



Waverley School
Learning through diversity

PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

December 2025



HUMANITY

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5/1/26: Start of Spring 1 (Teacher Training Day)
6/1/26: Pupils return to school
16/1/26: Year 2 pupils visiting Eco Park
20/1/26: Year 5 & 6 Girls football tournament
23/1/26: EYFS pupils visiting Eco Park
23/1/26: Year 6 pupils visiting Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre
2/2/26: BCM Assembly for Years 1, 2 and 3
2/2/26: BCM Assembly for Years 4, 5 and 6
3/2/26: Mixed football Tournament (Premier league primary stars)
6/2/26: NSPCC Number Day
6/2/26: Year 1 visiting Think Tank
10/2/26: Safer Internet Day
13/2/26: Nirvana Themed Day (End of Spring 1 half term)
23/2/26: All pupils in school (Spring 2 half term)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reflect on this term, it has been wonderful to see our pupils engaged in such a rich variety of activities and experiences. Our Resource Base children had an inspiring visit to the Midlands Art Centre, while our Year 5 travelled back in time with an exciting visit to Warwick Castle. Year 6 pupils explored the legal system at the National Justice Museum and performed a case trial in a Victorian courtroom! More recently, the sound of jingling bells filled Waverley as Santa's sleigh and his reindeers visited our pupils, the magic of Christmas truly came alive. The festivities have not yet ended as we have more to come this week with our parent Bring a Dish Party, Christmas parties, lunch and Jumper Day!

It is at this time of the year, we are reminded of the importance of kindness, generosity, and community, values that shine brightly in our school every day. Thank you for your continued support throughout this term; it has been a pleasure to see our pupils grow and achieve so much.

On behalf of all the staff, we wish you and your families a joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **6 January 2026** for another exciting term.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Dosanjh
Principal

Ms U Malik
Vice Principal



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ATTENDANCE

RB	80.75%
R1	90.36%
R2	91.34%
1A	92.08%
1B	94.33%
1C	94.72%
2A	94.71%
2B	91.21%
2C	93.69%
3A	94.56%
3B	90.80%
3C	96.30%
4A	93.88%
4B	93.86%
4C	92.93%
5A	90.75%
5B	92.91%
5C	93.53%
6A	93.93%
6B	94.60%
6C	92.54%

Subject to change before the end of half-term



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance Update

Our attendance for the year to date is 92.92%



Every Minute Matters!

Don't forget being on time is just as important! If you miss 15 minutes every day for one week you have lost over an hour of learning!

Punctuality—Be in School, Be on Time

At Waverley, we monitor punctuality as well as attendance. The law treats some persistent absence in the same way as irregular attendance and parents may be prosecuted by the Local Authority if late arrival is not resolved.

The school gates open at 8.25am. Please make sure your child is at school on time, so that they do not miss out on learning time.

Poor punctuality can lead to:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day



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Reindeer Magic and Festive Cheer

Waverley Primary was transformed into a festive Winter Wonderland, creating unforgettable memories for our pupils. The day was filled with joy and excitement as Mr and Mrs Claus, accompanied by cheerful elves, welcomed the pupils seated beside a beautifully decorated Christmas tree. The primary choir added to the festive atmosphere with traditional carols, while a gentle fall of artificial snow made the scene truly enchanting.

One of the most special moments was meeting two real reindeer! Pupils were thrilled to see these magnificent animals up close and even had the chance to give them a gentle pat. Every child received a 'Christmas Present' lovingly handed out by Santa on behalf of Waverley School, and captured the moment with a photograph alongside Mr and Mrs Claus.

"The children were absolutely amazed! Seeing their faces light up when they met the reindeer and Santa was priceless. It truly brought the magic of Christmas to life." - Year 2 Teacher

"I truly had an amazing day; thank you for such thoughtful present for staff and pupils." - Year 3 Teacher

"It was such a joyful day. The pupils couldn't stop talking about the reindeer – it's something they'll remember forever." - Year 4 Teacher

"The whole event was magical from start to finish. The choir singing carols, the snow, and the smiles on every child's face made it unforgettable." - Lunch Supervisor

"It was once in a life time opportunity to get this experience in school. It felt magical!" - LB Y6

"I loved meeting Santa – he gave me a present and it made me so happy!" – FR Y2

"It felt like Christmas in a fairy tale. I didn't want the day to end!" – SA Y5

"The reindeers were amazing! I have never seen real ones before." – Majority of primary pupils

The joy, wonder, amazement and festive spirit shared throughout the day made this event an extraordinary experience for everyone involved. It is sure to remain in the hearts of our pupils for many years to come.



