

Echo in the Hamlet



Volume 11

Summer term 2017

Welcome to Nursery

Special Nursery Visitors!

We have had some gorgeous babies visit us in the nursery this term as we have been looking at how we grow and change. We are so much bigger than our visitors and are growing really fast!



Levi needs his mummy to hold him up and he drinks only milk from a bottle.

Evie's baby sister Tilly can sit up by herself and drinks from a sippy cup.



Mrs Dodd's Rosie can sit on a chair by herself and drink from a plastic cup.

We enjoyed washing our babies.

We held their heads carefully and used a sponge to clean their bodies.



Summer in Reception

We have had a really busy year, and our children have really enjoyed their learning.

In May, we were all palaeontologists, investigating dinosaurs. It was great to have so many dinosaur experts and enthusiasts. We compared dinosaurs with dragons, and learnt about the differences between fiction and non-fiction books.



Currently we are coming to the end of our 'Journeys' topic. We have thought about different ways of travelling and how we would pack for different places. We have been using Spot and Stripe videos to help with our Philosophy for Children. In one of the videos we looked at whether it was better to go to new places or stay safe in familiar places. We are delighted to report that our children are excited about travelling on to their new classes, and we wish them every success and lots of fun in Year One.

Welcome to Year 1

Claws, Paws and Jaws

We learnt lots of interesting facts about different animals in our World. In our Science lessons we learnt about what animals eat, where they live and what they need to survive. We had a very interesting visit from a STEM Ambassador called Carlo Meloro. He brought animal skeletons in for us to look at. As well as this we enjoyed a visit to Acorn Farm and we got to hold some small animals in the petting area.



WELCOME TO YEAR 2



Chocolate bar graph

We learnt how to show our results in a bar graph when we did a **chocolate** taste challenge. We tasted 5 different chocolate bars then everyone voted for their favourite one. *Galaxy* was the most popular **chocolate** type.

To create the bar graph, we picked 5 different colour like pink, red, purple, blue and green.



CHOCOLATE SHOP

When we did the **chocolate** shop we had different **sweets** and **chocolate**. They were all different prices. There were lots of choices for what to buy like a Wonka bar and Haribo. We had



a partner next to us.

We saw how the different money looked. We had



some challenges along the way! It was kind of hard and a bit easy but it was fun.

How chocolate is made



Chocolate is made in hot countries near the equator like Ghana in Africa.

First the farmers get a very long stick with a very sharp end to cut the cacao pods down from the trees.

Did you know the trees can take up to ten years to grow and produce cacao pods?

Next the cacao beans are harvested by pulling out the sticky white pulp and fermented by putting some banana leaves over them outdoors and left for about 6 days to dry out.

The cacao seeds are then bagged up and the cacao buyers put the bags on a scale to weigh them and then buy it from the farmers.

Then they go to the port where it is exported over to Europe.

Next the chocolate companies then transport the cacao seeds to their warehouses and then it goes through a process on the factory to become a chocolate bar.

Once it is made into a chocolate bar, it is then sent to supermarkets like **ASDA, Tesco, Aldi and Home and Bargains.**



Here are some more excellent projects that children have made in Year 2.

Isra, on the left, has showcased the chocolate trade and even included some information about Fairtrade on it!

Charlotte, on the right, has made a golden ticket book by using a cereal box. Inside it is lots of facts about chocolate!



We watched HORRIBLE HISTORIES to learn all about a terrible disease called the Plague. We can't believe how quickly it spread.

First you feel a little poorly and then you start to swell

then you start to spit stuff and then you start to smell! ... "pong "

Then you know it's time to ring your funeral bell ... "dong"

Along comes Mr Death and swishes you to away!

Bring out your dead! Bring out your dead!

THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

The Great Fire of London helped The Plague to die down because it killed many of the germs that was spreading the disease. This was such a bad fire that lasted for 4 days and 4 nights and destroyed thousands of homes in London and about 80 churches but luckily only 6 people died in the fire.



