

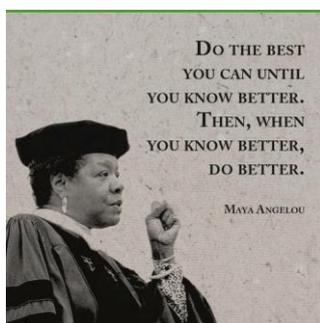


Derwentwater Primary School | Friday 8th October 2021

Message from Mrs Gardner

All schools will have an extra day's holiday due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The government changed the amount of school days from 190 to 189. The extra bank holiday is during the summer half term so schools have been given permission to close on another day of their choice throughout the academic year. We have considered when it will be the least disruptive and have decided to add it to the end of the long autumn term. This means that **school will finish on Thursday 16th of December at 2pm instead of Friday 17th December**. School will plan activities and celebrations around the summer half term break to make the Jubilee a memorable occasion.

School is starting to return to normal as most Covid-19 measures have lifted. We are looking forward to having Parents' Evening in person again next week. However, we are mindful that Covid cases are rising in the area and we ask for families to continue to take lateral flow tests and PCR tests so we can reduce the risk of spreading the virus; particularly when asymptomatic.



It is wonderful to see how Black History Month is being recognised and celebrated across the school this week. We strive to ensure our curriculum includes the contributions of black people from our past and present all year round and not just for the month of October but there is still more work to be done. We hope you will see this reflected in the newsletter and your children's learning throughout the year. Our Black History Month poster competition is back! Children are invited to create a poster of an inspirational black person of their choice. The deadline is Friday 22nd October and the year group winners will be announced after half term. Good luck to all entries, I am really looking forward to seeing the creativity and choices of our children once more.

Year 1

We have had such an exciting week in year 1. We spent some time in the edible garden digging up the soil and then planting some carrot seeds and some kale seeds which we are really looking forward to growing. Lots of worms were found too which was probably the most fun part!



We also had a wonderful time at our poetry cafe on Thursday. It was amazing to see children really stepping up in their confidence and speaking in front of the class. The poems were amazing, especially the ones the children had written themselves- well done to everyone who took part and to the parents who helped their children practice!

Year 2

To mark the beginning of Black History Month, children in Year 2 listened to a story about Mae Jameson who dreamed of going into space when she was a child. There were no female astronauts and her parents dared her to dream. She was good at dancing but chose to study advanced engineering before deciding to train to be an astronaut. She believed that throughout her life, she had to do the best job that she could. We also celebrated National Poetry day on Thursday 7th. Throughout the week, the children have been learning poems as well as writing their own compositions. We celebrated the event by having a Poetry Cafe where the children dressed up and listened to each other reciting poems feasting on their snacks. Thank you to all our parents and carers for helping the children with reading, composing and learning their poems. We all had so much fun!



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Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have been really focused and working hard throughout all of our subjects. In English this week, we have been learning a lot about grammar and making sure that we know everything that we need to know after completing our hot writes last week. On Monday we made subordinate conjunction fans which was fun and helpful. We then attached these to our books so that we can refer back to them if we want to extend our sentences and make them more interesting.

Here is an image of Dalila's:



This month is also Black History month so throughout the course of this week and our remaining time in school up until half term we will be doing lots of different things to be able to take part in this. For example, on each floor in the school we have a spare classroom which we will be naming after influential black people. As a year group, we respect and understand how important equality is and also the significance of black individuals in our lives. What a great week in year 3!

Year 4

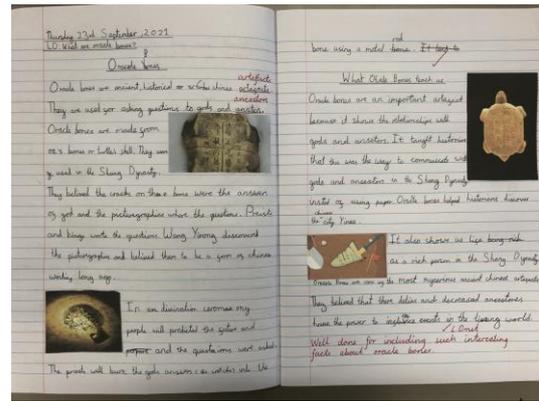
Year 4 began their new science unit learning about how humans digest food. In our first lesson we explored the different parts of the digestive system and the children tested their knowledge by choosing where each body part would go on our life size drawing of the body! We then learnt the names of each part of the digestive system. We challenged the students to find out what each part does before next week's lesson!



Year 4 would really appreciate any donations of wool, yarn, ribbon or material for their upcoming weaving project.

Year 5

Year 5 has been working really hard on the unit of work 'Dynamic Dynasties'. This week, the focus has been on oracle bones. Students completed research, note taking and summarised their findings in paragraphs.



Year 6

This week our Year 6 students became 'mini teachers'. As part of our 'Frozen Kingdoms' project we explored Polar landscapes. Each student became an expert on a specific landscape feature. These included icebergs, glaciers, ice fields, mountains, boreal forest and the tundra. Students then planned lessons in groups and taught the class about their landscape features. Students displayed excellent cooperation and enthusiasm when planning and teaching. The interactive quizzes at the end were great fun!



Give this one a go...what percentage of the earth is covered in Boreal forest?

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Assembly

To mark the beginning of Black History Month students heard about Allison Bennison who was a young woman from Jamaica. She travelled to the UK during post-war Britain. She trained as a nurse for 10 years and was a role model in her local community. During the month of Black History, students are encouraged to research the life and experiences of a black person. These people may include well-known celebrities, or family friends and relatives.



