



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher

Golden Newsletter

Spring 2, 2023



Harry Owen, Chair of Governors

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

It has been incredible to see so many children in school from 8am in the mornings for various booster/early morning activities as well as after school for a range of different clubs. This provides excellent opportunities to extend the children's learning and to develop their skills and talents.

*This is how we have been working on **Trafalgar's Vision and Values** this term:*

Believe – This term we have been focusing on Maths and our Maths Leaders Mrs Jain and Mrs Iqbal has been monitoring the teaching and learning of Maths to ensure that we are delivering ambitious, broad, well-planned lessons designed to meet the needs and interests of all the children in our school community.

Inspire - This term Mrs Patterson, Mr Allen and Mrs Burton have been reviewing our reading books across the school to ensure that they are inspiring, diverse and inclusive and that they appeal to all our children.

Achieve – This term we have met with our parents to ensure that we are sharing the children's personal targets and that we are working collaboratively to ensure that each child achieves their full potential. At the end of the term, we have a whole school achievement assembly to celebrate our children's termly achievements.

We wish you a very happy Easter break.

Governor visits this term:

Simon Bradley – Safeguarding and Health and Safety

Jo Dyson – Inclusion

Kevin Chung – Teaching and Learning

Governor Recruitment:

Please join us in welcoming Maddy Row as our new Co-opted governor following the departure of Ciaran Jones. We also have Roger Hutchins joining us as an Associate Member.

Governor in School Training:

Assessment

SEND training

Inspection framework

Chair of Governors

howen@trafalgarfederation.co.uk

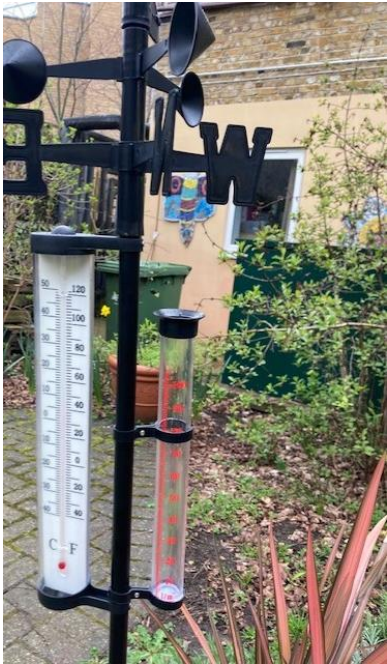
Harry Owen

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Reminder

We return to school on
Monday 17th April 2023.

Thank You PTA
Sensory Garden is under construction. - Thank you for your
donations towards enhancing this outdoor pond area.



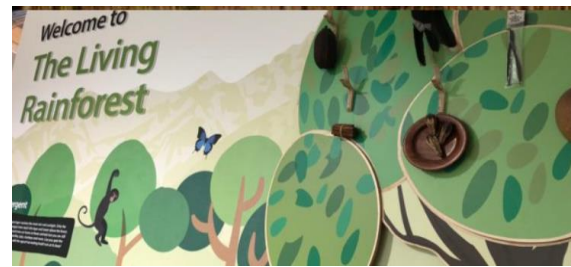
Thank you PTA



Class books



Incredible Eggs



School Trips - 2023



Easter crafts

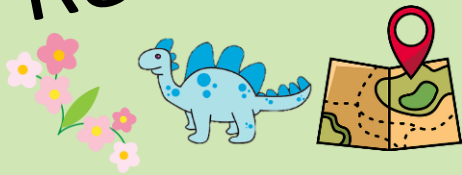
Wish list:-
DT – Crumble



Home learning subscriptions



Reception



Thank you Monty for performing your hilarious puppet show for us! You made us really laugh... Haha!



Our spring walk to Kneller Gardens was so much fun! We spotted signs of spring. We saw daffodils, ducks and wooden sculptures.



This half term, we were very lucky to welcome Kiki's mummy to our classrooms to share the Bahá'í faith. We learnt a lovely song called "We are drops".

We have been learning about spring this half term but funnily enough... the snow came to say hello! We had lots of fun building snow people and throwing snow balls.

In maths, we have been practising our number bonds to 10. Please help us at home to develop our fluency!

