



Newsletter

9th February 2024

Melany Pemberton
Executive Headteacher
Hannah Crotty
Head of School

What a fabulous half term we have had! The children have demonstrated such enthusiasm in all their learning linked to their topic theme 'Transformations'.

We hope that you enjoy reading about some of the learning that has taken place during this half term.

Transformations

Nursery

This half term we have enjoyed learning about transformations in nature. We have explored how water can be transformed into ice and where polar bears live. We have also explored transformations in seasons that cause animals to hibernate, and what this means. We loved the story 'It Was a Cold, Dark Night' where Ned the hedgehog looks for a comfortable place to sleep for the winter, and took part in lots of story retelling using puppets and pictures from the story.



Reception

This half term, Reception have been learning all about transformations. We have explored the transformation of water to ice through an experiment of, 'how can we melt the ice the fastest?' We have explored transformation of colour through mixing paint and transformation of food, making cupcakes and seeing how it transforms from a liquid to a solid.



Year 1



In geography this half term we have been thinking about how the actions of humans can impact upon the local area. We conducted a survey of rubbish within the local area and were not happy with our findings. This led us to explore ways that we could help people in our local area to dispose of their rubbish in a more environmentally friendly way.

We created maps of the local recycling points and discovered that instead of fly-tipping, we could by donate our unwanted items and help charities. We even helped Miss Yon to understand how to 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle' by taking her unwanted clothes to one of the local charity collection bins.

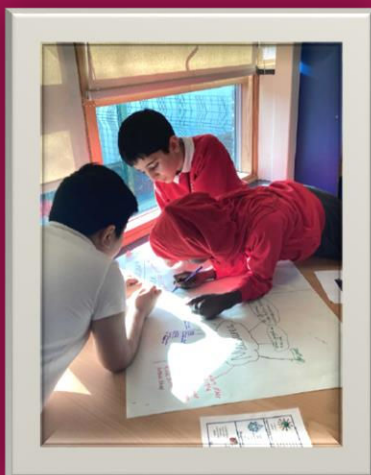
Year 2

In Year 2 the children have been learning about different types of pollution. We visited the local canal and investigated the different types of pollution that we saw whilst we were there. We noticed that there was a lot of plastic pollution, which reminded us of our courageous geographer, David Attenborough. Once back in school we applied our learning to create an advert to explain how we could improve our local waterways.



Year 3

Year 3 received a letter from the Royal Geographical Society asking them to locate where earthquakes have occurred and why. The children applied their geographical understanding by conducting their own research using world maps and maps of the location of tectonic plates and piecing this information together. They recorded their findings and sent them to the Royal Geographical Society.



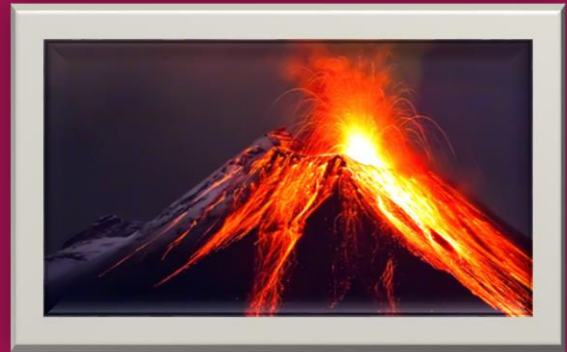
Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about how earthquakes are caused by tectonic plates moving next to each other, resulting in friction. The children used paper plates ripped in half to represent two tectonic plates. The soil represented the land, people and buildings, the children observed what happened when the tectonic plates moved. They built on their understanding further by investigating the impact of an earthquake on the human and physical environment. The children imagined that Lenton was on a fault line and designed a critical incident plan for Nottingham City Council to ensure they would be prepared.



Year 5

Children in Year 5 have been exploring how volcanoes are formed and developing their understanding of where they are located using their geographical knowledge. The children were asked to create a video for the Geological Society to explain the positive and negative reasons of living near a volcano, analysing the human and physical impacts.



Year 6

The children in Year 6 have been learning about sustainability. They received a letter from the United Nations asking them for support in exploring sustainable practices around the world. The children used their knowledge of biomes, climate change, deforestation and its impacts on the environment to find answers to the following questions;

What are the main concerns?

