



Newsletter

Issue 9 Summer 2020

Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Time for another newsletter.

It has been really lovely to welcome back our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children and to continue welcoming our key worker children. I have really missed the noisy buzz of learning and it is great to hear that again. All the children have been amazing and have made me very proud of the way they have adapted to the new normal. Their behaviour has been exemplary and they have been busy earning house points for their houses. We are awarding the house point shield to the winning house in each class at the moment, rather than the trophy in assembly.



I want to say a big thank you to all my staff who have never stopped working throughout the whole of this crisis. Many have juggled home schooling themselves alongside providing home education for their class, as well as managing the key worker children too. Their energy and enthusiasm and determination to make the best of a situation is amazing and should be commended.

I also want to say a continued thank you to you as parents. For continuing the home learning at home and sharing it all with us and for picking up packs from school. We know that this is not always easy and you too are juggling home schooling and working as well. A huge thank you to the parents of children now attending school for following all the many procedures and remembering to go the right way through the gates! Please continue to follow all the rules of social distancing outside of school to keep everyone inside of school safe.

I am sure that you will have seen the government announcement this last week that they have abandoned the idea of more primary pupils returning before the summer holidays. Whilst we would love to have our Year 2 children join us again, it is simply a matter of lack of space and available staff, as all our Year 2 staff are currently providing provision for the key worker children and we have been told that this must continue as priority over anymore children returning. We continue to look at and find out whether there is any possibility of them returning, even just for a goodbye. As soon as we have guidance on this we will let you know.

Also, I am sure that you heard about the 'massive summer catch up programme' also announced by the government. This, as usual, was the first we had heard of it too, so as soon as we know more we will of course pass it on.

I hope that some of you were able to access my assembly that I sent out this week. This time of year would ordinarily have been a time of change as we prepare the children for moving to their new classes or schools. Right now, of course, it is an even bigger time of change and we need to recognise that for some this is really difficult and unsettling. Our pastoral Lead Mrs Clarke is always at the end of the phone, so if anyone has any concerns or worries or just needs someone to talk to then please phone the school office and we will get a message to Mrs Clarke and she will phone you back if she is unavailable when you call.

Keep remembering our school motto 'always choose kindness'.

CE Toplis

New Classes for September

We have had a bit of a move round ready for September. We will let you know which class your child will be in with their annual reports, but thought we would let you know the school structure now. The teachers also wanted a change of name for their new classes or in the case of Mrs Gillett she wanted to take it with her!

Reception

Leopards - Mrs Gillett
Turtles - Mrs Gotterson

Year 1

Elephants - Mrs Simpson
Otters - Miss Bullock

Year 2

Giraffes - Mr Scrivens
Zebras - Mrs Farmer

We still have no further guidance on what guidelines for September will look like and so I am unable to pass on anything further. As soon as the government have made an announcement and we have been able to put plans in place I will let you know. All we can do at the moment is plan for everything as if things were normal.

Goodbyes

Sadly we will be saying goodbye at the end of this academic year to Mrs Howes. Mrs Howes has been at John of Gaunt for 21 years and has worked tirelessly with lots and lots of children in Aylsham. Mrs Howes has decided that she would prefer a warmer and quieter way of life and is moving on to pastures new in Spain. We know that she will be greatly missed, but we wish her a very happy retirement.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Dyson too. Mrs Dyson has worked at John of Gaunt for over 10 years and has also worked with lots of children, she will be greatly missed. We wish her lots of luck in whatever comes next in her life.

Saying goodbye will be very challenging in the current circumstances but we have a few ideas. You will all receive an email shortly with how you can help.

Reports

You will receive an email this week letting you know how you will receive your child's report this year.

Reports will be available to access from 10th July. Alongside your child's report you will also receive notification of their new class but due to the situation with COVID-19 there will be no statutory attainment information as all statutory tests were cancelled by the government for 2020.

