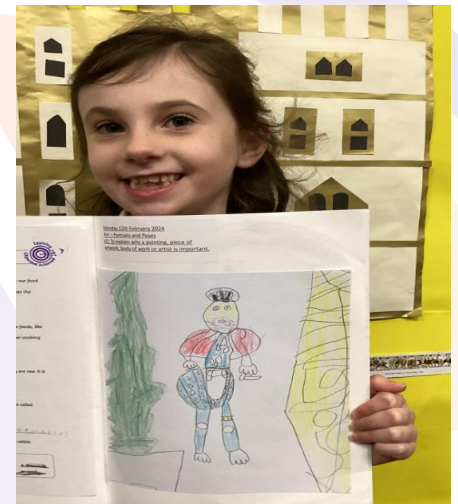
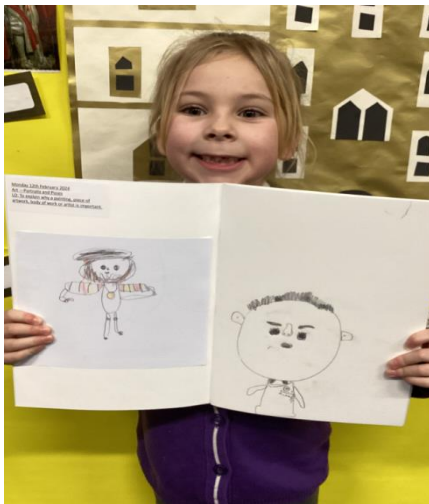
Year 1 Virtual Sightseers

Year 1 have been learning all about London in their topic Bright Lights Big City. In Writing, they have been writing about Paddington Bear's sightseeing adventure around London so, in Geography, they decided to try and find these places for themselves! The class used Google Earth to search for famous London landmarks including Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and Tower Bridge. At the end of the week, the class will be building taxis in their DT lessons which they could use to take their own tour of London!



Year 2 Explore the World of Portraits and Poses

Our budding artists in Year 2 have been exploring the world of portraits and poses this week in their Art lessons. We have discussed and experimented with the main elements of portrait composition, such as facial expression, clothing, background and objects. This has also been a cross-curricular activity, linking to our History topic of Magnificent Monarchs. The children have been creating their own royal portraits for a significant historical figure: either Henry VIII or Elizabeth I.



Year 3 Create Their Own Fossils

This week the year 3 class have enjoyed creating their own fossils! We used different types of bread to represent the different rock types and jelly snakes to represent the animals being fossilised. This links with our learning in science and geography around the different layers of the Earth, rock types and fossils. Well done year 3 for listening so carefully and following instructions to get the steps right. We are yet to open up our fossils but are excited to see the outcome!



Year 4 States of Matter Experiment

This week in Science, Year 4 have continued to explore their topic States of Matter. As part of this, we conducted an experiment to see which ice lolly would melt the quickest. We made predictions and observed the ice lollies across the day, recording our findings. We found that the smallest ice lolly melted the quickest and learnt that ice has a melting point of 0 degrees Celsius. We then wowed Miss Jackson by linking this new knowledge to the polar ice caps melting!



Year 5 Architecture

This week, Year 5 have been completing their DT project 'Architecture'. Throughout the week, we have looked at examples of different types of architecture from a range of different countries and how these have changed over time. We looked particularly at Greek architecture and created our buildings based off this using straws, blu-tac and string.



Year 6 2D and 3D Shapes

Year 6 have been incredibly hard developing their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes. This week we have learned lots of actions to help us remember how to find the area of a triangle and a parallelogram and the volume of a cuboid; if you see one of the Year 6 children, ask them to show you the actions we use to remember this!

In addition to this, we have been looking at nets of 3D shapes. After realising this was something we found difficult to visualise, we spend the afternoon making 'penguin shapes' using different nets. It was a little fiddly to do but we had a lot of fun and it has helped us visualise how nets can form 3D shapes. Well done for another terrific week, Year 6!





The menu for week beginning 26th February is Week 3. School dinners are £12.50 per week, paid online by Monday please. Our school menu can now be found on our website. If you would like to look at the options with your child, please use the following link.

<http://www.sacristonacademy.co.uk/school-information/lunch-menu>



Class Attendance

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.47%	92.73%	94.59%	92.90%	96.23%	93.39%	92.57%	85.88%

The government expectation is 96% attendance for individual pupils and school. Attendance and punctuality really matter to your child's education - every day counts! When your child's attendance drops below 95% school will begin monitoring. Referrals to the local authority may also be made if there is no improvement seen.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 16th February
TERM

Thursday 7th March

Tuesday 19th March

Tuesday 26th March
soon)

soon)

soon)

Wednesday 27th March

Friday 29th March

BREAK UP FOR



HALF



Y1 Sports Festival

Y5 Rugby Sports Trip

Y1/Y2 Bunny Bingo + Easter Crafts 9:15am (More info to follow

Y5/Y6 Bunny Bingo + Easter Crafts 1pm (More info to follow

Y3/Y4 Bunny Bingo + Easter Crafts 2:15pm (More info to follow

Parent Consultations F2F

Early Years Stay and Play 10:30am

Parent Consultations Phone Call

SCHOOL CLOSED INSET DAY



Weekly Awards

Our Headteacher Awards were presented today to the following children who have all impressed their class teacher:

Nursery: Ada Chivers

Reception: Jacob Murphy

Year 1: Emilia Minieieva

Year 2: Hrithika Sajith

Year 3: Maria Isaakidou-Fotiadou

Year 4: Levi Omar

Year 5: Charlotte Davidson

Year 6: Oscar Ward

Author of the Month

Reception: Harry Bradley

Year 1: Maisie Johnson

Year 2: Amber McManus

Year 3: Damon Wright

Year 4: Kayaan Bunyan

Year 5: Skarlett Hillson

Year 6: Frazer Embleton



Reader of the Month

Reception: Theo Johnson

Year 1: Ayden Sinaj

Year 2: Harry Hubber

Year 3: Isabela Oluitan

Year 4: Georgia Ovington

Year 5: Lily Ovington

Year 6: Sophie Bladen



Mathematician of the Month

Reception: Amelia Young

Year 1: Isaac Gray

Year 2: Willow Renshaw

Year 3: Jessie Musgrove

Year 4: Elisha McHugh

Year 5: Katie Skelton

Year 6: Grace Hacker



Class Awards this week were presented to **Year 1** in Key Stage 1 and **Year 4** in Key Stage 2 for their general behaviour at playtime and lunchtime! Well done to you all, we are very proud of you!