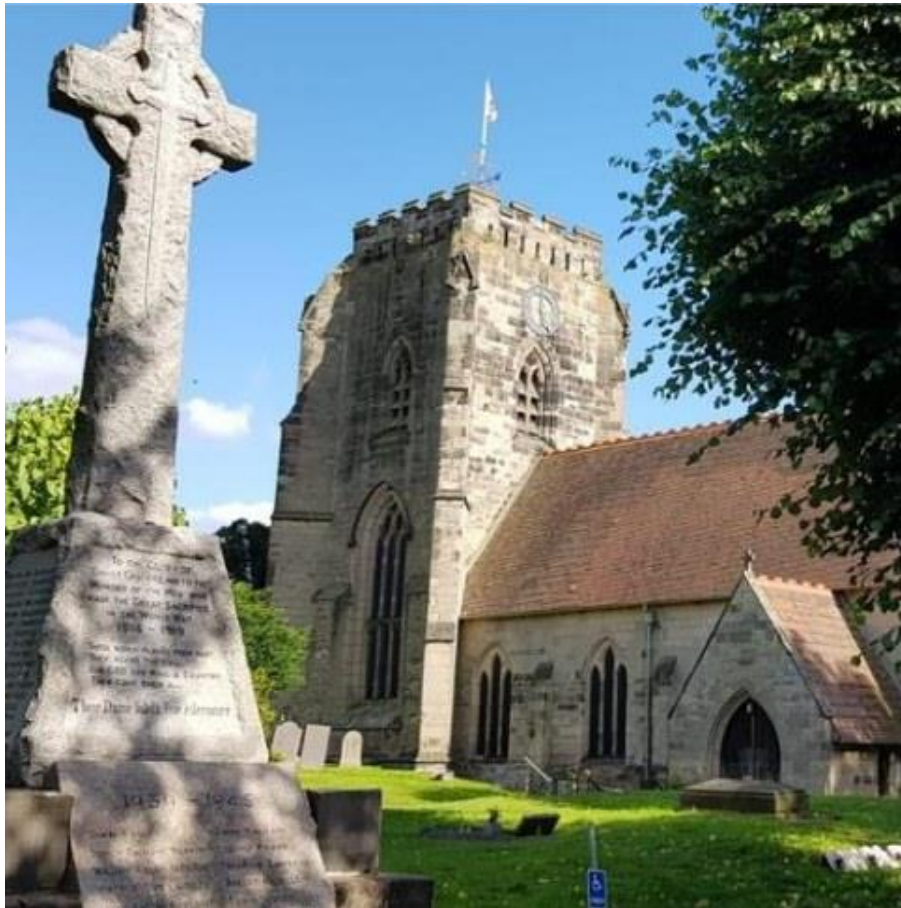




The Nethersole CofE Academy Friday
11th September 2026

Headteacher Welcome



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

A very warm welcome back to school as we begin another exciting academic year together. I hope that everyone has enjoyed a happy, restful summer break and has had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends.

It has been wonderful to see our children returning to school with smiles on their faces, eager to learn and reconnect with their classmates. The start of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement and possibility, and we are looking forward to the opportunities, experiences and achievements that lie ahead.

I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all of our new families joining our school community this year, especially our youngest children in Nursery and Reception. Starting school is a significant milestone, and we are delighted that you have chosen to become part of our school family. We understand that beginnings can bring a mixture of excitement and nervousness, and we are committed to ensuring that every child feels happy, safe and supported as they settle into school life.

At the heart of our school is a strong sense of community, where kindness, respect and ambition help every child to thrive. We look forward to working closely with you throughout the year to support your children's learning, wellbeing and personal development.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, thank you for your continued support. We are excited to share another year of learning, growth and success with you all.

Wishing everyone a fantastic start to the new academic year.

Warm Regards

Mrs S Goode

Dates for the Autumn Term 2026

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 1 September- INSET day- School closed to all pupils

Wednesday 2 September- INSET day- School closed to all pupils

Thursday 3 September- Children return to school

Tuesday 15 September- Service for Reception children and parents at Polesworth Abbey (9.15am)

Tuesday 22 September and Wednesday 23 September- School photos

Friday 25 September- Macmillan Bake Off and Cake Sale

Tuesday 29 September- Year 1 Parent workshop- Phonics (9.00am)

OCTOBER

Friday 2 October- Reception visit to Packington Farm

Tuesday 6 October- Year 1 and 2 visit to The Black Country Museum

Monday 6 October-Friday 9 October- EYFS Open mornings and afternoons for prospective parents (More details to follow) **Thursday 8 October**- Harvest Festival at Polesworth Abbey (Children only)

Tuesday 13 October- Year 5 and 6 visit to Coventry Transport Museum

Thursday 15 October- Year 3 and 4 Stone Age day in school

Tuesday 20 October- Reception Parent workshop- Phonics (9.00am)

Tuesday 20 October- Parents Evening

Wednesday 21 October- Parents Evening

Friday 23 October- Headteacher Awards (9.00am)

Friday 23 October- Children break up for half-term

NOVEMBER

Monday 2 November- INSET day (School closed to all pupils)

Tuesday 3 November- Children return to school

Tuesday 10 November- Year 3 Parent workshop- Reading fluency (9.00am)

Friday 13 November- Great Athletes afternoon

Friday 20 November- Children In Need

Tuesday 24 November- Year 2 Parent workshop- Reading fluency (9.00am)

Friday 27 November- INSET day (School closed to all pupils)

DECEMBER

Monday 7 December- Evening Carol service at Polesworth Abbey - All children and parents / carers.