Sounds, digraphs and trigraphs			
Below are the different sounds and digraphs along with the pictures we use to help us remember them.			
a astronaut	i iguana		
b bear	j jellyfish		
c cat	k kite		
d duck	ck sock		
e elephant	l lollipop		
f flamingo	m mouse		
g goat	n net		
h helicopter	o octopus		

Sounds, digraphs and trigraphs			
Below are the different sounds and digraphs along with the pictures we use to help us remember them.			
p penguin	x box		
qu queen	y yoga		
r rainbow	z zebra		
s snake	ch cherries		
t tiger	sh shells		
u umbrella	th thumbs		
v volcano	ng ring		
w wave	nk pink pandas		



Little Wandle has really helped us with our letter formation when writing. We can use our reading diaries to practice the letter phrases at home!

Year 1



Wow! What an exciting half term we have had in year 1 learning all about growth and change.



In science we have been observing and growing our own pea plants and flowers in class, we got messy planting them.

We have also been amazing artists! First, we studied and painted botanical watercolor vegetables, then we looked at an amazing artist called Georgia O'Keefe and made works of art using pastels and inks.

In English we have been writing lots of letters to bunnies and to Mr. McGreely, as well as whole stories based on our topic growth and change.



In Math's we have enjoyed some outdoor learning using water to explore capacity.



Year 1

Freshwater Theatre Seasons Workshop

Year 1 travelled the world in their seasons workshop this term. They Migrated as birds, waddled as penguins and even survived the desert as camels.



Thank you to all our amazing parents who contributed!

Year 2

We've been really busy this Spring 2 Half Term. We learnt about the Great Fire of London in 1666, how it started and why it spread so quickly. We attended a drama workshop and wrote eyewitness accounts from that historic week in September, 1666.



Cooking:
We made several sweet and savoury goodies using basic cutting, folding, mixing skills. Delicious!!



In our PE Lessons we worked on ball skills: Sending, receiving and dribbling.

Our Y2 Writing Board features Speech Bubbles, WANTED Posters and Character Descriptions!!



In Science we have been finding out and describing how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We have observed and described how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. We enjoyed observing and recording the changes we noticed in our vegetable tops and the bean investigation.

Religious Education
We visited the All Saints Church to learn about the symbols of Easter and the Stations of the Cross.

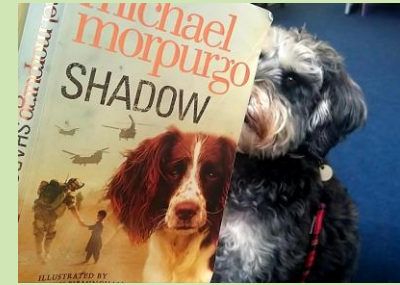
WORLD BOOK DAY - INFANTS



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WORLD BOOK DAY - JUNIORS



We had the entire school reading in assembly, a book character hunt, dressing up, a reading relay & so much more to celebrate WBD 2023! We even went to Brinsworth House to give a book full of quotes!

Year 3

This Spring 2 half term we have been very busy in Year 3! We been exploring how plants grow in Science, where the different countries of the UK are and discussing our goals and individual skills in PSHE.



Dear Diary,
Today was a crazy day! I was finishing off making a robot and I was feeling so proud of myself. All I had left to do was turn the red wheel and pull the rusty brown lever. When I pulled the lever the lights on the robot's eyes started to flicker. Sadly it didn't work and I failed ...

In D&T we have been designing and creating our own Moving Monsters using a pneumatic system! It was so much fun getting to experiment with different craft materials to make our monsters as creative (and scary) as possible!

Robot: I am so sorry I cannot help you.

Girl: (Sadly) It's OK.

Robot: I believe in you. You can do this.

Girl: No I can't.

Girl: (shouting) Ahhh! Can't write just work.

In English we have been studying the short film 'Girl and Robot' where we have been writing our own playscripts, diary entries and alternative endings! We have been practicing using speech marks for dialogue and similes to add description!

We have once again had the opportunity to work on and develop our speaking and listening skills whilst presenting our brilliant projects to our classes!



Year 4

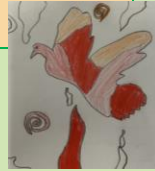
South America Day! We took part in football, Zumba, a Scavenger Hunt and carnival mask making!



