



Newsletter

15th November 2024

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Welcome back! We hope that you all had a relaxing break and are looking forward to the second half of the autumn term. The children have returned with renewed enthusiasm and excitement for learning.

On Monday 11th November we held a special Remembrance Assembly in order to honour our war veterans. Poppy wreaths were laid by each class and 2 minutes silence was held across the school at 11am. The children have been reflecting upon the sacrifices made during war and conflict, as well as thinking about how veterans' past sacrifices have enabled us to treasure the values and freedoms we experience today.



Our Learning

This half term we are exploring the theme 'Courageous Acts and Symbolism' in our topic learning. The children have begun their learning journey this half term with great focus and determination.

Nursery



In Nursery we have started our learning around the story 'Owl Babies.' We talked about how courageous and brave the owls needed to be whilst they waited for their Mum to return! We talked about how we could make the owls feel safe whilst their Mum was away and what makes us feel safe. We decided to create a safe home for the owls to stay in. We collected lots of materials outside to create an owl nest.

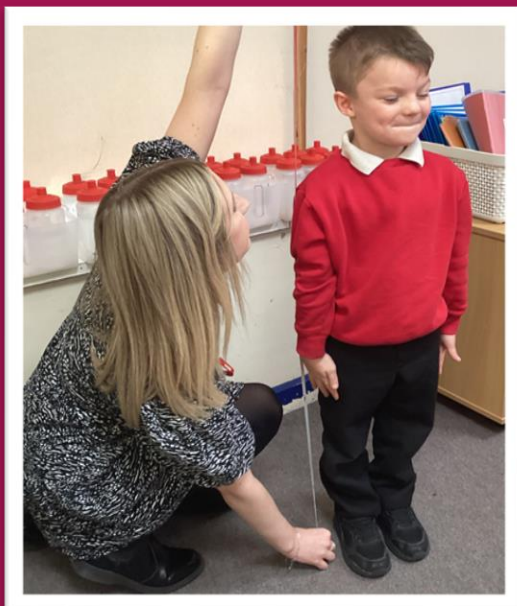
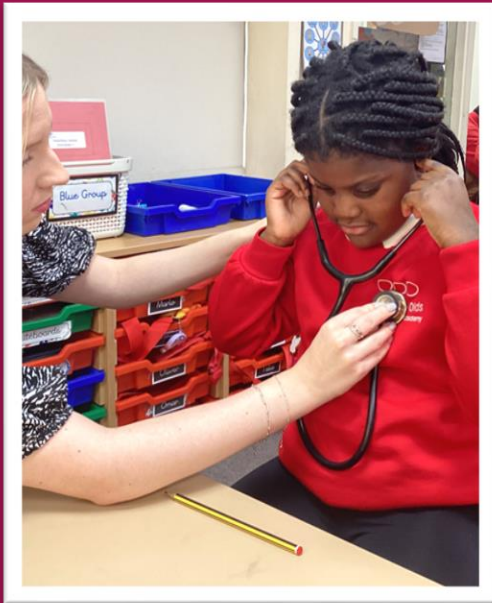
Reception

In Reception we had a class discussion about what courage was and looked at images that represented courage. We decided that courageous acts could be large or small things. We then thought about ways we could be courageous at school, such as trying new things and taking risks. We also explored different jobs in our community where people show courage. Lots of the children said they want to be a firefighter when they grow up! We ended our day with showing courage by using our playground equipment to try something they wouldn't normally do.



Year 1

This week a doctor visited year 1! She told us all about the importance of staying healthy and how to do so! We know that we have to wash our hands for 20 seconds regularly, we need to brush our teeth twice a day – once in the morning and once in the evening, we should wear suitable clothing for the weather to either keep us warm or cool. As well as giving us top tips on how to stay healthy, Dr Lee also listened to our hearts and measured our heights and heart rates and let us look at all her tools and equipment she uses to help patients. She has set us the challenge of measuring ourselves throughout year 1 to notice how our bodies change.