We had a fantastic day where we made Tudor style houses, painted flames using a technique called pointillism and played a game on the internet to learn more about The Great Fire of London.



We sequenced the events in one of our Literacy lessons and a week later we wrote a detailed diary account of the fire of London, just like Samuel Pepys did. We did it on a tea bag dyed piece of paper so that it looked old and authentic.

We had a cosy campfire in the wild garden to see how quickly the fire spread back in 1666.



Year 3



AMAZING ASIA

There are 49 countries that make up Amazing Asia. We have been learning about some of the countries in our topic lessons. Asia is one of the biggest continents and it has the most people living there. Russia has a capital called Moscow. India has a capital called New Delhi. Beijing is the capital of China. Tokyo is the capital of Japan.

Asia has the fastest train in the world called 'the bullet' train. The bullet train can fit about 325 people inside and that's a record.



Nepal is a country in Asia. It has the best temples in the world. The capital of Nepal is Kathmandu. Here are some interesting facts.

More than half the population of Nepal live in Kathmandu.



In Nepal and Kathmandu, people greet one another by touching both their palms and saying 'Namaste!'

Pashupatinath Temple is one of the most famous and sacred Hindu temples located in Kathmandu.

Kathmandu derived its name from the unique temple, Kaasthamandap which was built in 1596. This temple is located in Basantapur Durbar Square.

The Wizard of Oz



For our Literacy we have been reading the story The Wizard of Oz.

At the start of the story there was a tornado. Aunty Em and Uncle Henry went to the safety area. The Wicked Witch of the West tried to take the dog Toto away. The tornado took the house away to Munchkin land.

When Dorothy stepped out of the house she walked on the path and Glynda the nice Witch of the North welcomed her to Munchkin land. Suddenly, the Wicked Witch of the West appeared. The munchkins were kneeling down to the Witch of the West because they were scared of her. Suddenly the wicked witch of the west disappeared in a gasp of red smoke. The munchkins sang follow the yellow brick road and they sang it and sang it until she left.

When she was walking down the yellow brick road she saw another path so she needed to choose out of two paths. Suddenly she heard a voice saying "some people like to go that way" and then she heard another voice "or some people like to go that way". She became very confused, as it was a scarecrow talking. Then she met a tinman and a lion. Later on, she went to Emerald City. She killed the Witch and they all lived happily ever after.



Year 5!



PGL was great! we left on Friday, the coach ride was long and painful but worth it.

Rafting!

The first activity we did was rafting. It was almost impossible not to fall in to the murky depths of the lake. We got to not just test the rafts but we also got to build and design them.



Quad biking!

The instructor gave us a helmet but we have to be careful with them because if we dropped them once they would break first. Mabel had a go she was really good then it was Hayden.



Giant swing!

The giant swing was probably the most liked activity! The height of it is as high as two and a half houses approximately. Your teammates would pull you and your partner up by a special winch. When you got to whatever height you wanted to go, you would pull a cord and drop, bearing in mind that you were only harnessed to a bar. Your legs would dangle helplessly and the harness would give you a terrible wedgie!



Cabins!

When we got back we had a look at our cabins they were pretty nice we had two bunk beds, a set of shelves to put our stuff on, a nice view of the woods and a great bathroom with a big shower. After that we saw a room with lots of lovely couches and a table-football set and a pool table there was even a football.



Camp fire!

The camp fire was the funniest activity because Zain was making everyone laugh by using a torch to make his face look scary but he completely failed cause no one was scared, after that when we got to the camp fire the instructors lit it up by using wood and paper, when it was lit we were singing our heads off laughing too because the songs were so funny Ha! Ha!



Problem solving!

At problem solving we started off were the man told us a riddle to solve so we could go through the gates. The first problem was stepping stones but we all had to step on the same stone at the same time and the stones got smaller too. Even the teachers had to as well. The second problem was that you had to balance lob-sided. Then we completed some stick problems which were really hard. One of them you had to make the stick dog move its head behind to look at the stick that was difficult.

Canteen!