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Waverley Footballers in Progress!

Our Primary pupils had the incredible opportunity to be mascots at the UEFA Europa League match between Aston Villa and Young Boys. An unforgettable experience and memories they'll cherish for a lifetime.

Opportunities like these not only create memories but also inspire our young people to dream big! We are proud of how confidently they represented our school on such a global stage. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this possible. It's experiences like these that strengthen our commitment to providing enriching opportunities beyond the classroom.

What a proud moment!



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Resource Base Team

Miss Pearcey, Mrs Kulsum, Miss Ali, Miss Khan, Miss Begum, Miss Hussain and Ms Kausar

In English, the pupils focused on the traditional tales 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Little Red Riding Hood.' The pupils retold the stories using sensory play activities, such as using puppets to act out scenes and prepared different size bowls of porridge for the three bears. The pupils demonstrated that they understood the events in the story by sequencing pictures. They wrote sentences to go with the pictures, using colourful semantics to support their writing. Colourful semantics is an effective speech and language therapy approach that helps children develop sentence structure, vocabulary and understanding of language by using colour coded visual cues. The pupils also developed their understanding of non fiction texts by writing and following instructions to make porridge. A 'wow' moment in English was when H.M used colourful semantic independently to write some sentences. Excellent work Resource Base Team!



This term, our focus topic was 'Traditional Tales.' The pupils took part in a range of practical, hands on activities such as making bowls for the three bears from salt dough and investigating which material would be best to make a waterproof coat for Little Red Riding Hood. The pupils also developed their understanding of maps by making a map of Red Riding Hood's route to visit Grandma. They enjoyed a visit a theatre at the Midlands Art Centre to watch a performance of 'The Owl Who Came For Christmas.' 'Keep up the fantastic work Resource Base!

This half term, pupils continued to develop understanding of number and place value to enable them to add and subtract numbers and to reinforce their understanding of the terms 'more' or 'less.' Some pupils have consolidated their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes, including naming them as well as counting the number of faces and vertices. The pupils explored patterns and sequences; starting with simple patterns using two colours and developing this to include more complex patterns. Some of our pupils were further challenged to complete activities where they ordered objects in size order.

'Wow' moments in Maths included S.Z naming several 3D shapes independently and M.M ordered a collection of circles in size order. Proud of our pupils!



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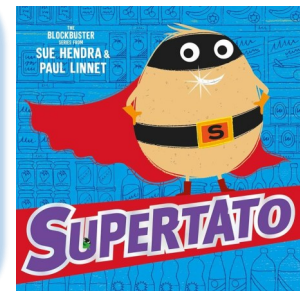
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Reception

Mrs M Akhtar, Ms Santos (Year Group Leader), Ms Bashir and Mrs Azid

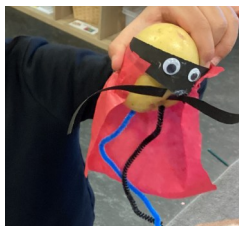
This half term, pupils have been delving into the exciting world of Supertato, a story all about a brave superhero who saves the day from a mischievous Evil Pea. They have been re-telling the story in their own words and exploring new vocabulary like *rescue* and *sneaky*. Pupils have also been putting their creativity to the test by designing their own Supertato's as well as creating their won SuperCarrot and SuperBroccoli! To end the story, the pupils have used their phonics skills to write speech bubbles, labelled Heros and created posters for the Evil Pea.