Home Learning

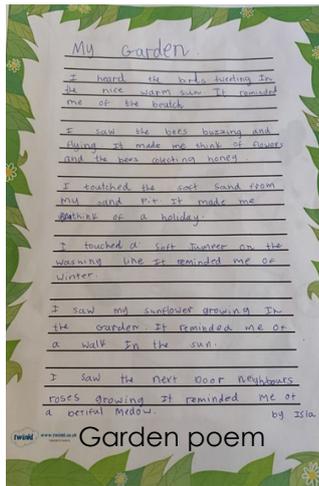
Look at all this fabulous home learning!



Hunting for minibeasts



Flower making



Garden poem



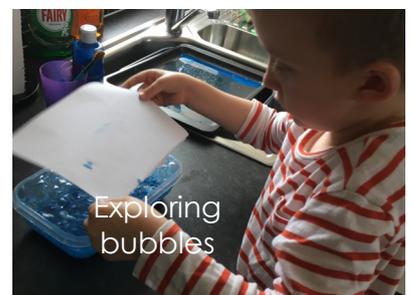
A garden design



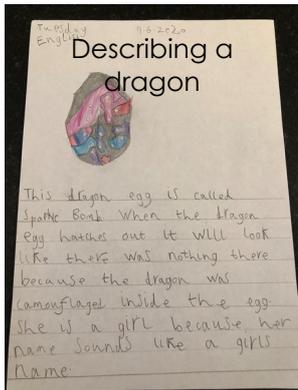
Maths!



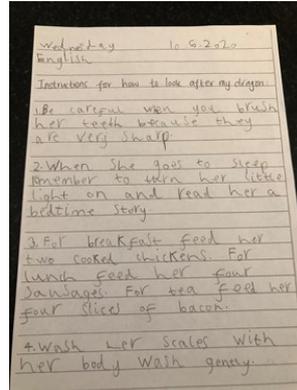
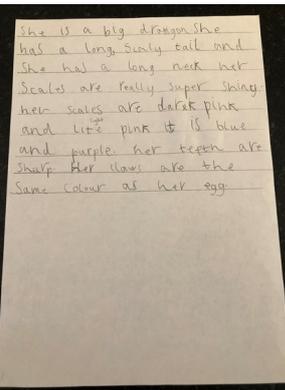
Phonics!



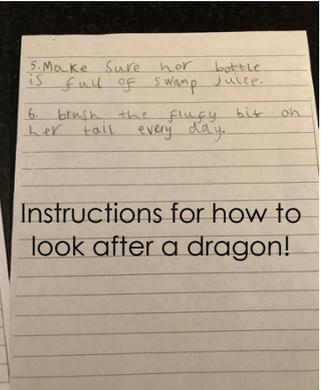
Exploring bubbles



Describing a dragon



Instructions for how to look after a dragon!



Instructions for how to look after a dragon!



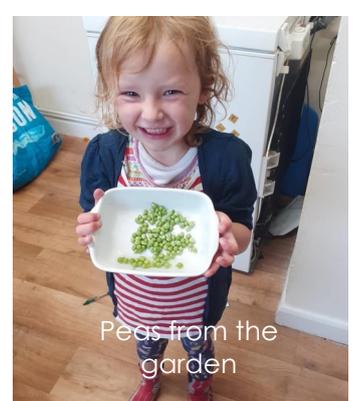
A bubble story



A knight and his castle!

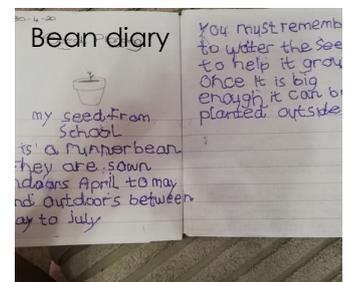


Homemade aquarium



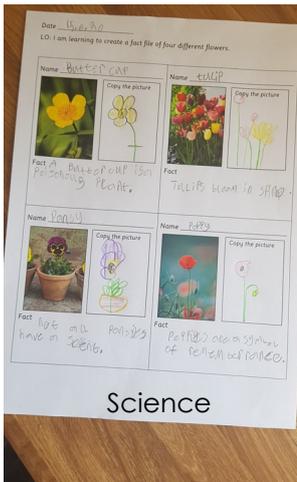
Peas from the garden

Well done everyone for sharing your home learning with us.