You go into the canteen? Every time you eat you get a different plate of food. There was a dessert and sides bar to help yourself to as well as hot and cold drinks.



Welcome to YEAR 6

This term, in Year 6, we've been doing many different fun activities.
Including:

SATs

Every year, Year 6 sit their SATs. This must be prepared for weeks in advance. Miss Millican and Mr Backstrom were such a huge help and we wouldn't have done as well as we did without them. During SATs week, we did a comprehension test; three maths papers and two English papers. Overall, I suspect that everyone did very well on their SATs and I hope everyone is satisfied with their results.



Science

The past few weeks, we've been doing different things in science. We did the "Chocky-Bar Challenge" which was an experiment on different white powders and the effects that they have when mixed with water. We wrote down the results in our books to use them the next week. The challenge was to use our results doing a blind experiment and we needed to guess the powders correctly to win a chocolate bar of our choice.

Forest School

We've started doing forest school again with Mrs Owen and we're all enjoying it! It's fun and educational – what more could you want? We do it on Tuesday mornings and both classes take turns of going first or second. We've only done a few weeks of it but in those lessons we've learned about native animals, different types of leaves and the Green Man. It's the highlight of our Tuesday and plus, we get swimming on the afternoon as well!



Squirrels

Recently Year 6 has been learning about squirrels. We have explored the similarities and differences of the red and grey squirrels. First we wrote down all the details of both separately in our books. We took each fact from information sheets and sorted them into categories such as appearance, habitat and behaviour. Then we folded our next clean page- two or three if you wanted to do more- into two; one side was similarities and the other was differences. All of this led up to a report comparing and differentiating the two squirrels. We had a choice of three plans; one where we do three similarity paragraphs and three difference paragraphs; one where it was same but similarity then difference and so on and the last one was all the six paragraphs were a mixture between the two. When we finished we all agreed that we had wrote good science reports.



Year 6 Leavers

All good things must come to an end, even primary school, and the year 6's do something special every year so that they'll never forget what it was like! We've been making trailers on iMovie about our time in this school, we worked in small groups or partners and mad movies about friendship stories, fictional adventures in the school, comedies on school life etc. Permewan for Year 6's will be soon and although we don't know much about it, we're still very excited.



Maths Dragon's Den Competition 2017

St Michael in the Hamlet entered the Maths Dragon's Den competition run by School Improvement Liverpool.

A total of 38 primary, secondary and special schools entered the competition and we were successfully shortlisted to go to the final where we had to showcase our board game and present to a team of Dragons and the other competing schools! This was a nerve wracking experience but also an exciting one at the same time!

Unfortunately we didn't win this year, however we had a fantastic experience and we are so proud of what we achieved.

Below you will see the journey of how our ideas developed and the final product itself!



The Magnificent Mathimals



From St Michael in the Hamlet Primary School, Aigburth.

Meet our unique team, starting with our Pupil Leader



Mya Cumberlidge
Year 5

Teachers:

Miss Knutsen and Miss Powell

Business Mentor:

Neil Sheppard



Zahid Khan
Year 6



Josef Seggie
Year 6



Grace Molyneux
Year 4



Evangeline Fryer
Year 3

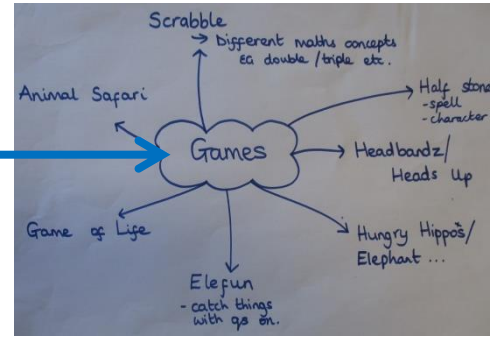


Orlaith McAlinden
Year 2

From imaginative ideas to the innovative invention...