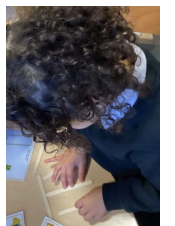
EYFS have been working hard to develop their early number skills by diving into numbers 4 and 5. Through play, hands-on activities and plenty of discussion, pupils have been learning not just how to count these numbers, but how they are made up. Pupils have used natural objects and 5's frames to investigate different ways to make the numbers 4 and 5, otherwise known as number bonds. They could subitise numbers up to 5.

Super Me!

Pupils have been exploring what it means to keep our bodies healthy. They have engaged in thoughtful discussions about what is considered healthy and how exercise, brushing our teeth, and getting enough sleep are equally important. We also talked about the importance of protecting eyes from the screens. To conclude our *Super Me* topic on a delicious note, the children took part in a fruit-tasting session. They used their senses and thoroughly enjoyed smelling, touching, and sampling a colourful variety of fruits.



Our Artist of the half term was Guiseppe Arcimboldo. The pupils have had great fun looking at how the artist used fruit and vegetables to create portraits and have given it a go themselves!



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Year 1 Team

Ms Mohamed, Mrs Akhtar, Miss Bibby (Year Group Leader), Mrs Akhtar and Miss Underhill

This half term has been a wonderful blend of learning, creativity, and discovery. Year 1 have enjoyed hands-on investigations, contributed in assemblies, visited the post office and shown promising progress in their first Phonics Screening Check practise. Fully immersed in the learning environment, our Year 1 pupils are thriving academically and continue to impress us with their curiosity and determination!



In Design Technology, pupils have learned all about healthy eating. They explored different fruits, talking about their origins, textures and tastes. They practised using a variety of cutting techniques such as knives, peelers and graters to prepare a fruit salad. In Science, they have been observing the season and ways to measure wind, temperature, and rain. These scientists investigated seasonal changes and created a seasonal poster to showcase the learning.

Year 1 have enjoyed creating character descriptions for the story of Rama and Sita in English; using a wide range of adjectives to make their writing vivid and engaging. They have also consolidated their understanding of capital letters and full stops. More recently, the children have been learning how to write letters; linking their work to Christmas and religious traditions.



From posting their own cards at the local post office to writing a persuasive letter to Santa on behalf of the class, they have shown creativity, thoughtfulness, and increasing independence in their writing.

Our mathematicians have been on a journey this term exploring numbers 8, 9, and 10. Using hands-on resources, they have mastered addition and subtraction facts while discovering how numbers can be split, combined, and rearranged. With the help of Part-Part-Whole model, bar model, and number line, pupils have unlocked powerful strategies to solve problems and further deepen their number sense. Here are some reflections from our young mathematicians themselves:

"I liked using the cubes because I could see the numbers getting bigger when I added more." A.S "Counting leaves was fun! It made me think about numbers outside the classroom." – AH "I like using counters because I can move them and check my answers." IR

Year 1
Autumn Term Bundle
-Place Value (Within 10)
-Addition and Subtraction (Within 10)
-Shape



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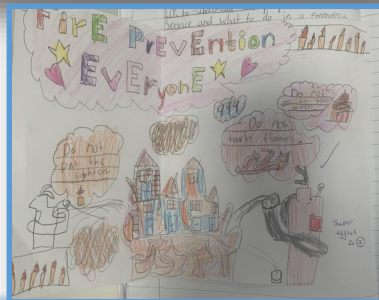
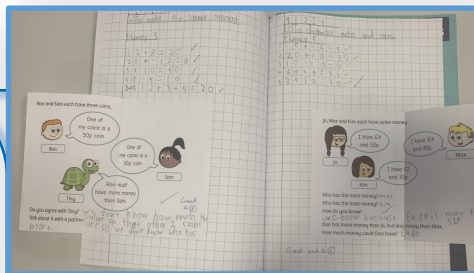
RESPECT

Year 2 Team

Ms Akhtar, Dr Bodhanker (Director of Learning), Ms Saddique (Year Group Leader), Mrs Desai and Mrs S Akhtar

This half term has been full of exciting opportunities for Year 2! The pupils enjoyed a Great Fire of London workshop, which brought history to life and deepened their understanding of this significant tragic event. In science, they explored the fire and smoke safety by identifying the dangers of carbon monoxide and had lots of fun making slime witnessing the change in state of matter, combining learning with hands-on experiments. They also focused on writing historical narratives, developing their storytelling skills, and explored the beauty of poetry, expressing ideas creatively. In mathematics, they learnt about money, building practical skills for everyday life, and explored shape, enhancing their understanding of geometry. It has been a fantastic half term filled with curiosity, creativity, and learning!

