



The School Journal



**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Friday 8th November 2024



Dear families and friends of St Lawrence,

A very warm welcome back to everyone in our school community. I hope you all had a wonderful half term, it has been so lovely to see you all again. It has been a busy first week back with lots of families attending the Napton Bonfire. We had lots of excited chatter on Wednesday morning with children telling us how much they enjoyed it. On Wednesday morning, myself, Miss Moss and Mrs Evans had a wonderful walk up to Manor Farm with all the Year 6 children to help with the clear up. They did a fantastic job and had great fun with the litter pickers! Well done for your fantastic community spirit and enthusiasm. We also had Parents' Evenings this week. It was lovely to see so many of you attend, I know our teachers are very proud of the way the children have settled into the new year. It was lovely to catch up with you as you were waiting for your appointments.

You may have noticed that the playground equipment has started to be removed on both playgrounds, we are hoping for the work on these areas to be completed over the Christmas holidays - we have some wonderful ideas about how to make the space a great place to play but also to learn.

I hope you all have a safe and restful weekend, ready for another busy week at school.

Mrs Beth Hanna

Please do join us up at St Lawrence Church in Napton for this Sunday's **Remembrance Day service**. It starts at 10.45am and everyone is welcome. The orchestra are meeting at **10.15am** and taking part in the service.

This Week's Awards

Congratulations to today's Stars of the Week: **Chesca (Y6), George B (Y5), Penny (Y4), Arlo (Y3), Imogen (Y2), Matilda (Y1) and Jonas (Rec)**. We were delighted to give extra-curricular awards this morning to **Jacob, Oliver, David, Penny, Maisie and Imogen**. Raffle ticket winners were **Matilda, Ivy, Jack and Frederick**, and as ever there were lots of team point certificates given out across the school! Very well done to you all!



A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)



What an absolutely fantastic **Bonfire Night** celebration we had in Napton on Tuesday evening! The village committee did an amazing job of organising this event as always, and everyone who attended had such a great time. We are so grateful to everyone who put in so much hard work to prepare for the [Napton Bonfire Night and Fireworks](#) - huge thanks must go to each and every one of you who helped in some way. We were hit at the last minute with some unexpected charges so if you're able to [make a donation](#) to help cover them, it would be massively appreciated. All funds raised are split between the St Lawrence and Southam College PTAs, so all support you can give will directly benefit your children. Thank you so much!

We are so proud of Year 6 who took part in a post-bonfire clear-up on Wednesday morning, clad in hi-viz vests and equipped with litter pickers! They took part so cheerfully and willingly in this very important task, demonstrating community spirit and Christian distinctiveness, and we want to say a big thank you to all of them for their hard work, as well as to Mrs Hanna, Miss Moss and Mrs Evans for accompanying them to Manor Farm. **Well done everyone!**



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This week in **Reception** class we have learnt about Remembrance Day and have made poppies for a wreath which we will lay at the War Memorial in the village. The children have also made beautiful Bonfire night paintings and collages and have enjoyed the start of our fairytale topic, by reading and acting out 'The 3 little pigs!' It was wonderful to see so many parents at Parents' Evenings this week. What a treat to be able to tell you how wonderful your children are! In class this week, **Year 1** have settled back into school beautifully. We have spent time finding out about African elephants, researching and gathering information to be able to write some non-chronological reports next week. In maths, we have been working on our number bonds and are becoming more and more confident each day! We have done so many things including finding out about Remembrance Day. The children were very sensitive and knowledgeable about this special day and I was very proud of them.



What a brilliant start to the new half term. All **Year 2** children have arrived back after the holiday fully rested and eager to learn. We jumped back in time this week to explore what it might have been like living in London in the 17th century, before discovering the events of the Great Fire of London. We found out lots about Samuel Pepys and how his diary helped to tell us

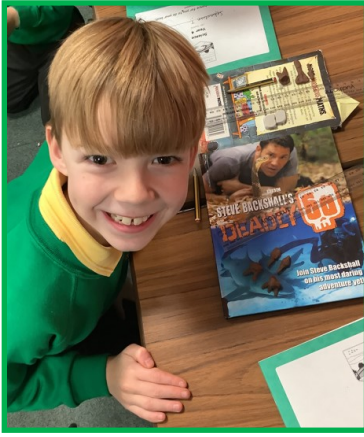
so much about what happened in 1666. Our artwork was inspired by fireworks this week and we made beautiful firework displays over the London skyline using our pointillism skills. We have been adding 3 numbers together, using our number bonds to 10 to help us add quickly. It's been a super week, well done everyone.



It was lovely to see **Year 3** back. The clocks may have gone back but we've been bounding onwards! We are starting a unit on poetry in English and it was lovely to hear the children sharing different poems, reading aloud and talking about what they liked. We will be deepening our understanding of different poetic techniques as well as writing our own volcano poems over the next few weeks. Poetry is a great chance to show off our vocabulary and this week, we started with verbs and tried to think of more powerful alternatives. In topic, we learnt how volcanoes form; meanwhile, in science we started our unit on forces and thought about how pushes and pulls impact objects by making them move, change direction or change shape. We've also started our computing topic on animation by making flip books to make our pictures dance!