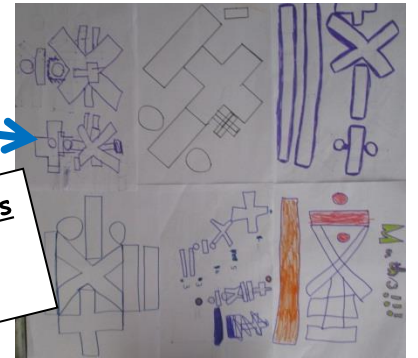
First steps

We brainstormed different board games that we thought could inspire us and help us to create a new maths game. One member of the team, Grace, brought in scrabble as inspiration!



First Idea

From this inspiration we had a go at designing our own spin on scrabble. We decided that we wanted to include the 4 main maths operations - add, subtract, multiply and divide...



Second Idea - What to do with it...

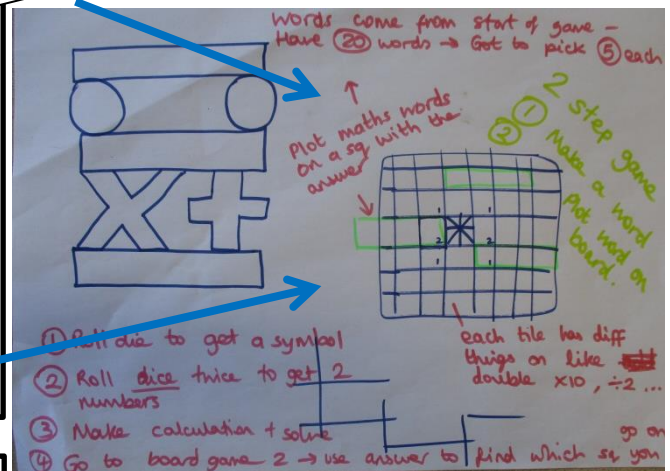


Cross curricular - key words themed by a specific subject e.g. science

So then we got creative trying to design a board game and think about what we wanted to do in the game using the operations.

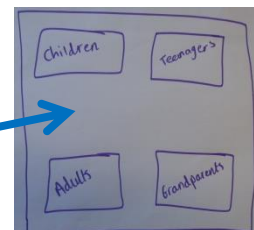
We wanted to use a die to identify which symbol to use and then roll 2 dice to get two numbers and then create your own calculation.

The tricky stage was what to do on the board game itself once you that solved the calculation?



Third Idea

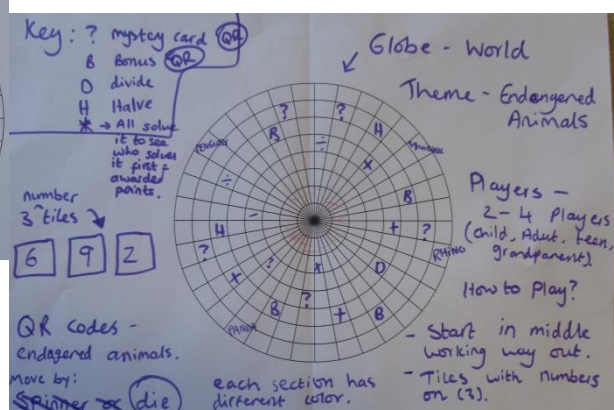
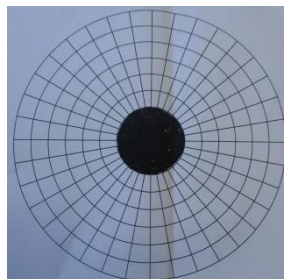
We wanted the board game to somehow be inclusive of a range of abilities and ages and so we thought about splitting the board up into 4 boards that are based on the same template just varied by the level of challenge.



Fourth and Final Idea

Finally we decided that we wanted our theme to be endangered animals and so we thought that if the game was a circular shape it could represent the world - like a globe.