Wednesday 9th-Friday 11 December- SEND Reviews

Wednesday 9 December- EYFS Nativity performance (9.15am)

Thursday 10 December- Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 14 December- Christmas production (KS1 parents and grandparents) 1.45pm

Tuesday 15 December- Christmas production (Year 3 and 4 parents) 1.45pm

Wednesday 16 December- Christmas production (Year 5 and 6 parents) 1.45pm

Thursday 17 December- Christmas Service at Polesworth Abbey (Children only)

Thursday 17 December- Christmas Dinner Thursday 17 December- Christmas disco

Friday 18 December- Children break up for Christmas

OPAL Playground



OPAL Play at Lunchtime

We are delighted to have launched our **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)** programme at lunchtime and it has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and engagement. The playground and school grounds has been buzzing with excitement as pupils explore the wide range of new activities, resources and opportunities available to them.

From creative and imaginative play to construction, role play, ball games and teamwork challenges, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Children have embraced the opportunity to make choices about how they spend their playtime, developing their creativity, communication skills, resilience and friendships along the way.

It has been fantastic to see so many happy, active and engaged children at lunchtime, and we are looking forward to continuing to develop our OPAL provision over the coming weeks. Thank you to our staff, pupils and families for supporting this exciting initiative.

Miss McManus







Early Adopter Free Breakfast Club

We are continuing to offer our 'FREE' Breakfast Club this term. We hope the children will join us for fresh bagels, crumpets, toast, fresh fruit and fruit juice every morning. We also hope to continue to enjoy spending time outside playing football, using the gym equipment and getting lots of fresh air!

The Early Adopter Free Breakfast Club -

What this means -

1. A free breakfast for all children if families want to access it.
2. 30 minutes of free childcare for all children if families want to access it.
3. Breakfast Club starts at 8.10am and runs until 8.40am Monday to Friday.
4. Booking sessions in advance so that we know how many children to expect. You can book for the whole half term or each week.

Our current Wraparound provision is still be available from 7.40am Monday to Friday, but families accessing this will only be charged for 30 minutes; the second 30 minutes will be free!

Please encourage your children to come along and join us for breakfast.

Booking is now open.

Class Updates - Carle and Donaldson



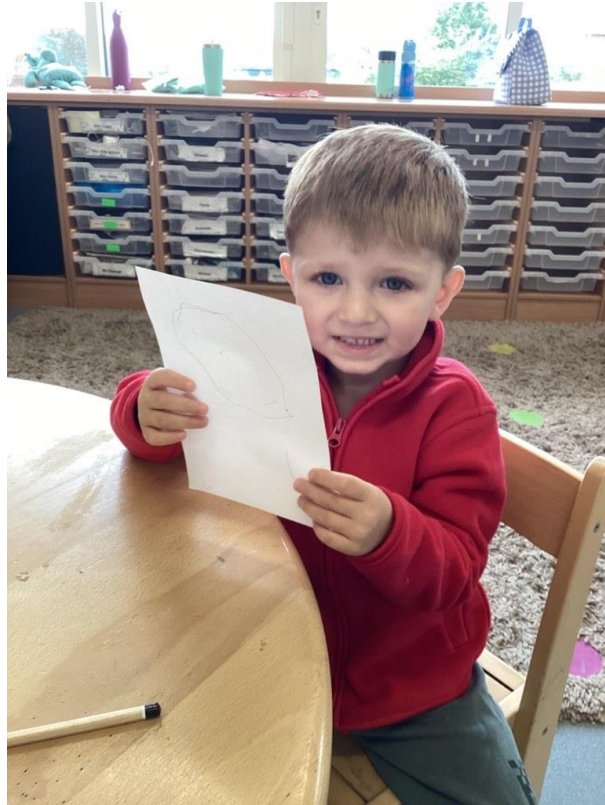
What a wonderful start to the year we've had! We've been so impressed by how quickly the children have settled into nursery. Over the last few days, the children have spent time getting to know their new learning environment and each other. They have enjoyed playing in the different areas of provision both inside and in the outdoor area. The children have drawn self-portraits and have painted pictures of their families. They have also been on walks around our school grounds, starting to look for early signs of autumn. Over the next few weeks, the children will be starting PE sessions, exploring our nature area and will be visiting Polesworth Library.

Well done Nursery! We are very proud of you all!

Mrs Satchell and the Nursery Team











Class Updates - Anning

We have had a lovely start to the year in Reception. The children have been working hard on learning our school routines and behaviour expectations. We have been exploring the areas in our classroom, focusing this week on our Role Play, Maths, Creative and Reading Corner. The children had their first visit to Forest School with Mrs Tweed where they went digging for worms! We have welcomed a new friend to Reception 'Coco', our class bear, who we had great fun making together. The children have read the story 'I am Brave' by Caryl Hart and thought about they have been brave and what being brave looks like. In our outdoor area the children have been enjoying getting messy in the mud kitchen and being creative using the large objects to build dens, gorilla enclosures and houses. They have been working on their balancing skills and being brave by using the large wooden resources for obstacle courses and more. I think we are going to have lots of fun this year!

Miss Millington







Class Updates - Bond

Bond Class have impressed us so much with how well they have settled into Year 1. They have embraced new routines and have enjoyed exploring the continuous provision opportunities available throughout the classroom.

We have begun our phonics sessions and reading groups this week, and the children are already showing lots of enthusiasm for their learning. In English, we have started our new class text, *That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown* by Cressida Cowell. The children have been making thoughtful predictions about the story and have written sentences to describe the characters.