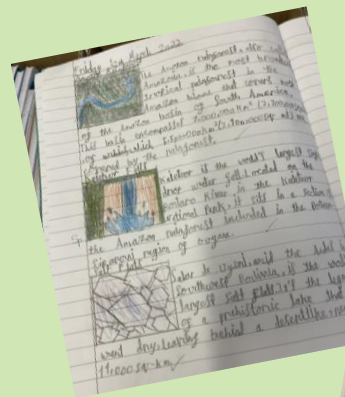
We have been exploring poetry in English, looking at Rachel Rooney's book, 'My Life as a Goldfish'. We planned and performed different poems to our class.



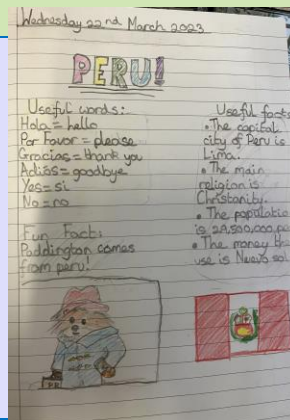
In RW we have discussed why the Bible is sacred to Christians and what it contains. We have learned about the Ascension and Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came.



Our DT this term has been all about biscuits...yum yum! We made simple biscuits and then adapted the recipe to meet the design brief. The teachers got to taste-test our biscuits and were very pleased to have some extra treats in the staffroom!



In Geography we have been learning about South America. We have enjoyed using iPads to complete research into the Physical and Human Geography. We have found out about the different products that are exported and traded and can identify the different countries.



Year 5

It's been a very exciting half term in Year 5. It began with the arrival of 5 duck eggs in an incubator. This year, the ducklings hatched very quickly-we had our first arrival within 8 hours. The ducklings had lots of attention, and handling, in all 3 classes and became very used to the noise and excitement in the classroom- we also became used to their high-pitched quacking! We recorded the children's observations in a duckling diary, which was printed out and stuck in their science books. Having the ducklings really brought the children's science lessons, on life cycles, to life. We were all very sad to see them go!



More recently, Year 5 have been designing and making moving toys. We started off by researching cam mechanisms and created a cardboard model to show a variety of different cams. Working in groups, the children were given the challenge of creating a structure to support 50g weights. They discovered that triangles and large foundations were good for construction. They used what they learnt to create their own moving toys.



We've also been learning about different faith stories and their explanations about, 'How the world was created,' in RW.



In Geography, we have been learning about Europe, including mapping skills, tourism and migration.



In English, it's been all about description; we've written descriptive poems about the moon and a fairytale based on The Firebird.

Year 6

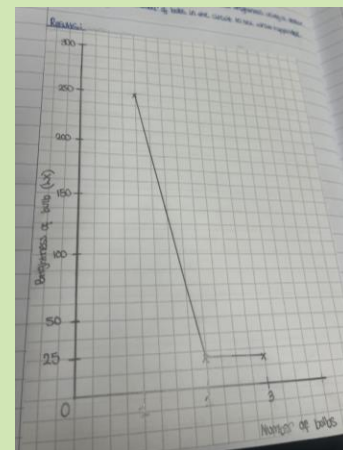
We've had another fun-filled term in Year 6...!

The children loved learning about Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and all the metaphorical language that comes with it: writing in-role, a letter to Lady Macbeth, a Lady Macbeth character analysis and lots of drama to go with! Fair is foul, and foul is fair... This was in contrast to their great stories for their Y3 buddies. Here they are sharing them.

In RW, we have learned about how different religions express their faiths, through art, music and colour.



6S had a fantastic trip to the National Archives in Kew! Karl Richter, beware as Trafalgar Junior School are on your case!



In Geography we have been learning about North America and El Salvador. The children have honed their research skills, working independently to produce fact-filled posters, comparisons between countries of North America and the rest of the world and time/climate zones!



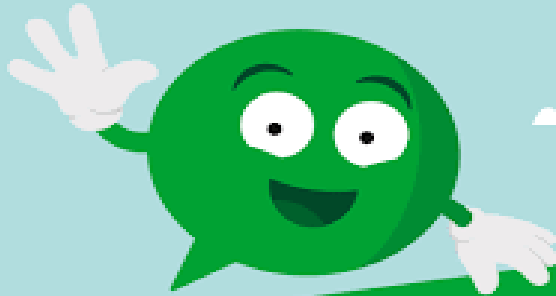
Our Science topic this term was electricity! The children have worked hard to produce high-quality work displaying results on graphs from investigations on the effect of adding batteries/components to circuits.