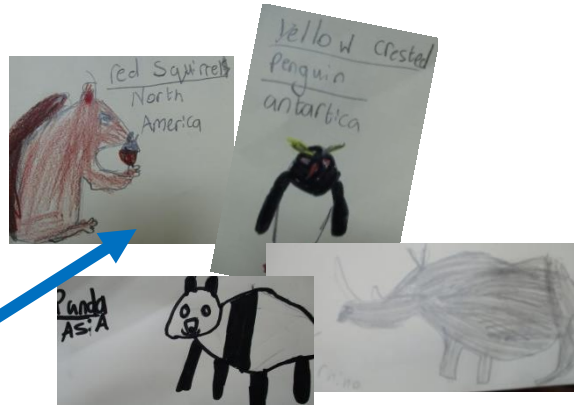
We kept the calculation idea and tweaked it so that you get your mathematical operation by where you land on the board game. GENIUS!



The actual board game design...

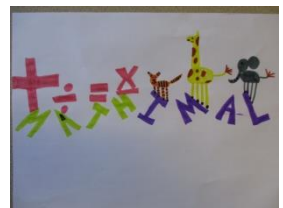
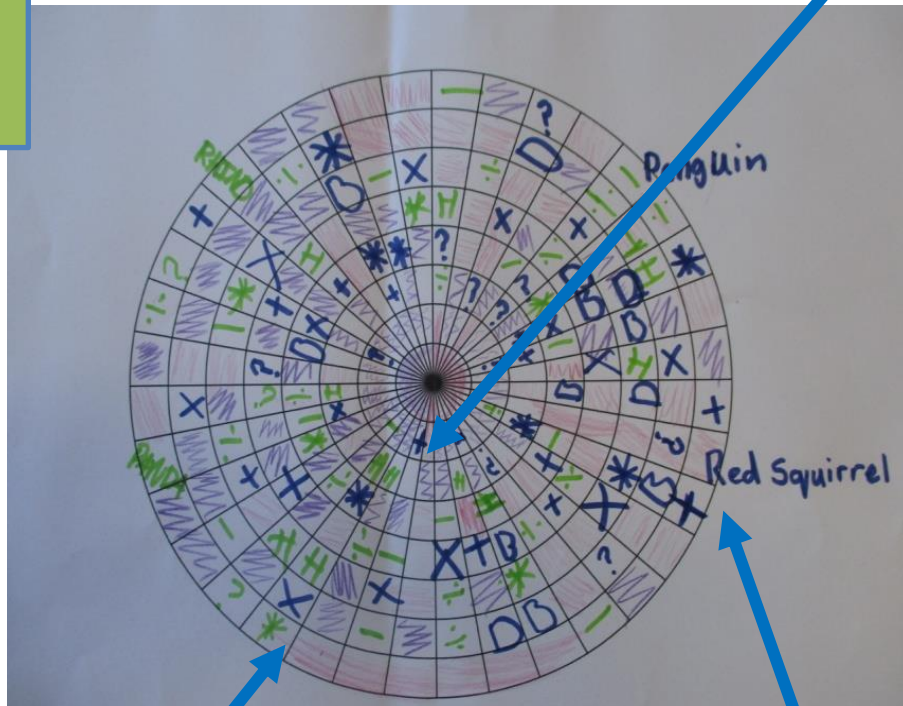


Endergered animals characters



Start Point

Board game logo designs



numbered counters and die

Symbols \times $-$ $+$ \div

Finish point - your endangered animals habitat.

This is where you will use the QR app to scan a logo and find out some facts about your specific endangered animal.



Sticker reward for all players



Final Product - Mathimal board game



Cross curricular links:

Maths - creating and solving different calculations and word problems

Geography - the board game is shaped like a globe and different animals are chosen from different continents.

ICT and Literacy - making QR codes and making information pages for the endangered animals.

Global developments - knowledge of endangered animals

How to play...

Equipment list

- board game
- counters
- spinner
- die
- ipad/ tablet/ phone with QR app downloaded
- calculator (to check calculation)



Object of the game

A game for 2-4 players (age 8+); Start in the centre of the round board with an endangered species marker, get to their home habitat whilst gaining as many points as possible. The player with the most points at the end of the game wins.