Year 2

Year 2 have used their senses to experience various different traditions that are part of the Hindu 'festival of light.'

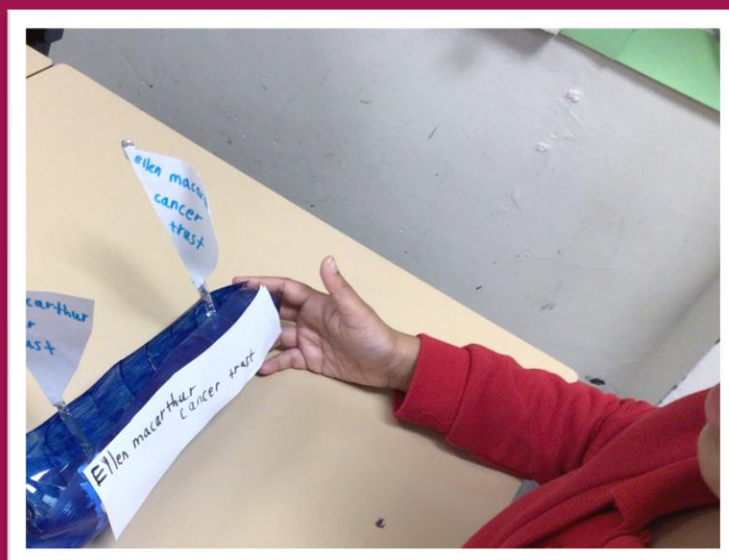
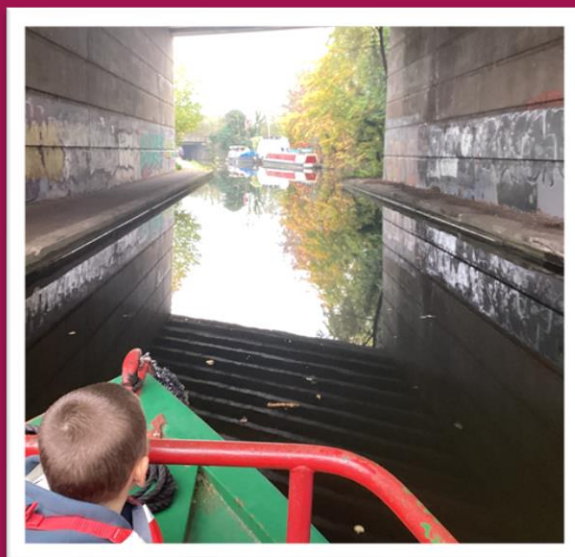
Following on from this we collected natural items from the environment and created our own natural 'rangoli patterns' in the style of artist Andy Goldsworthy.



Year 3

Inspired by our focus geographer, Dame Ellen MacArthur, Year 3 ventured out to try boating life for themselves. They had a trip down Nottingham's canals on a narrowboat, taking in the views, learning how the boat works and seeing nature. Some of them even got to experience going through a lock, observing first-hand how the water empties and refills. I'm not sure we were as brave as Ellen MacArthur on her voyage around the world, but we enjoyed the experience!

Year 3 also shared the research they had done about Ellen MacArthur during the half term holiday. After this, they used digital maps to work on their locational knowledge. Using a map of Lenton, they noticed the map symbols and found out what these represented.



Year 4

During our topic launch day we spend time sharing our holiday homework based on the explorer Captain James Cook. We shared images, art work and structures that we had created linked to information about him.

Inspired by the explorer Captain James Cook, we thought about an exploration we could plan and conduct. Using OS maps, we planned our route, including directions, to visit a local shop and the canal. In the coming weeks we will use our planned routes and directions to explore the local area of Lenton and begin to understand the land use.



Year 5

The children have had a very busy return to school after half term. We began our week exploring our focused core values for this term, self-awareness and courage. To explore self-awareness, the children reflected on their values through art before considering how other people's values differ from their own. They then used role play to demonstrate how people with different values may react in different situations in order to be aware of how their own actions and values impact others.