Mental Health & Staying Safe



NSPCC

Speak out. Stay safe.



Every two years, the NSPCC deliver a whole school assembly about speaking out & staying safe, and recognising abusive behaviour. In the in between years, they run workshops for our Y5&6 children and that is what happened last week. To find out more about the campaign

visit <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>

Mental Health at Trafalgar



- Support from ALL adults
- Support from adults with specific training – Miss Richards, Mrs B, Mrs Brown
- Support from other children (eg Buddies, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors)
- Bailey – our well-being dog
- Golden Rules & Golden Certificates
- Termly Peace Prizes
- Discussions & assemblies about mental health
- Thought Boxes in classrooms
- Zones of Regulation



Well done to our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors whose good work and contribution to a peaceful environment was recognised in a recent 'External Review' (like a practice mini-Ofsted).



Excellence Awards & Peace Prize



Each week in our Friday assemblies, we award one child from each class (as chosen by their teacher) a Golden Certificate for their hard work and achievements. At the end of a half-term, an Excellence Award is given for a consistently positive attitude towards learning. The other half-termly prize is the Peace Prize and this is to recognise a significant contribution to helping make school a calm, safe and happy place to be. The Peace Prize is voted for by the children. Our congratulations this half-term go to all of the children pictured above.



Mrs Kavanagh

Inclusion



Mrs Brown

We are lucky to work with a Mental Health Support Team practitioner (MHST) who has held assemblies in KS1 on feelings and mental health. We read together a story called the Colour Monster.

We will be able to offer parental workshops both in school and online to support parents with helping their children. Look out for the information in the newsletters.



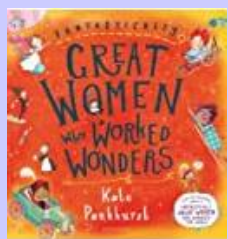
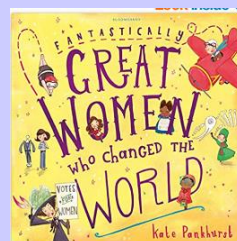
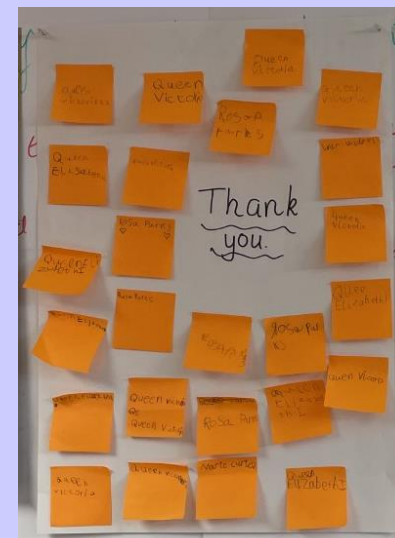
Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Good to Go Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Anxious Excited	Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Out of Control I Need Time and Space

I would just like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to all the parents and children at the Trafalgar schools. It has been an amazing experience and I have loved working with you all. Trafalgar is a special place full of truly special people and I have loved being part of this loving family. (Sam Kavanagh)

International Women's Day - Infants

On the 8th March the whole school celebrated International Women's Day.

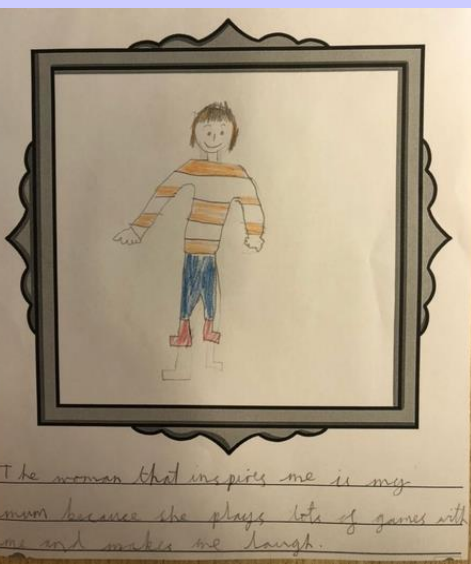
After our whole school assembly each class created a shared board to show who has inspired them.