It is a game where players need to have a strategy of how to move around the board in order to maximise their score whilst doing quick calculations, assessing the risks of ending up on a negative or division section and the risks of being unable to get home because they are blocked by other counters.



Rules

- Board has around 200 sections which are either:
 - + - X or / symbols
 - Blank
 - B for bonus question - you have to get it right to get the bonus
 - H for halve your existing score
 - D for double your existing score
 - for all players to try to answer the calculation and the quickest gets the benefit of the bonus.
- Players have 10 points to start off with and are given 2 counters in their colour which have a number on.
- Player decides where to put their first counter on an adjacent section and then calculates the new total according to the symbol etc on the section. They then place the second counter on another adjacent section and calculates that result. Players must use both counters on each go and then pick two new counters from the bag of their counters afterwards.
- Other players go with their 2 counters etc.
- 1st player uses the second set of two counters to move from the last counter that they placed.
- Note that any calculations that involve fractions are rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.
- Players cannot "double up" on a section where another counter sits.
- Players will therefore have to plot a course around the board to pick up as many points as possible - whilst avoiding the negative or division sections or minimising their effect if there is



no choice. They will have to quickly do calculations to determine the best order to use the counters. They will also need to assess the opportunities/risks of the bonus sections etc.

An example of the calculation strategy:

Player has 2 counters with 2 and 6 on them and can move onto a + section followed by a X section. If they use the 6 and then the 2 then they will get $10+6=16$ times $2 = 32$. However if they use the 2 followed by the 6 they will get $10+2=12$ times $6 = 72$. Therefore second option is better as it gets more points.

Our Technology

We made an information page about each endangered animal and then created QR codes as a way to retrieve this information when you reach the animal's habitat at the end of the game.

We decided to use QR codes so that it incorporated some technology and saved on paper too!

Here is an example of a QR code.

QR Code - African Elephant
Scan me...




When you scan the QR code

... This information page will appear

African Elephant

Habitat
African Elephants live in sub-Saharan Africa and the rain forests of central and West Africa. The continent's northernmost elephants are found in Mali's Sahel desert. The small, nomadic herd of Mali elephants migrates in a circular route through the desert in search of water.



The presence of African elephants helps to maintain suitable habitats for many other species. They play a pivotal role in shaping their habitat because of the enormous impact they have on factors ranging from fresh water to forest cover.

Appearance
They are slightly larger than their Asian cousins and can be identified by their larger ears that look somewhat like the continent of Africa.

Trunk and Tusk
Elephant use radiate heat to help keep these large animals cool. Elephants are fond of water and enjoy showering by sucking water into their trunks and spraying it all over themselves. Afterwards, they often spray their skin with a protective coating of dirt.

An elephant's trunk is actually a long nose used for smelling, breathing, trumpeting, drinking, and also for grabbing things—especially a potential meal. The trunk alone contains about 300,000 different muscles. African elephants have two finger-like features at the end of their trunk that they can use to grab small items.

Did you know...
Elephants are extremely intelligent animals and have memories that span many years.

Did you know...
The African elephant is the largest animal walking the Earth.

Did you know...
Although elephants can make a very wide range of sounds (20 octaves), they mostly communicate through low frequency sounds.

Diet
Stomps: Grasses, leaves, bamboo, bark, roots. Elephants also eat crops like bananas and sugarcane which are grown by farmers. Adult elephants eat 300-400 lbs of food per day.
These hungry animals do not sleep much, and they roam over great distances looking for the large quantities of food that they require to sustain their massive bodies.






Reproduction
Female elephants (cows) live in family herds with their mothers, but adult males (bulls) tend to roam on their own.
Elephants have a longer pregnancy than any other mammal—almost 22 months. Cows usually give birth to one calf every two to four years.

At birth elephants already weigh some 200 pounds and stand about 3 feet tall. At birth a calf's trunk has no muscle tone, therefore, it will suckle through its mouth. It takes several months for a calf to gain full control of its trunk.