In Mathematics, the pupils deepened their understanding about 2D and 3D shapes. They explored the vertices and also looked at deepening their understanding of money. They recognised coins and made amounts in different ways. The pupils calculated different amounts of money and change with money. Furthermore, they continued to explore reasoning and problem solving questions linked to money and shape.



Pupils explored the Great Fire of London to understand how the past has shaped the present. Through learning about key figures such as Thomas Farriner and comparing fire safety in 1666 with today's modern fire brigade, they developed a deeper awareness of historical change and its impact on everyday life. To enrich this learning, they took part in hands-on workshops where they wrote with quills, engaged in role-play, and searched for artefacts linked to the event, helping them build historical enquiry skills. In science, the pupils investigated solids, liquids, and gases, exploring how materials change through heating and cooling and recognising the difference between reversible and irreversible changes, such as with melting chocolate. In DT, they applied their understanding creatively by experimenting with colour, texture, shadows, and silhouettes to design and construct a 3D model, allowing them to bring together their knowledge across subjects with purpose and imagination.

In English, pupils have been eagerly developing their writing skills through a range of engaging activities. They have been learning to write a three-part narrative set in a historical context, using expanded noun phrases, a variety of conjunctions, and beginning to organise their ideas into clear paragraphs. The pupils have also explored poetry, creating acrostic poems as well as kenning and shape poems based around the theme of Christmas. They loved learning and reciting the festive classic *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. In addition, Year 2 have been learning about the different types of sentences—commands, statements, questions, and exclamations—and how to use these effectively to add variety and interest to their writing. It has been a wonderful term of creativity and growing confidence in their writing skills!



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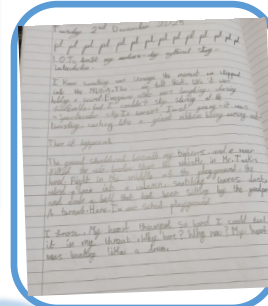
Year 3 Team

Ms Olad, Ms Jehan (Year Group Leader), Mr Arif and Miss Kaiser

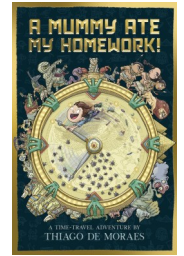
This half term, pupils learnt about Ancient Egyptians as part of our Topic. From the majestic pyramids to the mysterious hieroglyphics, they have embarked on an exciting journey to discover the wonders of one of the worlds earliest and most influential civilizations. Our emphasis this half term has been daily life in Ancient Egypt, mummies, pyramids, pharaohs, hieroglyphics, gods, myths and the ancient architecture. The pupils have enjoyed learning about how and why Egyptians mummified their dead and the kinds of tombs and treasures they believed were necessary for a safe journey into the afterlife.



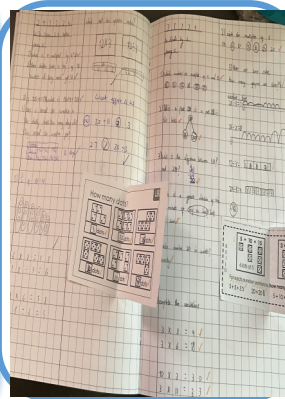
Our pupils have been swept into a whirlwind of mythical adventure! They have been planning an exciting story that begins on the School MUGA, where a vicious tornado swallows them up like a hungry beast, spinning them higher and higher before hurling them into a desolate, sun scorched Egyptian Desert. Here, they face incredible challenges. Our focus has been on using expanded noun phrases and various figurative language techniques to write a gripping narrative. Pupils enjoyed writing, editing and publishing their stories.



In reading, we began by introducing the children to an exciting new book, *A Mummy Ate My Homework* by Thiago de Moraes. This captivating story transported them back to 1300 BC, sparking curiosity about the lives of these fascinating ancient people. As part of this term's work, the pupils created their own short narratives inspired by the book, adapting characters, settings, mythical creatures, and plotlines to develop imaginative stories of their own.