What are they doing to build a sustainable world?

What would they do to further support the development of a sustainable world?



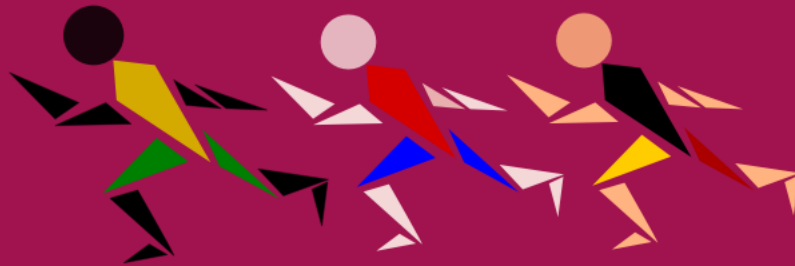
Cross Country Trip

On Friday 2nd February some KS2 children represented our school by taking part in the Nottingham High School Annual Cross Country Races at Wollaton Park.

The children ran a tough hilly course of either 1.5km or 2km against hundreds of other children from lots of other local schools.

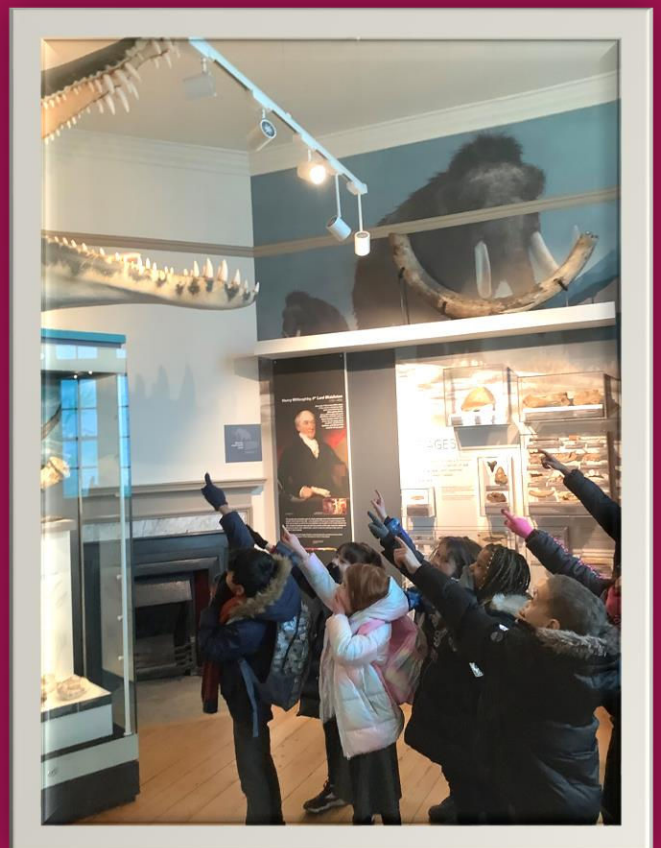
All the children demonstrated their fantastic core behaviours. Their strength and determination shone through and they gave it everything they had to complete their race with a smile on their face.

Thank you to everyone that came to support the children.



Year 3 Wollaton Hall Trip

On Year 3's trip to Wollaton Hall, we looked at the vast display of animals and skeletons to explore our science topic of 'animals including humans'. We were also lucky enough to view the exhibition on the earth, tectonic plates and the transformation from Pangea to today, which linked to our history and geography this half term! We had a wonderful day of learning.



Year 4 Canal Trip

Year 4 recently enjoyed a trip to the canal and the River Trent as part of their work on the water cycle. Before the trip, everyone filled a jar with water. The children spent some time wondering where their water would end up once they released it into the canal. They imagined the adventures their water might go on on its way to the sea, and even which country it might come down on as rain!

The children enjoyed completing checklists on our canal walk, which had various things to look/listen out for, such as lock gates, habitats and the sound of gushing water. They did a brilliant job of noticing all the nature of the canal, and even fed the ducks and Canada geese. We saw the lock and learnt what it was for, as well as the model of a heron made from junk that had been found along the canal. The children were frustrated by the amount of litter, but did a brilliant job of collecting it - filling a whole bin bag.