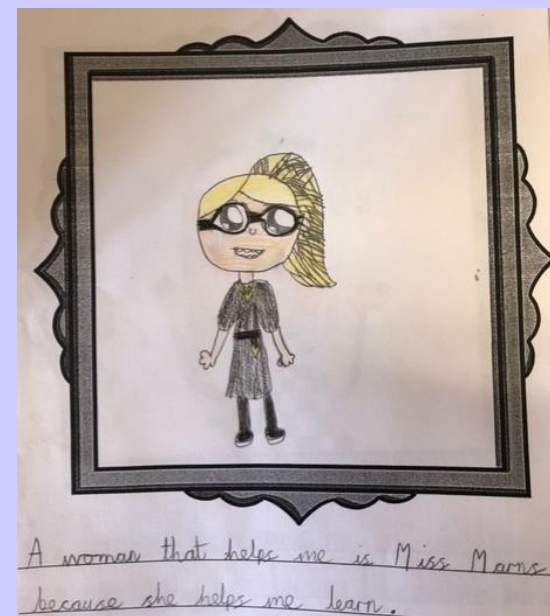
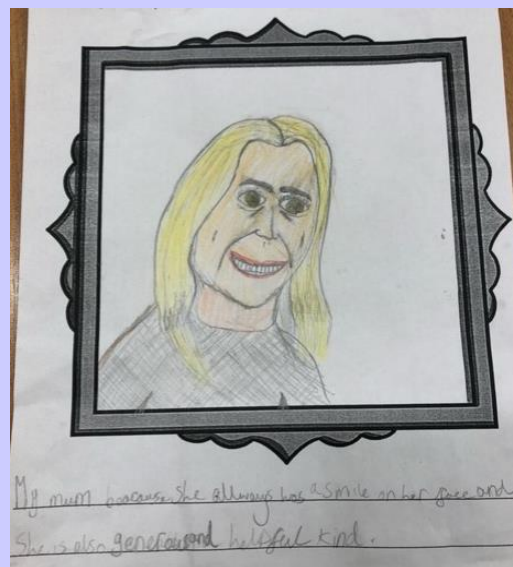
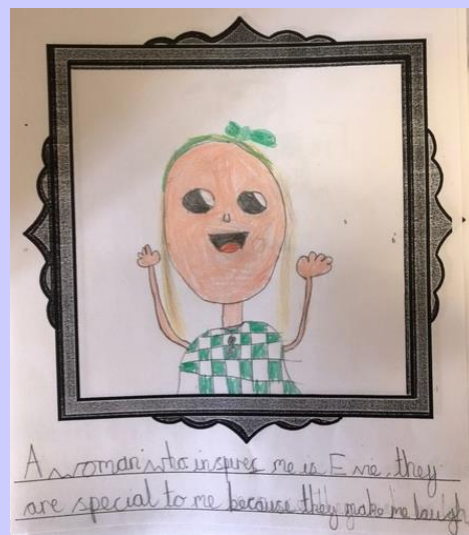
International Women's Day - Juniors

On the 8th March we celebrated International Women's Day with an activity designed for us to recognise and appreciate the different women in our lives and what they do for us. We learnt about which colours represent the day and why, the history of International Women's Day and how it came to be.

Here are some examples of the women who inspire our amazing children!



HERE'S
TO STRONG WOMEN.
MAY WE KNOW THEM.
MAY WE BE THEM.
MAY WE RAISE THEM.



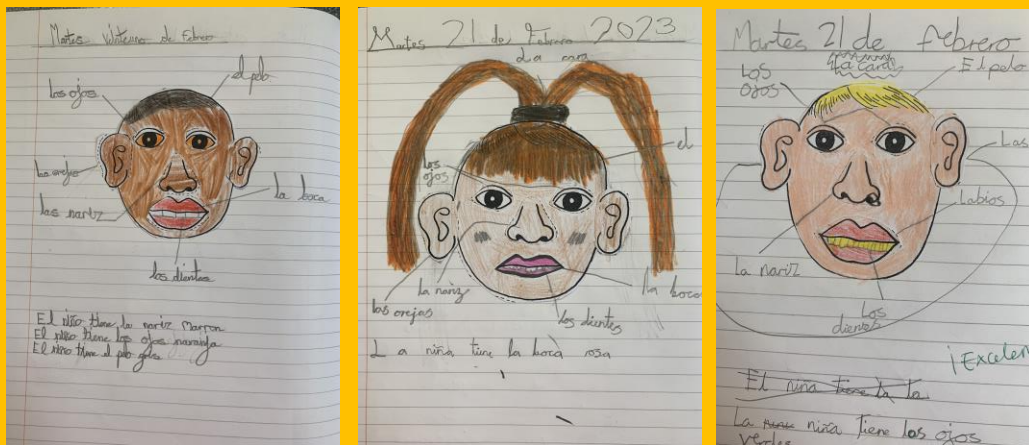


Year 3: Los colores

We have been colouring Pokémon cards



Year 4: La cara (the face): el pelo, los ojos, la nariz, la boca, las orejas, los dientes