In Mathematics, pupils upskilled their knowledge on multiplication and division. Pupils have used concrete objects and pictorial representations to strengthen their understanding of these concepts. They concentrated on the 2, 3, 4, and 8 times tables, exploring fact families and applying them to solve multiplication problems. They have also continued to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills—an area we will keep building on. To support this learning at home, please encourage children to access Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), use Math-Whizz to consolidate their learning.



Pupils have been learning the art of bread-making as part of their Design and Technology project. The pupils began by researching a variety of breads and discussing what makes a healthy, balanced recipe. They then planned their own unique bread designs, carefully considering ingredients, flavour combinations, and presentation. To finish, the pupils baked their creations and enjoyed them with a generous spread of smooth butter and jam!



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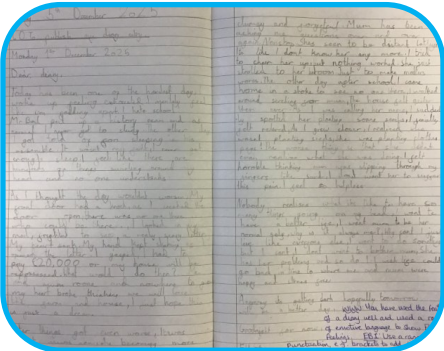
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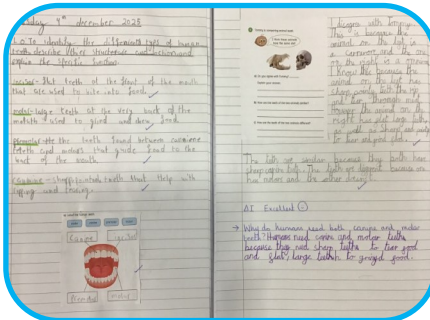
Year 4 Team

Mrs Basharat, Mrs Virk (Year Group Leader), Ms Ahmed and Mrs Amin

Over the last few weeks, pupils have delved into the fascinating characters from the novel *Who Let the Gods Out*. They crafted diary entries from Elliot's perspective, exploring his challenges at school, financial struggles, and the difficulties he faces at home with his mother. Pupils stepped into Elliot's shoes, capturing his thoughts and emotions in depth. The resulting pieces of writing reflected high aspirations, and imagination, showcasing their ability to empathise with the character and bring his experiences to life.

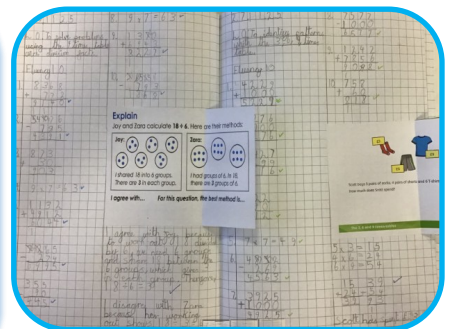


This half-term, Class 4A delivered an exciting concert, showcasing their impressive clarinet skills! Since September, pupils have been dedicated to learning and practicing the clarinet, and their hard work resulted in an impressive performance for parents, carers, and the rest of Year 4. It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to demonstrate the musical skills they have developed, and an enjoyable experience for everyone in attendance. It was joyful to see pupils applying teambuilding skills and performing with confidence.



In science, pupils have been investigating the fascinating workings of the digestive system! They have explored the different types of human teeth, their functions, and the layers that make up each tooth. Pupils also learnt about tooth decay and even designed an experiment to discover which liquids cause the fastest decay—using eggshells as a clever representation of teeth. They recalled how healthy eating habits influence oral hygiene and good digestion.

In mathematics, pupils have been working diligently to master their multiplication and division facts. To support their understanding, they have used familiar representations such as number tracks, arrays, and hundred squares. Through this, pupils have constructed fact families and applied concrete and pictorial methods to make clear connections between multiplication and division. Their enthusiasm has been fantastic to see, and this focused effort has significantly improved both speed and accuracy in preparation for the upcoming multiplication table checks.





