



## Headteacher Message

I would like to thank all the staff at Parkland who, once again, have worked tirelessly to ensure our pupils have a wonderful education. The time and effort they have given to helping parents, engaging children and making sure that school and remote education run smoothly has been fantastic! No matter what their role, they make a difference each and every day. **Thank you all!**



And a big thank you to all the parents/carers who have supported us during this difficult time. It has been great working with you. We have been overwhelmed by the positive response of parents, carers, and pupils to home learning.

Here are some of the lovely comments we have received:

*I just want to say how amazing I think the whole school approach has been throughout the Covid pandemic. You've continued to do your upmost best to keep everyone safe and act upon concerns as they arise.*

*I'd like to commend you for the online learning which I know will not have been easy for either of you it's not the same as being in the classroom.*

*The weekly upload is brilliant and considering the lockdown was a huge surprise, we think the whole team are doing a fabulous job.*

*Thank you so much for all your hard work, it can't be an easy time for you as a teacher. I hope you know how appreciated you all are.*

*I realise how lucky we are to have you teachers, I never realised that before. I don't know what I would do without you.*

*You are all doing a great job in a bad situation – I really am in awe of you.*

Have a lovely half term.

Kind regards

Mrs J Andrews

Headteacher

## Key Dates

### School Opens

**Monday 22nd February 2021**

**World Book Day**

**Thursday 4th March 2021**

**Comic Relief—Red Nose Day**

**Friday 19th March 2021**

**School Closes for Easter**

**Friday 26th March 2021**

## The snow arrived .....



The Foundation children had lots of fun building this fantastic snowman.

## Stay Safe and Keep Positive

Sadly following the Government's guidance, we still remain closed to most pupils, except key worker and vulnerable children. We all really miss you, and cannot wait to welcome you back when we are advised to do so.

For those families whose children are currently in school, over the half term break, we will still be on call for contact tracing purposes. In order for us to continue to identify close contacts and advise self-isolation, please book a test as soon as possible if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus and inform the school.

**Please report all positive cases of coronavirus to school, by emailing :**  
**covid@dsatparkland.org.**



## Pre-School

This term, the children have been **curious about the changes in the weather**. We have discussed winter and the different types of weather we experience. The children have taken part in experiments with water, explored how the ice melts and enjoyed a day of playing in the snow



## Foundation

This term the Foundation children have been learning about **Farming**. In literacy, they have been reading lots of different animal stories. They learnt about the Life Cycle of a chicken. The children have been using their phonics to write some sentences about what they have learnt. In maths, they been **learning about addition and subtraction**.



The children at home took part in a competition to make a vegetable picture. The children in school have enjoyed taking part in Well Being Week and making their own posters.



## Year 1

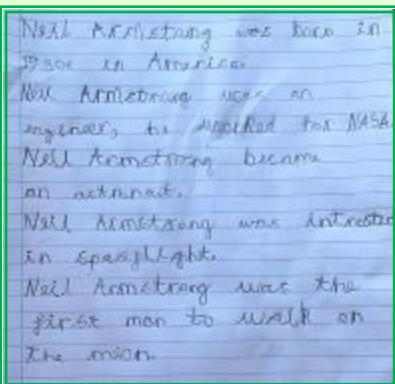
In maths, Year 1, have been **adding and subtracting numbers up to 20** using a variety of methods and we have been improving our maths fluency by playing the online game, *Numbots*.

We have recently been exploring and representing numbers up to 50.



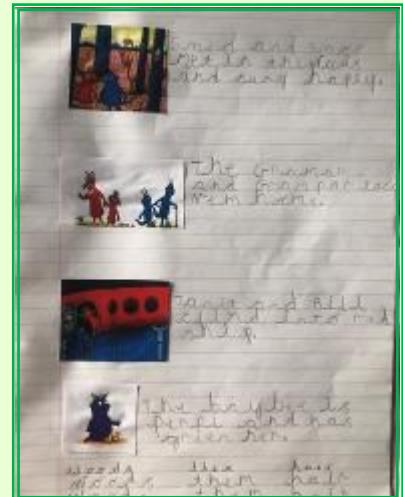


Year 1 have also enjoyed their **Moon Zoom** topic this term. We have been learning about the life and achievement of Neil Armstrong and have written some fantastic sentences about him. We have been reading lots of stories to do with space and we even had an alien spaceship crash on the KS1 playground! .