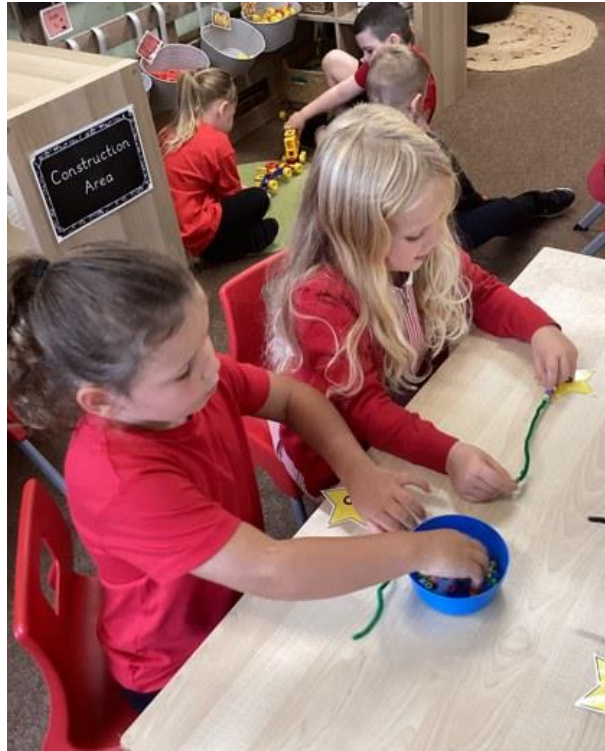
In Maths, we have been practising counting forwards and backwards to 10, counting groups of objects accurately, and using manipulatives and pictorial representations to support our understanding of number through songs and practical activities.

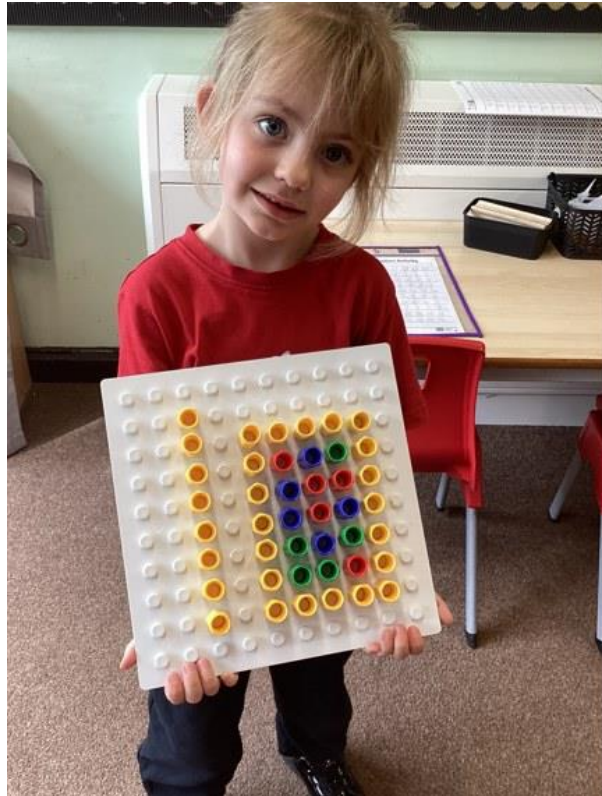
In Art, the children have been exploring primary and secondary colours. They particularly enjoyed experimenting with colour mixing and discovering how new colours can be created. In Science, we have been learning about the human life cycle and discussing how people change and grow throughout their lives. In History, the children have been learning how to use a timeline and are beginning to explore how schools have changed over time, comparing schools from the past with schools today.

We are incredibly proud of how positively the children have started the year. Well done Bond class, keep up the good work!

Mrs Tweed, Mrs Wallace and Mrs Craig









Class Updates - Milne

Milne Class have had a very busy and exciting first two weeks back at school! We began the term by learning all about our school value of Hope, discussing what hope means and how we can show it in our everyday lives.

In Maths, we have been using blocks to support our understanding of numbers from 0 to 100. The children have enjoyed building, counting and exploring numbers in a hands-on way, helping to strengthen their number knowledge and confidence.

We have also started our brand-new Mixed Media Art unit. The children have been exploring different materials, textures and techniques, and are already showing fantastic creativity and enthusiasm. We are looking forward to seeing their artistic skills develop further over the coming weeks.

Well done Milne Class for such a positive start to the new term! We can't wait to see what the rest of the half term will bring.