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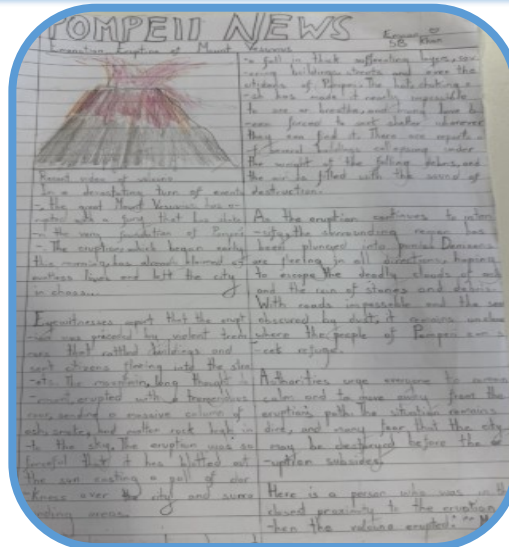
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Year 5 Team

Mrs Z Sohail, Mr Muneem (Year Group Leader), Mrs A Khanum and Mrs Javed

Class 5B pupils proudly completed their class assembly on Remembrance Day, honouring the courage and sacrifice of those who served in times of war. Through songs, poems, and thoughtful reflections, they shared the importance of remembering those who gave their lives for peace and freedom. Their heartfelt performances and respectful silence showed great understanding and maturity, reminding everyone of the value of gratitude and remembrance. It was a moving and meaningful tribute that made the whole school community proud. We are very proud of our pupils!

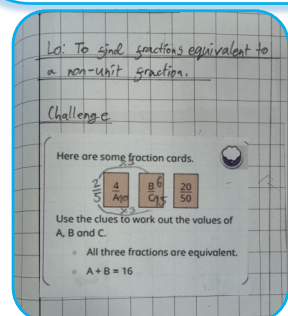


Pupils created their own Viking longships. They began by researching real longships to understand their structure, purpose, and features before developing their own design plans. The next stage—assembling the boats—was definitely the most exciting! They worked carefully, paying close attention to detail to ensure their models were accurate and well-constructed. After giving the final touch by painting their ships according to their individual design briefs, these were exhibited for others.

In English, this term pupils had an exciting opportunity to study all about Pompeii and shared the news about it by becoming news reporters. They wrote an informative and detailed newspaper article on the devastation that struck in Italy. They wrote snappy headlines to attract their readers attention! Overall, it was an eye opening experience to learn about Pompeii and pupils thoroughly immersed into this unit!



Pupils have been tackling the exciting world of fractions in Mathematics. They have been learning how to compare, simplify and find equivalent fractions. Through hands on activities including fraction games and problem solving challenges have developed a deeper understanding of how fractions work in everyday life.



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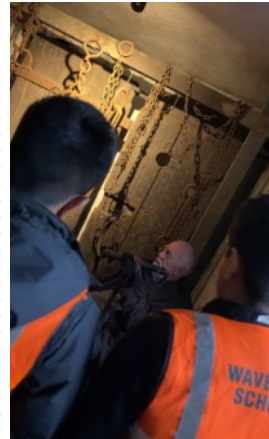
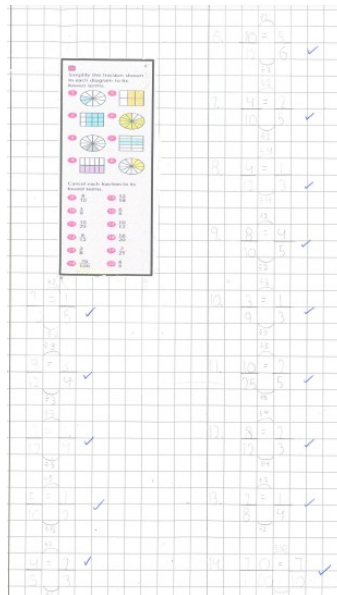
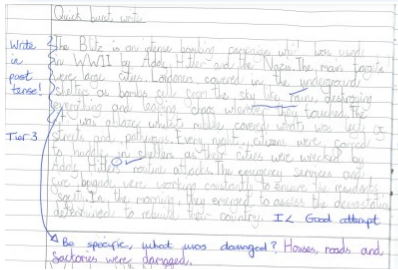
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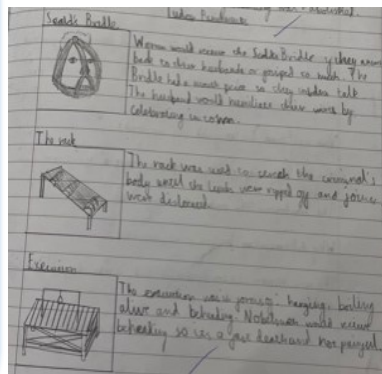
Year 6 Team