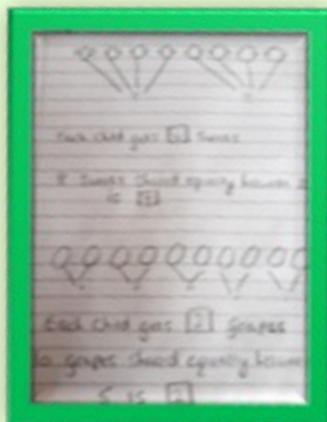


The children have also learnt how to use some new **punctuation**; the exclamation mark and the question mark.

The children in Year 1 have been working so hard whether they are in school or at home and the teachers are very proud of them



## Year 2



In English they have been **writing reports about animals** which has linked brilliantly to their learning in Science about different animal groups. Another success has been the Artwork that the children have been creating, including some very creepy wasps!

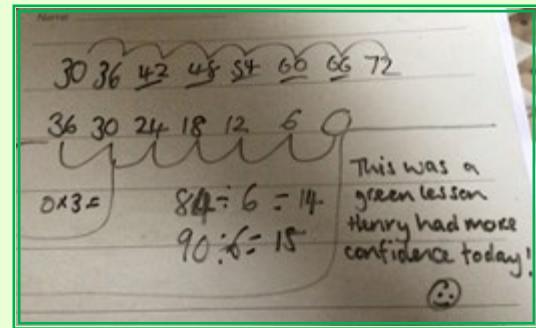
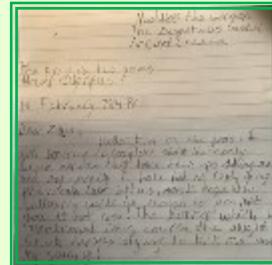
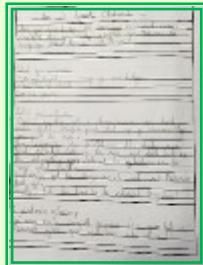


They have really embraced the PE and Wellbeing activities too. All of the children in school and at home have shown some superb resilience and we are so proud of them all!



## Year 3

Well, it may be lockdown, but there is no locking down on the learning, we are doing in Year 3, this half term. Whether in school or at home, the effort and engagement of our children and parents to the live and recorded lessons, has been outstanding. In Maths, we used lots of images to represent and strategies to solve **multiplication and division** and to improve our times table fluency.



In English, we have been using our **Greek Myths** class text as stimulus for writing a myth, instructions, and a persuasive letter, as well as the comprehension texts as we learn our inference and word knowledge skills. We also discovered how the first theories on light came from Greek Philosophers and we used similar ray diagrams to show how light travels and how shadows are formed. We also created some vase and mask designs.

We would like to thank all our parents/carers and children for the positive messages, we have received and their patience with the new technology and new ways of learning.