Miss Ennis





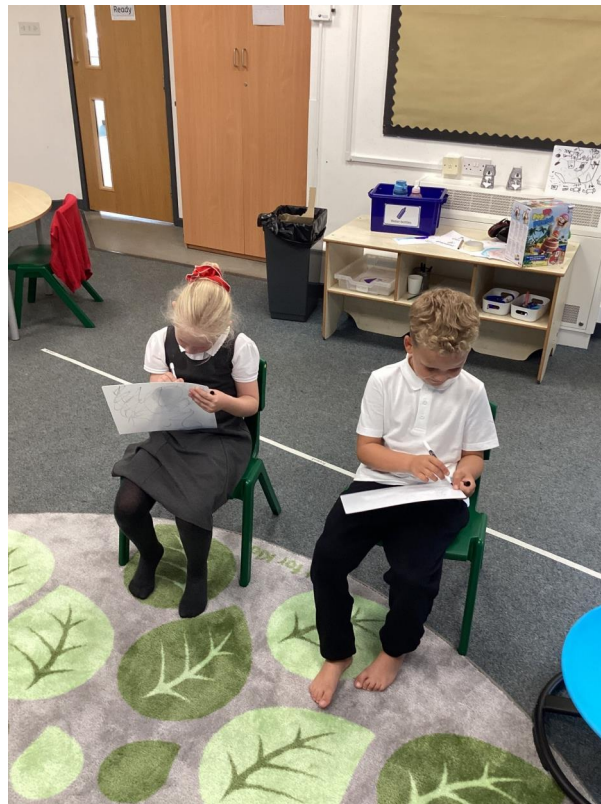
Class Updates - Simmonds

What a fantastic start we have had to Simmonds class this year! I must say I have been blown away with how well the children have settled and have done really well with listening. As you know, we have introduced a sticker chart system which so far, seems to be going well. The children are working hard to do three things to earn stickers: calming, communicating and listening. Most mornings, we complete a bucket session which we use to build attention and communication skills, hopefully you can see lots of photos of this on Tapestry.

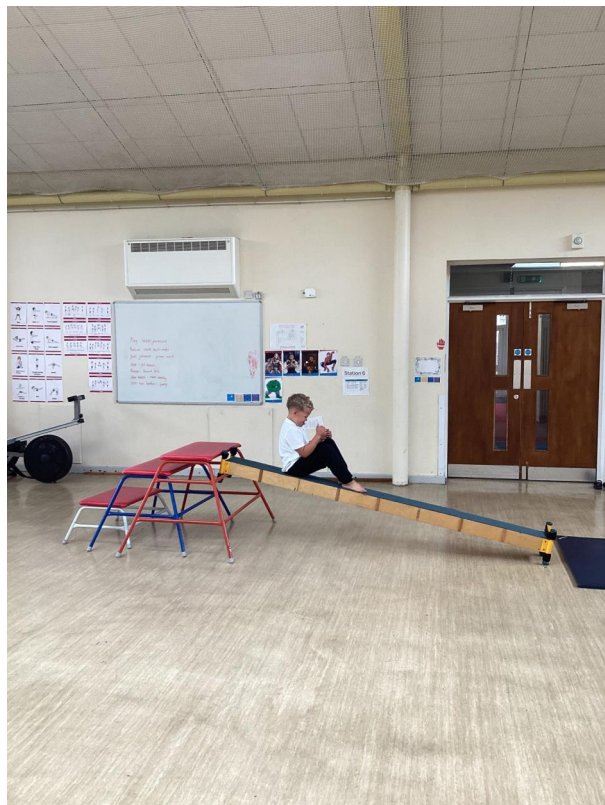
For our English, we are reading a story called Little Red, an alternative version of the Little Red Riding Hood story they already know. I think the ending surprised a few of them! In science, we have started our animals and humans module, and the children have worked hard to sort animals into their different classes, and using this information we then created a zoo, which we had visitors come to see! The children particularly enjoyed this. Our history topic is all about schools in the past, and what school would have been like. This week, we talked about key vocabulary, past, present and future, and we did some role play as to what a Victorian classroom might have been like. Keep your eyes peeled for the activity we complete with those shoe boxes you have kindly brought in for us... Finally, we have started PE this week, and this has been my personal highlight too. It was lovely to see how engaged they were and how much they enjoyed PE. I think we have a sporty bunch, which is music to my ears!

I look forward to seeing what the next few weeks bring!

Thanks – Miss Sinclair 😊









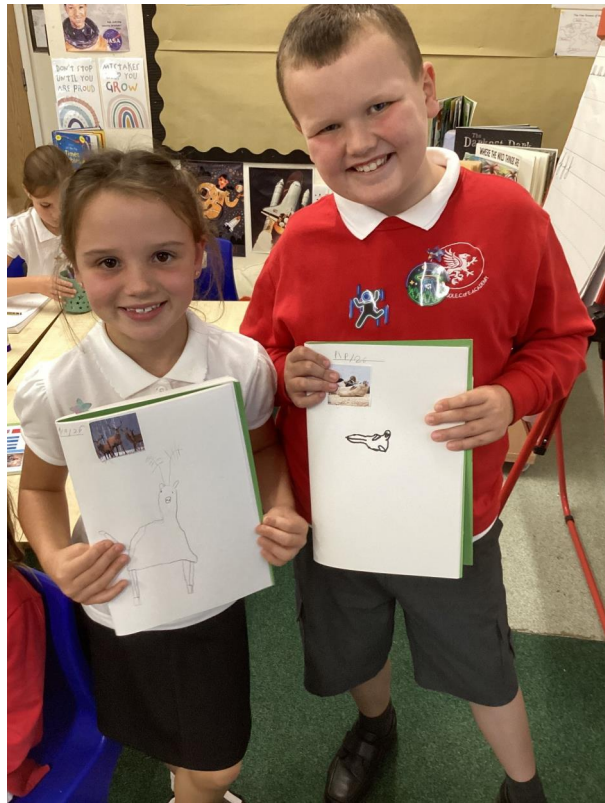
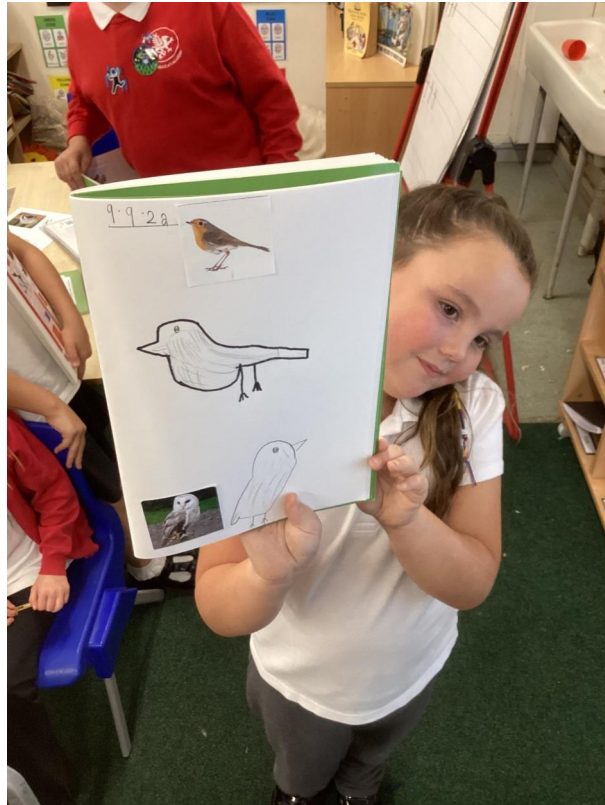