Conservation status
The African elephant is classified as a vulnerable species under IUCN's Red List.
Forest elephants, a distinct subspecies of African elephants, are uniquely adapted to the forest habitat of the Congo Basin, but are in sharp decline due to poaching for the international ivory trade. It is estimated that probably one quarter to one third of the total African elephant population is made up of forest elephants.

In the 1980s, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed each year and up to 80% of herds were lost in some regions. Populations of elephants—especially in southern and eastern Africa—that once showed promising signs of recovery could be at risk due to the recent surge in poaching for the illegal ivory trade.

Despite a global CITES ban on international sales of ivory since 1990, limited resources combined with remote and inaccessible elephant habitats make it difficult for governments to monitor and protect elephant herds. The impacts of war and over-exploitation of natural resources often lead to increased poaching as elephants are also regarded as source of wild meat. 2011 saw the highest volume of illegal ivory seized since global records began in 1989.



Now it's your turn to be
a Maths Dragon

Your turn Dragons!



- Use these 3 numbers and 2 operations to make the highest possible number, You can only use each number and operation once!


12 **5** **3**
X **+**




Healthy Living Days

Every year we dedicate two school days to focus on healthy living. This year we focussed on the impact that drugs can have your body. Teachers from Childwall High School came to visit the younger children to talk about the effects medicines have on your body. They brought special equipment so that they could see the different body parts and learned about the ways to keep them healthy.


Here are some interesting facts that we learned:



This is a tiny picture of a skeleton inside your body. It keeps you healthy by helping you move, holding you up and making your blood!



We looked at how medicines can help our bodies, how to keep them locked away safely and the adults who we should take medicines from.



Drugs are chemicals that change the way a person's body works.

Lungs help you to breathe.

Medicines are legal drugs, meaning doctors are allowed to prescribe them for patients



Some drugs are not legal and are harmful to your body



We tasted healthy soups that contained different vegetables. We talked about the importance of a balanced diet and how this can help keep your body healthy.

Alcohol

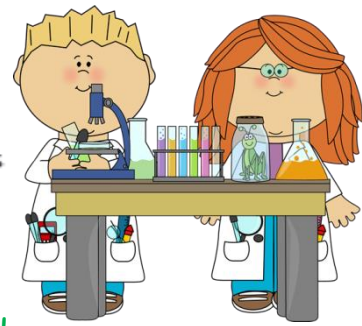


Drinking alcohol can make you feel dizzy and sick. If you drink too much it can make you feel poorly and give you a headache the next day.



STEM

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS

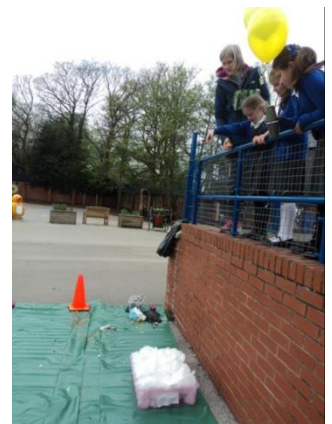
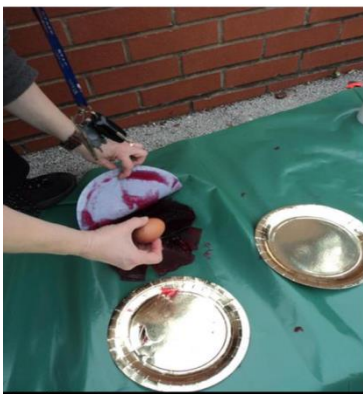


We have been enjoying lots of different activities to build our learning in these subjects.

Groups of our junior children worked with scientists from Liverpool University during Science Week. They had a great time, and were encouraged to think about careers using science.

At Easter we held an Egg Drop Challenge. Families worked together to make containers that would protect eggs when they were dropped off our ramp onto the junior yard. There were so really imaginative designs, and many were successful.

We are also building links with STEM Ambassadors. In Year 1 Dr Carlo Meloro helped children explore animals' skeletons during their 'Paws, Jaws, Claws' topics. Other parents and carers have volunteered to become STEM Ambassadors, and help our and other schools. If you are interested, please contact Laura Pilgrim, another of our enthusiastic parents, at laura@allaboutstem.co.uk.