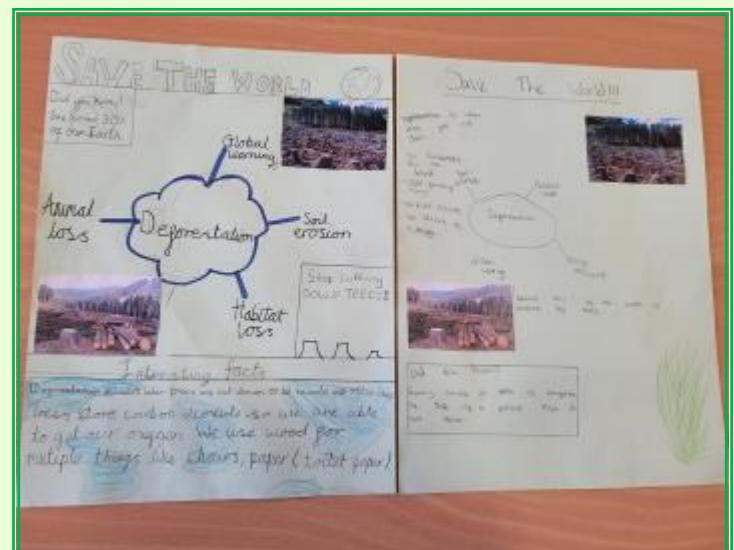


## Year 4

This half term, Year 4 have been focused on **saving the planet!**

Inspired by our amazing class text '*Song of the Dolphin Boy*', we have been finding out about the impact of deforestation and plastic pollution on habitats and environments.

The children in school and learning online have all worked so hard to discover why this is having such a negative **impact on our planet and the living things who call it home**. We have then spent time considering how we can reduce the amount of plastic we use in our daily lives and therefore the amount of plastic waste which ends up littering our land and waters.



We have been extremely impressed with the positive attitude and resilience we have seen from all our Year 5 pupils this half term. They have all had to adapt to a new way of learning, having lessons from different teachers and not seeing so much of their friends but they have all been amazing!

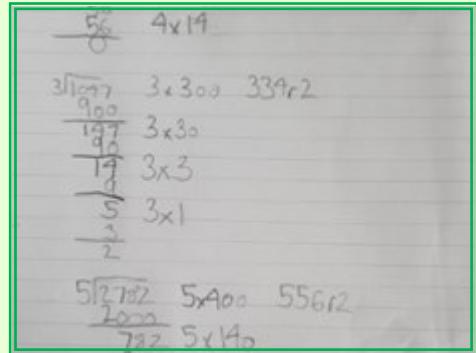
### Alice and the rainbow waterfall

The beautiful rainbow waterfall is hidden among the variously coloured green trees. The waterfall is forever crashing down into the beautifully coloured water. Standing very tall and strong, the majestic giant tree towers over the rainbow waterfall like an overprotective big sibling. The rainbow waterfall keeps running, like the naughty younger sibling it has become. In the background, the tall dark mountain sits alone like the forgotten middle sibling.

The splash of the water falling into the pool sounds even louder due to movements under its clear rainbow surface. The wavy pink coral, under the surface, of the water moves from left to right to avoid the intruder trying to grasp it cruelly from its sandy bed. The pink coral feels relief to see the intruder swim far away.

In English, Year 5 have been focusing on the book Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce and this has inspired our written work. The children have created and written about their own setting using lots of **wonderful vocabulary and figurative language**. They have also looked in detail at the characters from the book and written a summary of the whole story.

In maths, they have been learning about **long multiplication and long division**. They have had to be very resilient when looking at long division as the method we used was new learning for them. However, they have persevered and many of them are now feeling very confident with this new method. In Science, they have been learning about the properties of materials. They have tested different materials, used different methods for separating materials and used dissolving to see if a material is soluble or insoluble. It was great to see so many children doing these activities at home.



The children also enjoyed participating in the Well-being week, and having time to focus on their own well-being and mental health.



### YEAR 6 MAYAN MASKS



Last week, Year 6 also got another chance to show off their creative skills, with their fabulous wellbeing wave artwork!

Year 6 have been learning about the **Mayas** this term and we have done some fantastic learning in and out of school. We learned all about their lives, read about them in Guided Reading, wrote the Maya creation story and then we created some masks based on Mayan designs.



## PE & School Sport

Ordinarily this would be a very busy time of year for our sports teams, with plenty of football fixtures, gymnastics

competitions and dance events taking place. In the absence of these activities, pupils have had the opportunity to take part in more **virtual competitions**, run through the school sports partnership, as well as a wide variety of remote learning challenges set by Mr Hackfath and Mrs Ellis.

Key Stage 2 pupils in school have taken part in the virtual basketball challenge. This individual challenge was made up of two separate challenges, how many times could they perform a V-dribble in 30 seconds, and how many free throws could they score out of 10. Children at home were set the challenge of how many socks they could throw into a target, and how many figure of 8's they could do through their legs in 30 seconds. Mr H and Mrs Ellis have been thrilled with all the **positive feedback and pictures** they've received of children taking part at home.