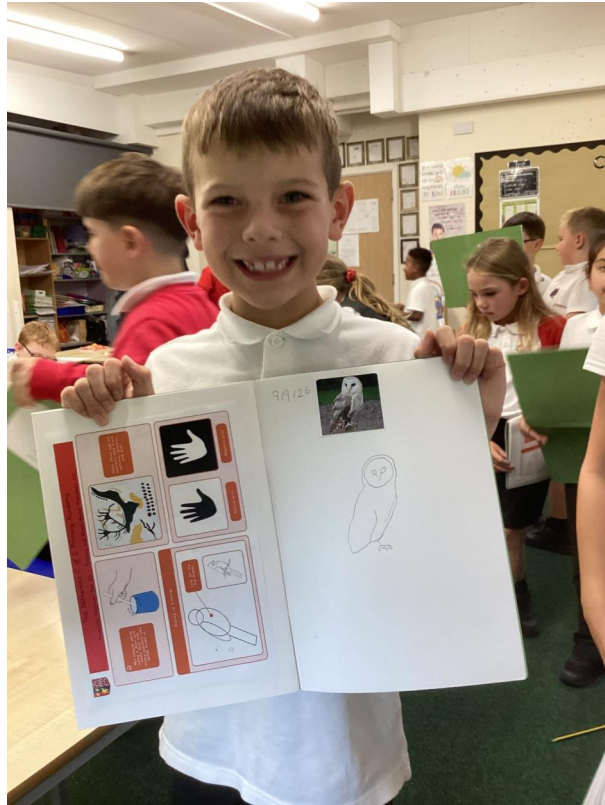


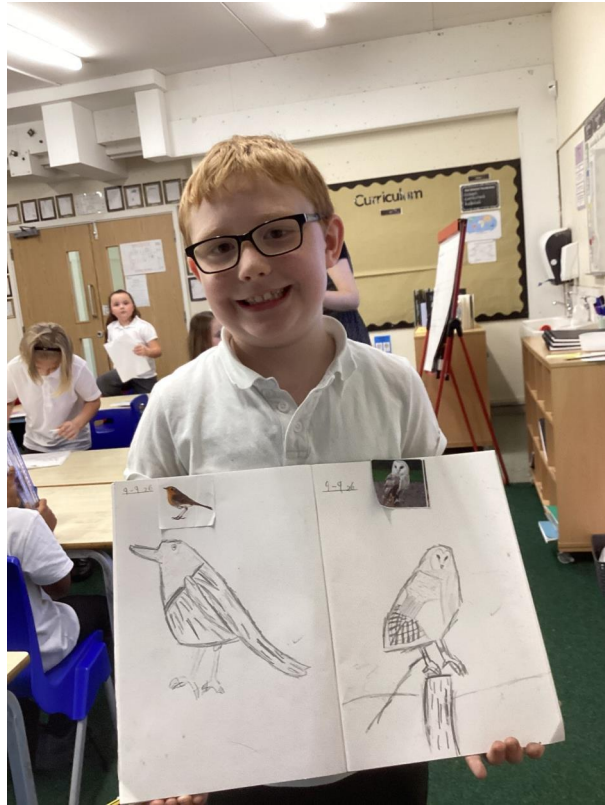
Class Updates - Jemison

What a fantastic start to the year in Jemison class! The children have all been getting used to the rules of routines and life in KS2 and have made a really good start to the year! In English, we have been exploring the story of 'Hansel and Gretel' and we visited forest school to gather some vocabulary to help us with our writing. We will be using this to write setting descriptions! In maths, we have been learning about addition and place value, investigating efficient methods of adding different amounts, including using tens frames and bar models. In History, we started our topic about the Stone Age and used timelines to try and find out when prehistoric man lived. We're looking forward to our workshop in school in a few weeks time! In Science we were learning about the oceans of the world and where they are found and in Art, we begun learning about stone Age art, including cave paintings and line drawings. We had a go at creating our own line drawings - Stone Age style! The children have all settled in well and we're looking forward to a fantastic year with them all!

Mrs Johnson







Attenborough

Attenborough class have had such a busy start to the year! Our value for this half term is Hope, we had such a lovely day reading our book 'Wisp' and completing some activities around it. The children really enjoyed making their clouds of hope!