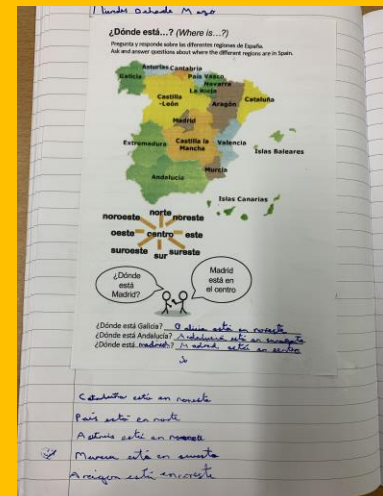
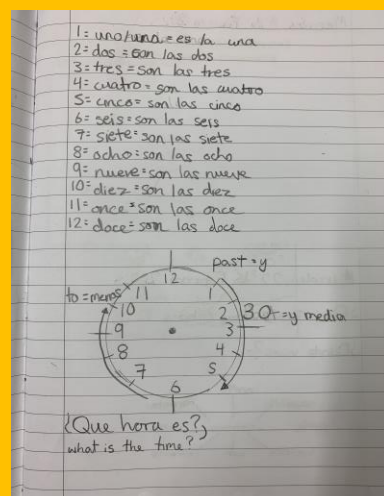
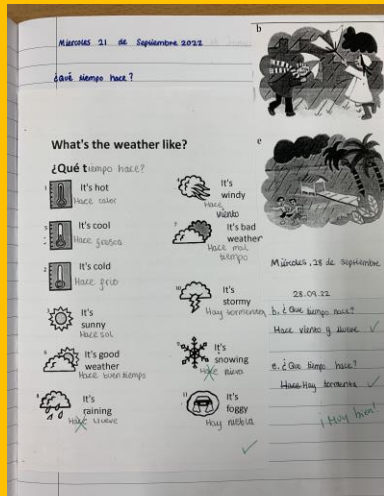
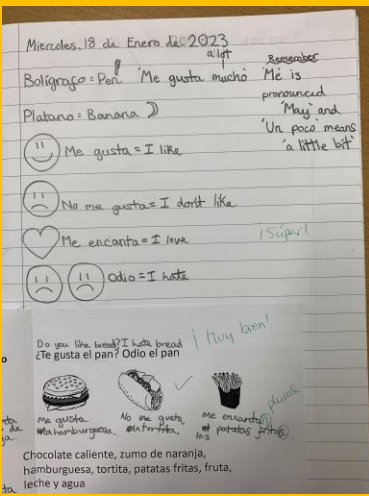
Year 5: La comida (the food)

Me gusta, odio, me encanta

¿Qué tiempo hace?
What's the weather like?

Year 6
¿Qué hora es?
What time is it?

¿Dónde vivo?
Where do I live?



Music in the Infants



Our Year 1 and 2 choir performed at the Rose Theatre.



Year 1 have been using percussion instruments to create an accompaniment to their Spring Songs



Year 2 have been investigating percussion instruments and composing their own Programme Music



MUSIC

YOUNG VOICES CHARITY SINGLE

In the last Golden Newsletter we reported on our participation at the Young Voices event at the O2 Arena.

Every single voice from the YV23 concerts has now been blended together along with the unmistakeable sound of Heather Small! All UK proceeds will be donated to children's mental health charity Place2Be.

Let's top the charts and make it one more thing for your children to be PROUD of!

<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/proud-charity-single>



INSTRUMENTAL ASSEMBLIES

We have been so proud of all the instrumentalists and vocalists that have performed for us this term in our special year groups assemblies. It's been wonderful to see a wide range of instruments being played and to share in the children's learning journey.