Harvest Assembly

This week, teachers shared a special Harvest virtual assembly with their children. It was delivered by Rev Nick Jones. In his assembly, he reminded us that lots of people are involved in getting our food to us. Harvest is a time to say thank you to all the farmers, fishermen and lorry drivers for supplying and delivering food in a food chain. In St Mary's church, parishioners sing songs of thanksgiving and like us, they collect food to share with the volunteers at Acton Homeless Concern. He encouraged the children to take a little time, pause and think.



Maths

Congratulations to 4 Maple who had, by far, the highest engagement on Times Table Rockstar's this week. Knowing the times tables (and their associated division facts) supports mathematical learning and understanding and those children who have a strong grasp of them tend to be more self-assured when learning new concepts. If your child does not yet have their username and login, please ask the class teacher for the details.

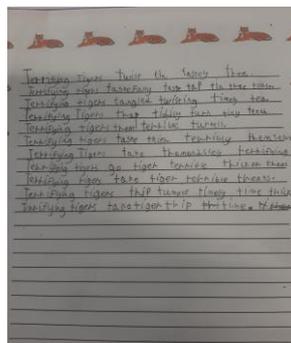


9	16
25	43

Odd on out or which one does not belong, is another reasoning style question that is used at Derwentwater to encourage mathematical talk. Can you spot which number does not belong here?

Can you find a reason for each number to be the odd one out? Have a go with your child.

Writing



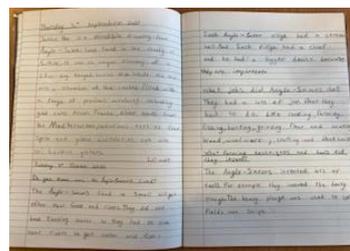
KS1 Writer of the Week

Well done Rose from 2 Opal for writing an amazing alliterative poem called 'What do Terrible Tigers do?'. She effectively used powerful and varied verbs for impact and adverbs. Rose presented her work neatly paying attention to the shape, size and position of her letters on, below and above the line.

KS2 Writer of the Week

Congratulations to Remas from 4 Maple for writing an incredible paragraph about Anglo-Saxon life as part of their non-chronological report. We were particularly impressed by the technical vocabulary Remas used and how she used pronouns to avoid repetition and make her writing both informative and engaging - well done!

Reading



This week we had our first meeting with our Year 6 librarians. We discussed how they will be responsible for helping to make the library an inviting place to read, keeping the library organised and supporting younger students with their reading.

The librarians got off to a great start by reading with some of our Year 1 students and helping order the books in the library. Thank you to all of our librarians and we look forward to seeing all you achieve this year to make the library a brilliant place to be!



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Uniform



You can order uniform online to be delivered to the school office free of charge or delivered to your home for a standard postage fee.

Website: www.schoolbellsuniforms.co.uk

Contact Number: 0208 577 6656

School Dinners

If you think your child might be eligible for free school meals, please get in touch.

Please see previous emails for:

- Lunch menu
- How to pay guide (Years 3-6)

Website: [Feeding Hungry Minds: Home](#)

Contact number: 01924 792334

Support email: feedinghungryminds@ukissworld.com

Laptop Return



Most laptops have been returned. If you still have a school laptop at home, can you please return it as soon as possible. The laptops will be put to good use at school and will be available for remote learning when necessary.

Counselling support The Space



Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet with Helen for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Tuesdays 9 - 10am.

All meetings with adults will currently take place online or over the phone due to COVID19. Call, text or email Helen on 07429 654584 or email hthorp4.307@lgflmail.org.uk

INCLUSION

Ealing Speech and Language Therapy

Over 5's Parent Workshops

Are you a parent of a primary school-aged child looking for practical advice?

We are running a workshop on:

Understanding behaviours and managing emotions: How can I help my child?

Thursday 14th October

1-2pm

Via Zoom



On this workshop you will learn:

- ✓ What is my child's challenging behaviour telling me?
- ✓ Why understanding our own and others' emotions can be tricky
- ✓ Practical ways to help children understand and express how they feel
- ✓ Strategies to help manage emotions

PARENTS: to book a **FREE** place:

Email wlm-tr.situuniversalservices@nhs.net with your name and the name of the workshop

or

Call [07512 716 478](tel:07512716478) between 1-4pm on Monday-Friday

(Please ask to speak to the Universal team about workshop bookings)

Our training is free and accessible **via zoom** and can be accessed from the comfort of your own home!

Childline

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Childline are there for day and all night. You can talk to them about anything. No problem is too big or too small.



you all can talk No small.

Covid Test Site

Michael Flanders

Church Lane

Acton, W3 8PP

7 days a week

8am-8pm

Call 119 to book a test if you have symptoms.

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Dates for your diary

2021 to 2022

AUTUMN 1

Monday 6th September to Friday 22nd October

HALF TERM Monday 25th to Friday 29th October

AUTUMN 2

Tuesday 2nd November to Thursday 16th December
(school closes at 2pm)

SPRING 1

Wednesday 5th January to Friday 11th February

HALF TERM Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February

SPRING 2

Monday 21st February to Friday 1st April (school closes at 2pm)

SUMMER 1

Tuesday 19th April to Friday 27th MAY

HALF TERM Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

SUMMER 2

Monday 6th June to Friday 22nd July (school closes at 2pm)

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