This week, we have started our topics in all subjects. In English, we are reading the book 'Hansel and Gretel' by Antony Browne. We started our week by making a prediction from the front cover. We have also had a trip over to forest school to compare our forest to the forest in our book. Our job over the next few weeks is to write a setting description based on the forest floor and the cottage!

In maths, we have started our place value unit where we are using Base-10 to build 3-digit numbers and consider how many ones, tens and hundreds make up the number. We have also began looking at column addition. The children have really blown me away with their knowledge in maths!

In History, we have started our unit on the Stone Age! The children were so interested when thinking about what questions they would like to know about that period in time.

I have been so impressed with Attenborough Class and I am very excited to have so much fun with everyone throughout the year! Well done year 4!

Miss Bennett

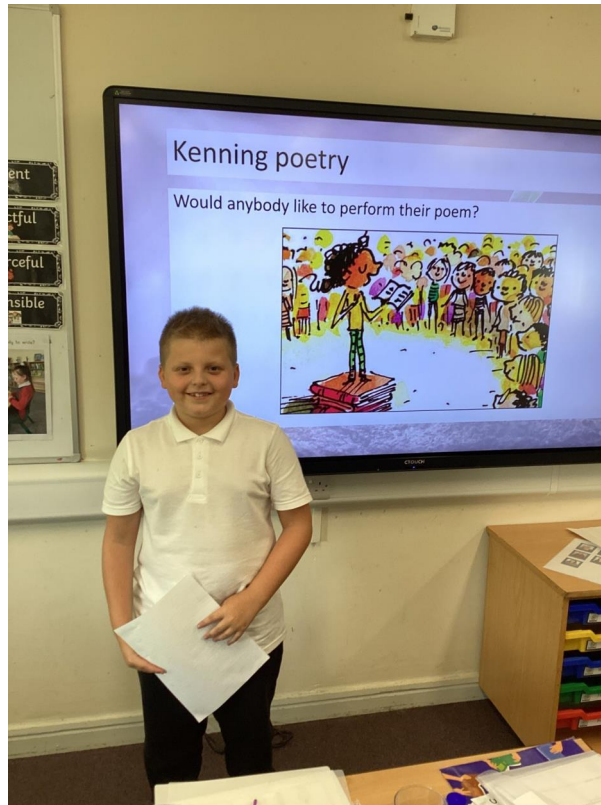




Benjamin

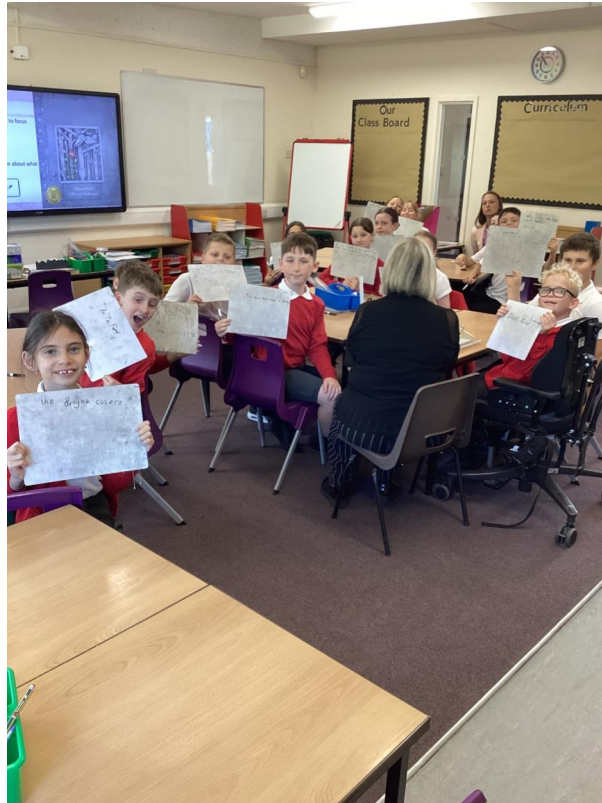
We have had a wonderful first week in Benjamin class and are already settling in. Class jobs and roles have been allocated, and daily routines are beginning to fall into place. Our first day back was focused on our school value of hope. We enjoyed exploring our focus text *The Tin Forest*, predicting what the book might be called based on the front cover alone and then writing some Kenning Poems inspired by the character in the story as well as creating a hope tree with all of our hopes on. We have enjoyed delving into our English and history units, discovering from a magic bag of clues that the theme is WW2. In science, we have started to learn about classification and had a lot of fun grouping animals in different ways before learning about Carl Linneaus and the standard system for classification. We are feeling very positive and excited for a really successful year ahead.