To see such confidence and courage from the children during their performances was inspiring. The children across the school was so enthusiastic about the music they heard.

Thank you so much to all those children who volunteered to take part!



RMT SINGING FESTIVAL 2023

Once again, this year we teamed up with the choir from SMSP School to perform at The Rose Theatre in the Richmond Singing Festival. What a wonderful experience for us all to share!

The 45 strong choir loved singing the 'big' songs with all the other children, especially '*Could have been me*' from the movie '*Sing 2*'. Our performance of *Paper Planes* and *Don't Stop* wowed the audience and the band – we felt very proud!

We're looking forward to next year already!



CURRICULUM NEWS

This half term Year 3 and Year 4 have been musically travelling to Africa and Brazil. Year 3 have had lots of fun learning Djembe Drumming patterns and singing traditional African songs. Year 4 have been in the carnival spirit playing Samba rhythms. Year 5 and Year 6 have enjoyed some 'whacky' music. We love playing the Boomwhackers!





It has been another amazing and packed half-term of sports for the Junior School. Our Netball team (top left) kicked off this half-term's action when they reached the second group stage at the Richmond Borough Netball championships with some brilliant wins along the way! The half-term was topped off with an amazing victory for our Year 5&6's Boys Football team at the Brentford FC Premier League Primary Stars Festival. After not winning our first 3 games of the day, the boys went on an incredible run winning our next 3 games 1-0 to make the final. With a spot at the Premier League finals day at Elland Road (Leeds United Stadium) on the line our boys gave everything to make it, Trafalgar took the lead with only 1 minute to go. However, a dramatic Chase Bridge equaliser with the last kick of the game sent the game to a penalty shoot-out. Chase Bridge missed the first chance to win the shoot-out and moments later a flying save from goalkeeper Jude Buss sent Trafalgar through to Elland Road in June!

Basketball

We also had brilliant performances in the Richmond Knights Basketball event, with our Year 3&4's (bottom left) missing out on the Semi-Final in a heartbreaking shootout. Our Year 5&6's (bottom right) won a silver medal after losing narrowly to St James's 16-18 in a dramatic final, which almost saw Trafalgar pull off a 14-point comeback in the last quarter.



Maths



Katherine Johnson
1918 - 2020

We are pleased to announce the winners of the Fraction Fanatics Maths challenge for this half-term. The class that has made the most progress across the half-term is 4BR. A very well done to 4BR for having increased their average score by 37%. They will be rewarded with a class certificate and 10 minutes of extra playtime.

Notable mathematician

Year 5 enjoyed learning about Katherine Johnson as part of their English text 'Hidden Figures'. During her 35-year career at NASA, she was well known for mastering complicated manual calculations and helped the space agency pioneer the use of computers to perform tasks. As a NASA employee, her mathematical skills were very important to the success of the first and other U.S. manned spaceflights.

Green fingers and T.I.G.E.R.S



During the TIGERS sessions, they have been creating daffodil keyrings and badges to raise money for the Marie Curie charity.



The children learnt all about recycling and using recyclable materials to make ART. Green fingers made wind chimes which we use to decorate the trees in our Wild woods.



Reception have been helping to clear the poly tunnel for spring planting!

Joseph is an ex- pupil and loves helping all of our gardening clubs. He is an excellent role model for the children. Thank you Joseph!

Green fingers have started planting seeds for the spring season. They learnt all about the process of planting and growing and were able to recall the skills they have learnt in science lessons.



GREEN TEAM

The junior green team have been busy planting pansies and primroses. We have started to chit our potatoes and have some tomato plants ready to put outside when it warms up.



Thank you to everyone who helped, made cakes and bought cake for our fairtrade cake sale. We made £57.00. With £28.50 each going to Fairtrade to support their work and the Green Team to purchase plants for the Junior Garden area. (And, if you are wondering about the wigs, the sale took place on World Book Day!) The Green Team also ran a great assembly on Fairtrade.

The Junior Travel ambassadors have been helping Miss Dowling to collect and record data for the Sustrans walk to school two weeks.



Some children from Year 3 and 4 have been helping Miss Dowling litter pick around the local streets as part of Keep Britain Tidy and The Great Big School Clean. We hope to carry on this project after half term including other year groups.

The Year 3 water monitors and Year 4 waste warriors have been busy collecting the water and kitchen scraps to recycle in the junior pond area and our compost bins.