Ms Khan, Ms Javed (Year Group Leader), Ms Habib, Mr Aksar, Ms Kauser and Ms Sultana

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed reading *Hitler Youth*, which significantly deepened their understanding of World War II. As part of this unit, pupils were challenged to explore the language and structural features of newspaper reports. Over the past few weeks, a range of authentic examples has supported their learning and provided a strong foundation for developing their own writing skills. Building on this, pupils planned, drafted, and edited their own newspaper reports based on the death of Herbert Norkus, demonstrating creativity and a clear grasp of journalistic style.



This half term pupils consolidated their understanding of the four operations, ensuring a strong foundation for the next steps in their learning. Building on this, they moved on to fractions, where they developed skills in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions with increasing confidence. Following this, the focus shifted to converting units, exploring metric measures in depth. Throughout these topics, pupils have strengthened their fluency and successfully applied their knowledge to reasoning and problem-solving tasks, including SATS-style questions.



As part of our curriculum enrichment, Year 6 visited the National Justice Museum. Pupils enjoyed exploring original courtrooms, dungeons, and prison cells, as well as galleries and collections focused on justice, law, crime, and punishment—all presented in a fun and interactive way. A highlight of the trip was taking part in a mock trial, where pupils debated and decided the fate of Jacob Harper, who stood accused of attempted murder. This experience brought history and law to life, sparking curiosity and critical thinking among our learners.



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TIPS FOR MANAGING BURNOUT

- 1 SELF CARE** *Be Kind.*

Self-care is crucial for teens, it helps to manage stress, build resilience and is essential for both mental and physical well-being. As well as getting enough sleep, moving their body and eating a healthy diet, encourage your teen to take time for hobbies and activities they enjoy.
- 2 SET REALISTIC GOALS**

Help your child break tasks down into small achievable steps, it feels less overwhelming that way.
- 3 PRACTICE TIME MANAGEMENT**

Support your teen to use planners, to-do lists, or scheduling apps to organize their time effectively, and remember building in breaks and downtime is key to avoiding burnout.
- 4 LIMIT SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media can often make stress worse. Encourage your child to set boundaries around their screen time, like limiting how long they are online for and what platforms they use. Remember to take time to focus on those real-life connections and activities too.
- 5 CHECK IN AND CHAT**

Check in and ask your child how they are feeling and let them know its okay to ask for help.





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RESPECT

Winter **WATER SAFETY**

In winter, more people who are walking or running alongside water fall in and drown than in any other season.

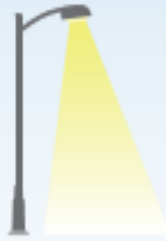
Slippery paths, patches of ice and a lack of daylight can make being near water more dangerous than in the summer months. If you fall into the water, the cold temperatures make it difficult for you to control your breathing, to use your hands to climb out and can even cause you to have a heart attack.

So, follow our safety tips to make sure that your winter walks are enjoyable and safe.



KEEP BACK FROM THE EDGE

When walking alongside water keep back from the edge.



ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Time your walks to make the most of the daylight; if you need to walk in the evening only use well-lit areas or take a route not alongside water.



KEEP DOGS ON THEIR LEADS

Keep dogs on their leads when near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.



TEACH CHILDREN NOT TO GO ON TO THE ICE

Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.



DON'T GO ON THE ICE TO RESCUE A DOG

Don't go onto ice or into the water to rescue a dog, move to somewhere that the dog will be able to climb out and call them towards you.



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