From the canal, they walked through Queens Walk and to the River Trent. They met with an expert on the Trent's mute swans. They learnt lots of information about how difficult life can be for swans and how we can help them. They thought about the effect human behaviour, such as expansion of residential areas and walking dogs without leads, can have on the swans. The children loved feeding them shredded carrots, brussel sprouts and spinach.



L.E.A.D Academy Trust Sumdog Maths Contest

We are thrilled to share the fantastic news that Year 3 at Edna G. Olds Academy have won the L.E.A.D Academy Trust Sumdog Maths Contest with a score of 814! Not only did we secure first place, but also Year 6 came 3rd with 693 points and Year 4 came 4th with 556 points.

Thank you for all your support in enabling the children to access their maths learning at home and to Miss Hopkin for organising the event.



Book Fair

Congratulations to Sabreena (Year 6) and Katherine (Year 3) on winning our writing competition. Both children wrote inspiring, spectacular short stories and earned themselves a prize at our annual book fair.

Lunar New Year

On Monday 5th February children across the school learnt about Lunar New Year and found out more information about the six countries that celebrate it. The children discovered the different ways the countries celebrate and shared their learning with each other. Thank you to our families that also contributed to the children's learning. As part of the Lunar New Year celebrations the children also enjoyed a delicious dinner made by our fabulous catering team.



Safer Internet Day

It was Safer Internet Day on Monday 5th February. During this week the children have taken part in quizzes to test out their knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves safe online. Learning about e-safety is really important and a key part of our curriculum throughout the year.

Please see below for useful links to help you at home:

[Top Tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)



Road Safety

At school drop-off and pick-up times, the roads in the immediate vicinity of school are especially busy and there is usually a high level of vehicles and pedestrians. We would encourage as many of our families as possible to walk, cycle or to use public transport where they can. It has been noted that some cars are also using Church Street as a cut through to Derby Road. We have spoken to the local PCSO regarding this and we will also be following this up with Nottingham City Council to request further traffic calming measures to be put in place.



This half term in school, our KS2 children will also be taking part in the annual Nottingham City Road Safety Quiz. The aim is to educate children on what road safety means, and how to keep themselves safe when near roads.

February half-term

 **Nottingham Cathedral** 

Drop-in science and exploration themed activities

Suitable for all ages
All children must be accompanied

FREE!

10am - 3pm
Thurs 15th Feb - general admission
Fri 16th Feb - tailored for SEND families

St Barnabas Cathedral,
Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AE

  0115 9539839
 www.nottinghamcathedral.co.uk 



Core Behaviours Achievers



Nursery	Mohammed	For showing courage throughout his learning and showing great engagement this week.
	Elaine	For engaging with our Lunar New Year learning and showing motivation towards activities this week.
Rec	Talia	For showing motivation with her writing.
	Foudi	For being a hard-working, respectful member of our class.
Year 1	Aimar	For representing himself and Year 1 during the class swap in such a superb manner.
	Anaya	For always showing respect to others every single day.
Year 2	Aaminah	For her amazing collaboration during our Spanish day.
	Lukas	For his brilliant focus and determination during our Spanish day.
Year 3	Tianna-Faith	For demonstrating a lot of passion and motivation in her computing lessons.
	Usman	For being really motivated in his geography learning and taking an active role in his group.
Year 4	Ari	For showing motivation and resilience in his learning this week.
	Khadija	For taking personal responsibility and learning all her lines for the class assembly and doing a superb job.
Year 5	Abdullah	For being such a fantastic role model, demonstrating self awareness and respect during our trip.
	Meryam	For her incredible passion and motivation in all areas of her learning.
Year 6	Yafet	For being outstanding during theme sharing and giving everyone in his group a chance to speak. Great leadership Yafet.
	Sara	For her incredible attitude to her learning in all areas. Sara has a real drive to achieve her best. Well done Sara.

Many thanks for your continued support,

We want to wish you all a restful half term holiday. Please remember that Monday 19th February is an INSET day, therefore school will reopen to the pupils on Tuesday 20th February.

Mrs Melany Pemberton
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