You may even have seen some familiar faces taking part in our challenges, Mrs Andrews showed off her throwing skills, Mr Scarborough was incredible at balancing on one leg, and who knew Mr Hayes was so good at forward rolls!



We will continue to set an online PE timetable each week along with PE videos that children can join in with at home so that they can continue to develop their skills whilst not at school. **It is important that pupils aim to do 1 hour of physical activity each day**, particularly whilst they are not at school. We really appreciate parents/carers taking the time to support pupils in achieving the physical activity guidelines.

**Please keep an eye out on the PE and Wellbeing channel for everything PE and school sport related.**



**Well done Isabelle !**

We are so proud of Isabelle in Year 3 who has been walking 2 miles everyday, in aid of Cancer Research. She is raising money in honour of her great nan, who sadly lost her life to cancer. Isabelle has braved the storm and has been walking in all kinds of weather, and also has been out in the evening too when her Mum gets back from work. If you would like to donate please visit <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/kims-giving-page-369>



## Wellbeing Week



Last week, the whole school participated in the **National Children's Mental Health & Wellbeing** week, where children across the country got involved with the theme of 'Express Yourself'. It was lovely to see so many of our pupils participating in many different creative ways to express themselves, including drawing, necklace making, playing sport and baking. It was a **positive way to focus on our wider health and wellbeing**, especially in these uncertain times.

A big well done to all those that got involved!



## Remote Learning & Internet Safety

Parkland Primary School is committed to supporting you as best as possible to ensure that pupils can access their learning remotely, during the current lockdown. Please contact the school office if you have any issues with accessing your child's learning or concerns about your child's wellbeing, we understand these are challenging times. To help support your child's learning, we have organised a work pack for your child to use at home. This includes: paper/workbook / whiteboard/ pens & pencils / maths resources. If you have not yet collected one, please email [admin@dsatparkland.org](mailto:admin@dsatparkland.org).



### National Online Safety®

Last Tuesday, 9th February was Safer Internet Day—it was celebrated globally with the theme - **An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world!**

In this current climate, it is even more important to ensure that as a school we are exploring the reliability of what we see and hear online. The internet has an amazing range of information and opportunities online, but we need to know how to separate fact from fiction.

As a parent/carer, you can also play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. For more advice and resources on please visit - <https://sway.office.com/tl9FHSdWUUHmGL6?ref=email&loc=play>

We are aware that the pandemic may have resulted in a change of financial circumstances for many of our families, and this may mean that you are now in receipt of new or additional benefits. In order to check if you are eligible for Free School Meals, please ring the number below. Your child will then be entitled to a free school meal when in school/or a free school meal voucher via the national government voucher scheme if they are learning remotely during lockdown.



**Pupil Premium Funding** is additional funding which enables the school to purchase resources for your child that would not otherwise be available. It is therefore important that you register, if eligible, as soon as possible.

Please call Leicestershire County Hall on (0116) 305 5417. There are NO FORMS to complete all you need is your National Insurance Number.



Some of Britain's leading artists, are encouraging the nation to turn their front windows into a gallery as part of a nationwide initiative to create a "**magical patchwork of creativity**". The Great Big Art Exhibition, project is led by Firstsite and supported by Arts Council England and a number of museums and galleries across the UK.

To download a free activity pack from Firstsite, which is full of ideas and inspiration, including templates of famous artwork, visit <https://firstsite.uk/the-great-big-art-exhibition-gallery/>

## Updates

### Parent's Evening

Details of the next virtual parent's evening will be confirmed, after the half term.

### Year 6 Caythorpe Residential

Regrettably, we are still not in a position to confirm whether the trip will take place in June. We are expecting the DfE to make a decision regarding overnight educational visits by the end of this month. Once we have an update, we will inform you as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support and patience.



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<https://twitter.com/ParklandSch>

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