



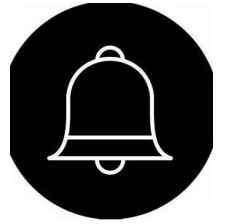
SACRISTON
ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

15th March 2024

School Meal Price Increase Notification

We have been informed by Durham County Council of an increase to the cost of school meals from **April 1st**. This is due to the rising cost of food and an additional rise in the National Minimum Wage. From **1st April 2024**, School Meals will be charged at **£2.81 per day**. If your child is in Reception to Year 2 (KS1), then school meals will continue to be free to them under the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme. Thank you.



Nursery Explore the Concept 'Time'

This week is science week! Nursery have been exploring the concept of 'time', the children enjoyed watching a video on how apples grow over time and grouping apples by colour, name and taste!

"This one is so juicy." - **Abigail**

"I like the Braeburn apple." - **Faith**

"This one is sour, I like them when they are sour." - **Laura**

"The green granny smith are the best." - **Cayde**



Science Week in Reception

This week Reception have looked at the life cycle of an apple tree and how apples grow in an orchard. We looked at the change of seasons and how this links with our 'Time' theme for Science Week. The children enjoyed tasting the different types of apples and then we recorded our data as a class.



Year 1 Jelly Experiment!

In Year 1 we focused on jelly and the question "How does fruit affect the time it takes for jelly to set?". The class made three types of jelly:

1. Normal jelly
2. Jelly with fresh pineapple pieces
3. Jelly with tinned pineapple pieces

The class made predictions about how long each jelly would set.

Lilly said: "I think the jelly with fruit will take longer to set"

Freddie said: "I think the pineapple won't set because its in big pieces - maybe it will if we chop it up!"

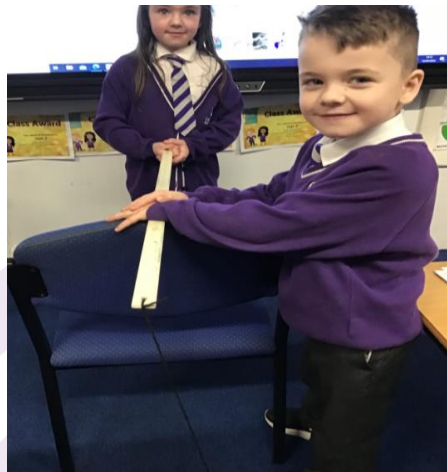
To test the jelly, Year 1 held the jelly over their head to see if it would fall out! Year 1 discovered that the jelly with no fruit set quickest, and jelly with fresh pineapple did not set!





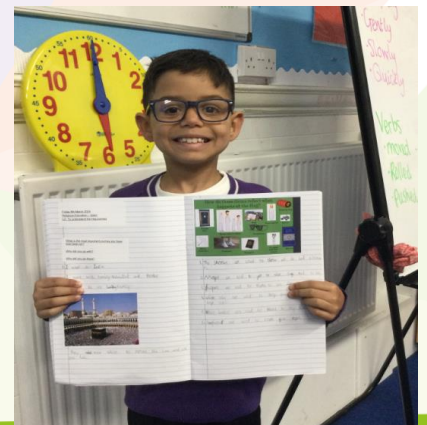
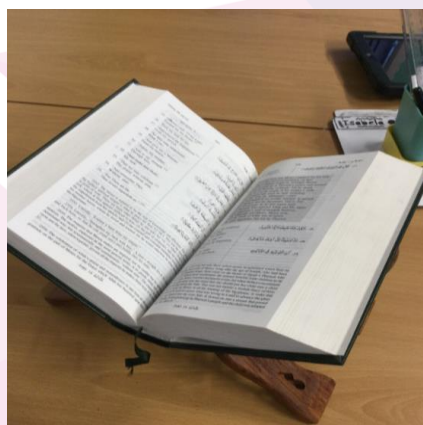
Year 2 Pendulum Experiment

As part of Science week, Year 2 have been conducting an experiment by making a pendulum. We recorded the amount of swings in a given time, and how this was affected by adding and reducing the weight and length of string. The children found that the pendulum moved side to side and slowed quicker when swinging at an angle.