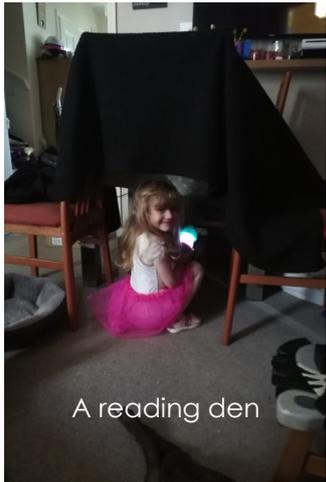


Home Learning

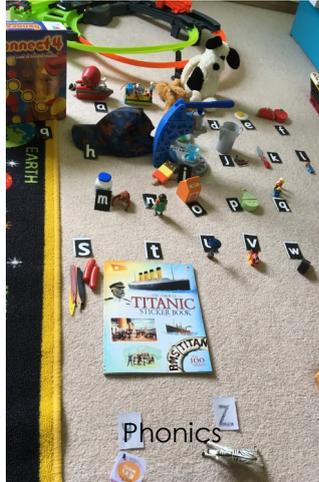
More fabulous home learning!



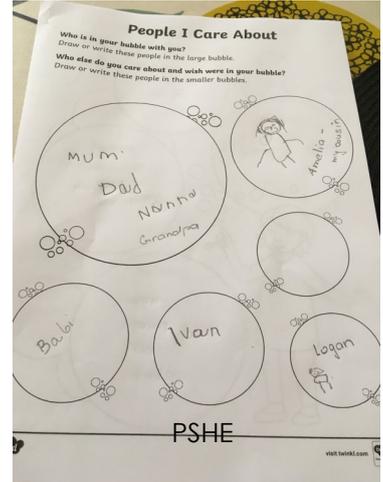
Science



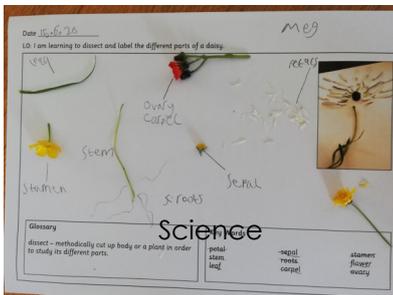
A reading den



Phonics



PSHE



Science



Practising name writing



Observational drawing



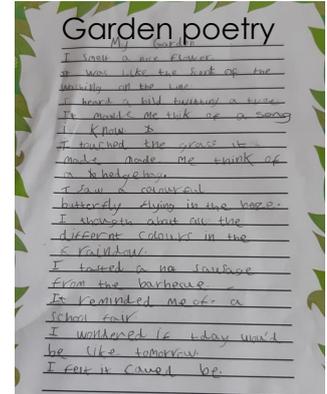
Dragon eggs!



Collage making



Butterfly painting



Garden poetry



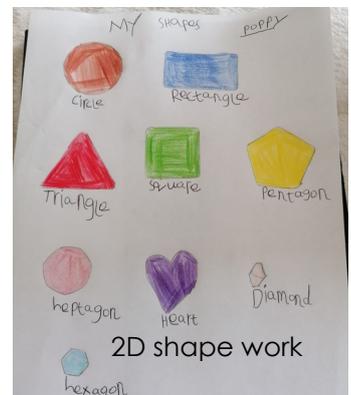
A beautiful flower



3D shape sorting



Playdough!



2D shape work

We are so pleased to see all this fabulous home learning. Well done to all our children and to all our wonderful parents for keeping going. We are very proud of you all. Keep sending the home learning through as everyone really enjoys seeing it. More in the next newsletter.



Dragon eggs!

In School Learning

Look at all this fabulous learning we have been doing in nursery and school!



The children back in nursery and school have really been enjoying their learning even at a social distance! We are so proud of how well they have adapted and their behaviour has been exemplary.