SUMMER FAIR

MATHS PARTY
7th July 2017

MATHS PARTY
7th July 2017

On Friday 7th July we hosted our very successful annual Summer Fair Music Festival. Also on this day The Liverpool Learning Partnership held their second annual Maths Party Day in schools and children's centres across the city. The purpose of the Party Day is to celebrate all facets of Maths and its relevance to our lives. To support this we decided to have different mathematical themed stalls at our fair.

Here are some of the Year group maths games that we had:



Football aiming game



Number bowl



Higher/lower card game



Maths Treasure Hunt game



Guess the age of all the teachers and support staff.

All our stalls made an amazing amount of money. In total we raised approximately **£2,900**. Thank you for your continued support.



Attendance

97%

97%

This year our schools attendance target is 97%. To help us achieve this each class has their own 'Mr Potato Head'. Classes who get 97% or above get to put a piece on Mr Potato.

The class who fills him up first win a very exciting prize. We are already working hard to achieve this target by trying to come into school every day and the Potato heads are filling up fast. The competition is on!



KS1

- Week 1 - 1P 97.1%
- Week 2 - Divers & 2A 99.6%
- Week 3 - Divers & 1P 98.7%
- Week 4 - Divers 99.4%
- Week 5 - 1P 98%
- Week 6 - 2A 99.6%
- Week 7 - 2K 99.3%
- Week 8 - 2K 100%
- Week 9 - 2K 98%
- Week 10 - 2K 97%

KS2

- Week 1 - 5B 98.8%
- Week 2 - 4B 100%
- Week 3 - 6M 100%
- Week 4 - 4J & 4B 99.7%
- Week 5 - 3S 98.7%
- Week 6 - 3B 99.6%
- Week 7 - 5B 97.7%
- Week 8 - 3S 99.3%
- Week 9 - 6M 99%
- Week 10 - 5B 99%



Spanish Fiesta



On Thursday 13th July Reception families were invited to a Spanish themed morning with Spanish Ana. The children and parents got the chance to try different exotic fruits. There was lots of Spanish singing and dancing. The children and parents all had an enjoyable time.



The 'Works' Breakfast

On Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th July children and families got to join us for a family breakfast on the Infant yard. It was a fantastic way to get our families together and enjoy a tasty breakfast. The turnout was fantastic and we were very lucky to enjoy our breakfast in the warm sunshine.



The Big Brekkie

We raised money for the Whitechapel Homeless centre by selling toast and a drink on the yard in the morning. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated. We raised a total of £173.70.





GOODBYE AND GOODLUCK



We will be saying farewell to some staff members this year. Some have been at St Michael in the Hamlet for a considerable amount of years. We wish them all luck in the future and thank them for their hard work and commitment to our school. We will miss you!



Kathy Desmond has been a governor at St Michael in the Hamlet for over 30 years! She has worked hard to help our school develop into a successful school. She has shown dedication and has been great to work with. We wish her well in her new school.



HAPPY RETIREMENT MRS MERCER AND MRS PAISLEY



Mrs Mercer and Mrs Paisley have been at our school for a considerable amount of years. Mrs Paisley has been working with us for 26 years and Mrs Mercer 18 years. You deserve a well-earned rest! We hope you have a lovely retirement.



Sadly, we are also saying Goodbye to Miss Bentham who is leaving us to start a new adventure Down Under! Good Luck in Australia. You will be missed.



Thank you to Rob who has worked hard all year with our children. Good Luck and Best Wishes for the future.

Newspaper Team

Teachers

Miss Tsai & Miss Knutsen

Children:

Year 2 - Orlaith McAlinden, Ava
Kuypers, Carys Kingston & Sarah
Madani

Year 3 - Elliot Langhorn

Year 5 - Michael Egurrola, Lily
Kuypers & Hayden Kelly

Year 6 - Anna Crichton & Charlie
Salt