Mrs McShane





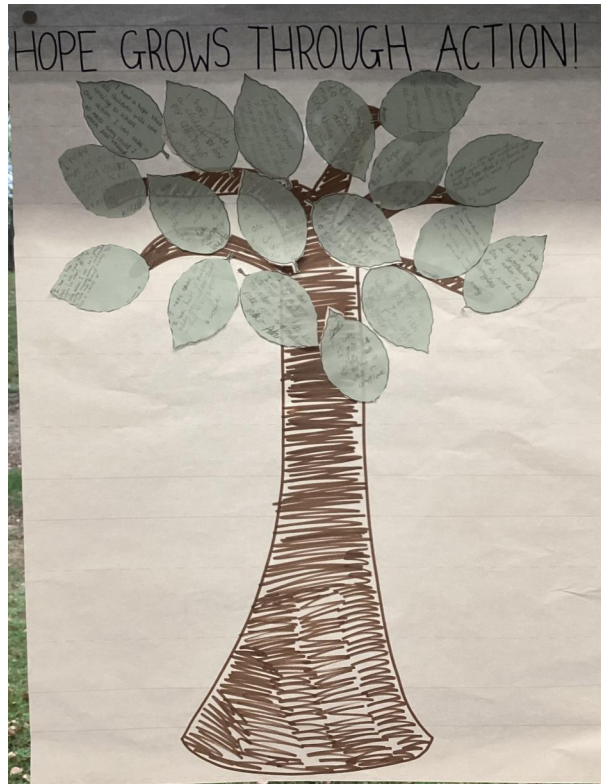




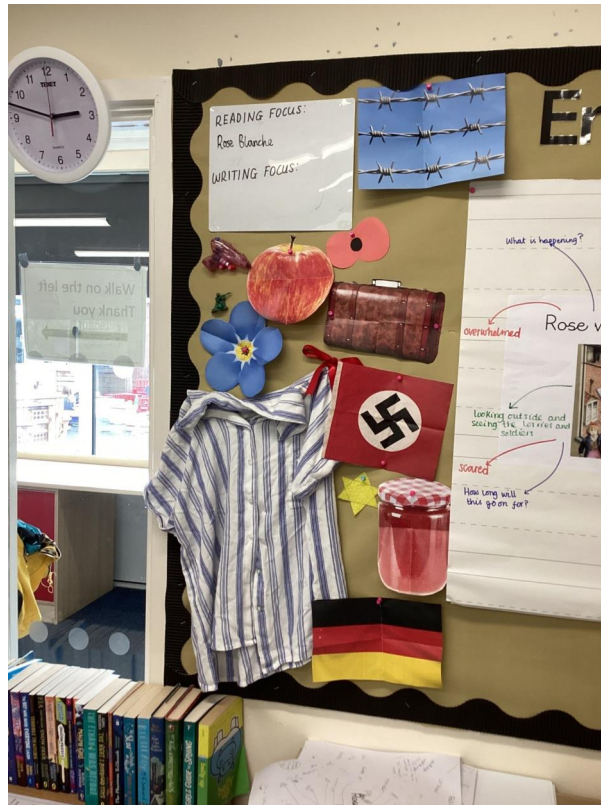
Zephaniah

We have had a great first couple of weeks in Zephaniah class! We have made our class charter, decided on our jobs and are really showing our school values. We started with our Values day where we looked at the value of hope. We made a fabulous 'hope tree' thinking about our individual hopes and what actions we can take to achieve them. We have also started new topics in all of our subjects. In Maths, we have been looking at place value and have started to look at tenths as fractions and decimals. In Reading, we have started reading 'Rose Blanche' which is about a young girl living in Germany during World War II. We have been really enjoying the story and making great links to our History topic, which is also World War II. In History, we have looked at the events after World War I that led up to the beginning of World War II. In Science, we have learnt about Carl Linnaeus and his method of classification. In RE, we have been discussing what the truth is and how we know if something is true. In Art, we have started looking at self-portraits and experimented with creating a poem portrait. Year 5 are settling in really well and working hard! Keep it up Zephaniah!

Miss Hale



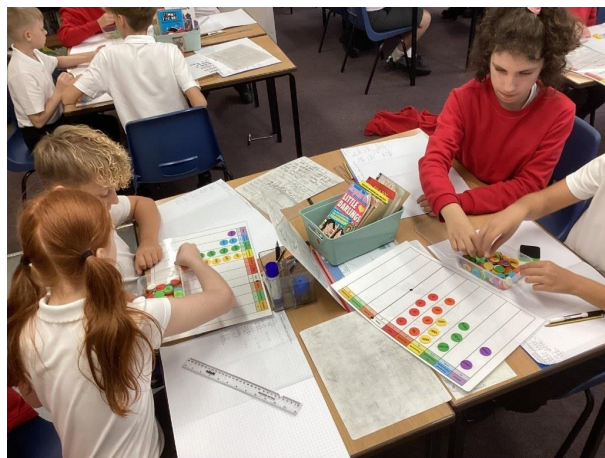
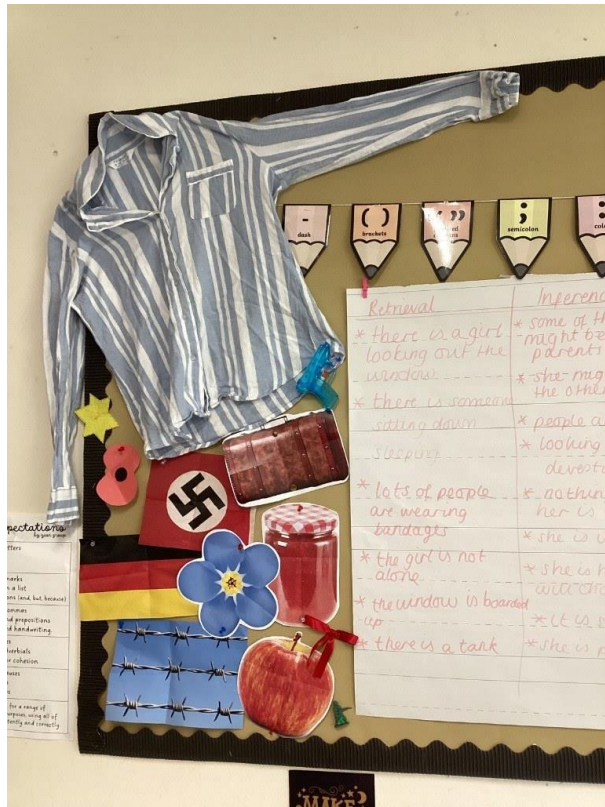