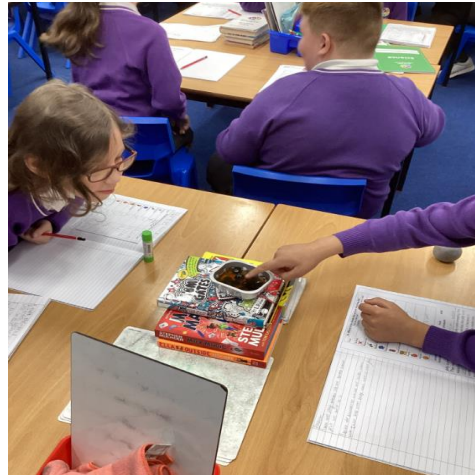
Year 3 Start their New Topic of Islam

This week year 3 have started their new topic of Islam in RE lesson. We had the chance to look at a prayer mat and a Qur'an. We had an insight into what it is like to take the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and what you would need if you were packing a bag to go there. Well done year 3.



Year 4 Become Scientists!

To celebrate Science Week, Year 4 became scientists and took part in an exciting experiment to see how long it would take jelly to set with different fruits added. We made predictions and wowed Miss Jackson with some excellent ideas! After making the jelly we timed how long it took each jelly to set and found that the tinned pineapple was the quickest! We were also shocked to discover that fresh pineapple stops the jelly from setting, and we linked this to our knowledge about changing states. Well done Year 4!



Year 5 Make their Own Pendulum Timers

This week, for Science Week, Year 5 made their very own pendulum timers. To do this, we used a highlighter pen, string and card. We began by timing how long it took the highlighter to stop swinging and then we added card to increase the weight to see what would happen. We found the more weight, the longer it took the pendulum to stop swinging.



Year 6 Learn the Concepts of Adaptation and Evolution!

Year 6 have had great fun during Science Week, taking part in an 'Active Adaptations' lesson. Children started by discussing what an 'adaption' was and watched some videos of Sir David Attenborough who explained it in different ways. Following this, we all designed a 'moth' which was meant to Camouflage into the classroom environment. The moths were then hunted by Mr Golding; we did such a good job that Mr Golding couldn't find them all!

After this, we started looking at how evolution is linked to adaptation. We discussed Darwin's theory of 'Survival of the Fittest' After discussing this, we played a game to demonstrate this. Everybody had to find two items in the classroom which could be used as their 'beak'. On each table (representing different islands) children had different food sources. They had to use their beak to 'eat' enough food in order to survive and produce their offspring.

It was a lot of fun and has really helped us understand the concepts of adaption and evolution.



Football!

This week, Sacriston kept the pressure on at the top of the table with a 1-0 win over Chevely Park thanks to an unfortunate own goal. The Purples have now won 4 of their 6 games and find themselves still in contention to win their league going into the final week next week.



The menu for week beginning 18th March 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
86.25%	91.23%	94.44%	98.08%	95%	91.25%	97%	78.95%

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

Monday 18th March

Tuesday 19th March

Thursday 21st March

Tuesday 26th March

Wednesday 27th March

Friday 29th March

Monday 16th April

Tuesday 16th April

Monday 22nd April

Thursday 2nd May

Friday 24th May

Wednesday 26th June

Thursday 27th June

Friday 28th June

Book Fair open after school 3pm – 4pm

Y5 Rugby Sports Trip

Book Fair open after school 3pm – 4pm

SEND Coffee Afternoon 2:15pm

Bunny Bingo + Easter Crafts (**Year 1/Year 2 - 9:15am**)

(**Year 5/Year 6 – 1pm**) (**Year 3/Year 4 - 2:15pm**)

Parent Consultations Face to Face

Early Years Stay and Play 10:30am

Parent Consultations Phone Call

SCHOOL CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY

SCHOOL CLOSED INSET DAY

Children return to school

Uniform Swap Shop 3:30pm

Reception vision tests

SCHOOL CLOSED INSET DAY

Y6 Residential

Y6 Residential

Y6 Residential

 **Parents** 
 **Evening** 



Weekly Awards

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

Nursery: Isla Fagan

Reception: Corey Ferguson

Year 1: Maisie Johnson

Year 2: Alfie Rispin

Year 3: Lola Harrison

Year 4: Evan Long

Year 5: Ellie Foster

Year 6: Sophie Stephenson

Class Awards this week were presented to **Reception** in Key Stage 1 and **Year 3** in Key Stage 2 for their general behaviour at playtime and lunchtime! Well done to you all, we are very proud of you!