To explore courage, in groups, children researched an individual who has suffered and had to be courageous in terms of poverty and explore the book 'It's a no money day.'

During our topic launch day we went on a Field Trip to investigate the Geology in our local area, inspired by our research into William Smith. We used our OS maps and compasses to navigate our way to the castle, identifying different rocks along the way.



Year 6

During our Core Values Launch Day, we created art pieces that reflected our self-awareness by highlighting our individual strengths. We also completed portraits of our courageous role models, celebrating their inspiring qualities.



Anti Bullying Week

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, our school is focusing on creating a safe and supportive environment where every student feels valued and respected. Throughout this week, pupils have participated in a range of activities designed to raise awareness about the impact of bullying and the importance of kindness, empathy, and inclusion. This year's theme 'Choose Respect', encourages everyone to stand up for others and build positive relationships.

The children really enjoyed wearing odd socks on Tuesday. Odd Socks Day was a positive reminder that being ourselves and accepting others as they are helps create a more inclusive bully-free environment.



Diwali Celebrations

On Thursday 7th November we celebrated Diwali in school. The children learnt about the significance of Diwali, exploring its traditions, stories and symbols. The celebration provided an excellent opportunity for the children to learn about cultural diversity, respect different traditions, and appreciate the joy of light and togetherness that Diwali represents. A huge thank you to our catering team that provided a delicious celebration meal too!



Black History

Thank you to all the parents that attended our Black History assembly showcase on Wednesday 6th November, celebrating the achievements, culture and contributions of Black individuals throughout history and today. The assembly was a meaningful opportunity for students to appreciate the richness of Black history and to celebrate the diverse voices that shape our world.



Benedetti Workshop

On Monday we were delighted to welcome two musicians from the Benedetti workshop into school. They led some fantastic musical activities for us to take part in to help us develop our musical skills. This involved rhythm games, listening activities and singing in a round. Some of us even had the opportunity to play on the Cajon!



Core Values

Our school ethos is underpinned by our twelve core values. They are split into the personal and the social values we feel are essential in developing our pupils into the leaders of the future. At the start of each half term the children focus on two of these, to further embed and develop their understanding of what they mean and how they can demonstrate these. This half term the core behaviours the children are focusing on are 'courage' and 'self-awareness'.



In this photo some of our Year 5 pupils are using role play to demonstrate how people with different values may react in different situations. This supported their understanding of how their own actions and values impact others.



Pupil News

Katherine in Year 4 was graded in her Artistic Swimming. She was awarded grade 1 in figure and routine. Well done Katherine, what a fabulous achievement!





Core Behaviours Achievers



Nursery	Haseeb	For showing great courage and confidence to contribute his ideas and thoughts this week.
	Hoorain	For showing personal responsibility in the classroom and setting a good example for others.
Rec	Naumaan	For excellent motivation with his phonics, showing enjoyment and independence with the writing activities in the classroom.
	Ruqayyah	For super motivation with her maths work.
Year 1	Lena	For her altruism and care towards her friends and the environment.
	Klajdi	For his courage and growing confidence in the classroom.
Year 2	Danny	For excellent concentration during all lessons and showing improved behaviour for learning.
	Jenan	For trying hard to use her phonics knowledge when completing written tasks.
Year 3	Mila	For always having the courage to challenge herself in her work.
	Adam	For having the courage to speak out more in class.
Year 4	Kyran	For great self awareness and making good choices in and out of the classroom.
	Ajbah	For improved self awareness and showing respect to adults.
Year 5	Myah	For outstanding effort and motivation in English.
	Morris	For incredible resilience.
Year 6	Mustafa	For trying his very best to make sure he displays the right learning behaviours at all times.
	Arisa	For her improved confidence during our geography lesson.

Many thanks for your continued support

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