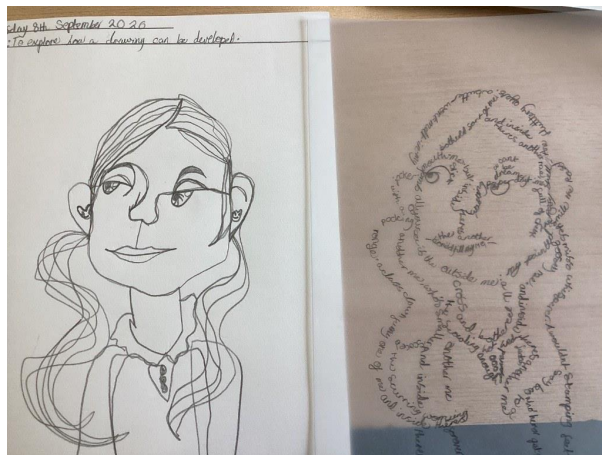
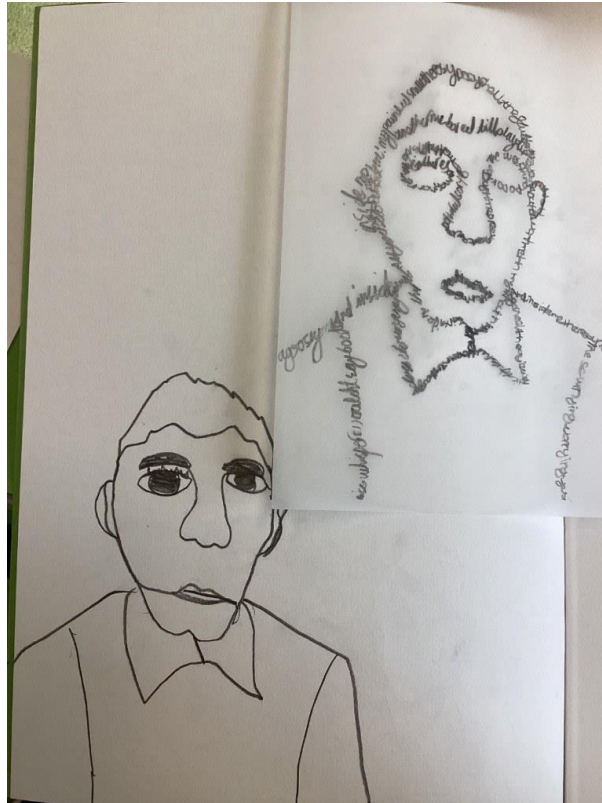


Rosen

Welcome back Rosen! It sounds like you all had a fantastic summer but we're now firmly back into the swing of things in Year 6. We began the new academic year with our Values Day, centred around the value of 'hope'. On this day, we read the book 'The Tin Forest' and considered the hopes we have for ourselves and our communities. We also thought of a real-life example of hope, in Greta Thunberg, and wrote Kenning poems about hopeful characters. Since then, we have been exploring numbers up to 10,000,000 in maths and have been absolutely loving our new book - Rose Blanche - in English. We are enjoying making new predictions every day and will use it to help us write a diary entry next week. It pairs really well with our history which is all about World War II, and in our first lesson, we learnt all about why the war began. In art, we have enjoyed creating line portraits (although they were quite challenging!) and in science, we've learnt about the classification system. There's lots of other exciting things happening in our classroom too! Well done Year 6, you have made a great start to the year and I'm looking forward to seeing where the year takes us!

Miss Smith





School Uniform and PE Uniform

PE Reminder

Please make sure children come prepared with the correct PE kit:

T-shirts: Red or white with or without the school badge (**no logos**)

Bottoms: Black shorts, joggers, or leggings (**no logos**)

Jackets: Plain black (**no logos**)

Safety Reminder

Earrings and necklaces must be removed before PE.

Hair should be tied up securely.

As the winter months approach, we'll continue to get outside as much as possible. To keep warm and comfortable, children may also bring: rain coats / gloves.

Children may want to bring a change of shoes and socks too.

Thank you for your support with this.

Miss McManus.

School Council - Attendance, Punctuality and Absence

As we continue this half term, we would like to take a moment to emphasise the importance of regular and consistent school attendance. Research shows a clear link between good attendance and strong progress at school; children who attend every day are more able to keep up with their learning, build confidence, develop friendships, and make the most of the opportunities school offers.

To help encourage excellent attendance—and to celebrate the children for their efforts—we are excited to introduce **two weekly attendance rewards**:



The Nethersole Attendance Bear

Each week during our Shine Worship, the class with the highest attendance will be awarded **the Nethersole Attendance Bear**. The bear will spend the week in their classroom as a symbol of the children's commitment to being in school and ready to learn. We hope this friendly competition creates a sense of pride and teamwork across all classes.

Weekly 100% Attendance Raffle Tickets

We recognise that achieving 100% attendance across a whole half term can be challenging, especially when children may occasionally be unwell. To make our attendance rewards fair and achievable for everyone, **every child who attends school 100% in a given week will receive a raffle ticket**.

At the end of the half term, we will draw a selection of tickets from the jar and award prizes to the lucky winners.

This means **every week is a fresh opportunity**, and all children have the chance to succeed and be recognised.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. By working together to promote good attendance, we can ensure every child has the best possible start to their learning this year.