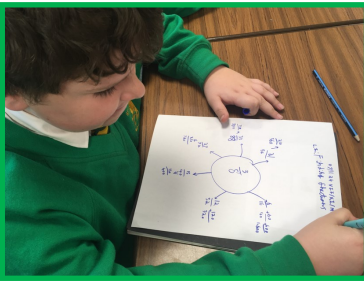
Mr D writes: As part of our close links to Origin Maths Hub we welcomed Primary teaching assistants, from all over Warwickshire and Coventry, to attend a NCETM Specialist Knowledge for Teaching Mathematics Programme earlier this week. This ongoing course helps TAs build subject and pedagogical knowledge to support pupils in mastering maths concepts and addressing misconceptions effectively.

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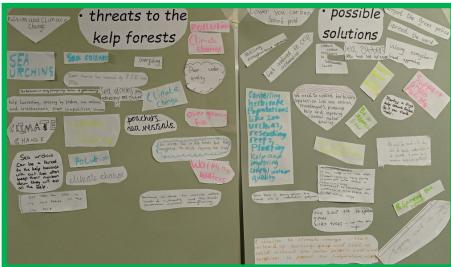


Year 4 has had a fully packed week, with grammar, spelling, drafting polar bear non-chronological reports, subtraction methods, firework safety, Guy Fawkes and their first rugby session. After being unwell the first part of this week, I was very glad to be back in to see everyone and I had lovely feedback about the class from our supply teachers. This term will be busy and full of excitement, so prepare for that advent buzz! A highlight of the week for me was our science lesson, which saw the children making clay incisors, canines, premolars and molars, and looking at the structures of our teeth and gums. Have a brilliant weekend!

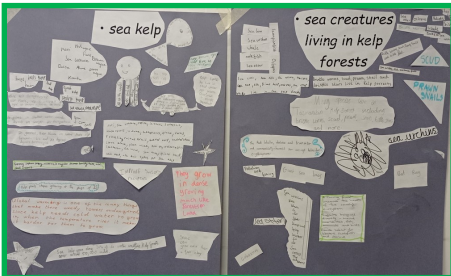
Have you ever considered yourself lucky or unlucky? Well, in **Year 5** we've been looking at those who have undertaken a journey to be the first at something; and have survived, or not to tell it. We've discovered how people like Violet Jessop (a stewardess) and Arthur Priest (a stoker) worked and survived the tragedies of the sister ships- The Britannic, The Titanic and The Olympic, and in Arthur's case, The SS Donegal too. Surviving one incident would be remarkable, but three or more- miraculous.



This led to the space missions and those that actually ventured into the Earth's orbit and those like Catherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson (Hidden Figures), that had the scientific and mathematical brilliance to make it happen. In Topic, we continued to look at how animals have adapted to thrive in the Polar Regions, and how a penguin, which swam 2,100 km from the Antarctic to SW Australia, managed to do so successfully. In Maths, we've been sharpening our multiplication and division recall whilst identifying equivalent fractions and drawing representations of them. In R.E., we have continued to look at the different ways the Genesis Creation Story can be interpreted by those with different worldviews including those from the different branches of Christianity, and we have enjoyed analysing and debating various forms of artwork depicting those views and also thinking about our own views and creating our own representations. May you all, always, be lucky in love and happiness.



In **Year 6**, our reading of *The Hidden Forest* has sparked lively discussions on environmental issues and climate change, complemented by a fascinating text on saltwater. In English, we delved deep into verbs and adverbs, whilst also inferring characters' emotions based on their actions and backing up our ideas with textual evidence. We've been writing in role and refining our ability to retrieve, record, and present non-fiction information, paving the way for our upcoming focus on modal verbs and adverbs indicating degrees of possibility (spoiler: 'might' and 'definitely' are about to shine). Do look on our Google Classroom for consolidation activities. Topic lessons have taken a turn towards investigating the causes of floods, with plans to look closer to home. On the PE front, the KS2 playground has seen dribbling drills and lively football matches, which may or may not have revealed a few hidden talents. Computing lessons are underway, with a closer look at how we communicate using technology - ask us about the non-verbal game we played in class. It was great fun!



Penny in Year 4 and her pony Marsh Walk On By have been put forward for Showing World Native Pony of the Year! Brilliant news! [Please follow this link](#) and vote for MARSH WALK ON BY from the Native Pony of the Year category to support Penny. Thank you so much!

BBC

**Children
in Need**



**We are supporting Children in
Need on Friday 15th
November!**

**Please come to school in your uniform as
usual, with a spotty or colourful
accessory if you'd like to. Headbands,
socks, Pudsey ears and scarves are all
great ideas!**

**Please bring in a few coins to donate to
Children in Need. We will be filling
Pudsey Bear with coins in the school hall
on Friday!**