



"Working Together, Learning Forever"

Headteacher Termly Report Autumn Term 2025 Mr. M.S. Thompson

Foreword

This term is flying by! The children have been amazing and achieved fantastic things as always. As I write, we are in the full swing of Christmas rehearsals and I'm sure you will enjoy the performances. I'm also sure you'll also enjoy seeing the wonderful things the children have been doing through the AoLe reports. Enjoy!

Dates for your diary

Thursday 4th December – Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2 Christmas concerts at 9.30 am and 2pm
Friday 5th December – Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2 Christmas concerts at 9.30 am
Tuesday 9th December – Y3 & Y4 Christmas concerts at 9.30 am and 2 pm
Thursday 11th December - Y5 & Y6 Christmas concerts at 9.30 am and 2pm
Tuesday 16th December – Y1, Y2 & Y3 Christmas trip visit to Vue cinema
Wednesday 17th December – Y4, 5 & Y6 Christmas trip visit to Vue cinema
Thursday 18th December – Christmas dinner for pupils
Friday 19th December – last day of term before the Christmas holidays, non-uniform day
Monday 5th January – INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 6th January – Pupil start back after the Christmas holidays

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Digital Competence Leader Report – Autumn 2025 Mr. M. Wotherspoon

Nursery

The pupils enjoy the open access to the apps on the iPads daily. Here they play games that require them to follow paths using their fingers developing fine motor skills in the process. Pupils have enjoyed using a 'drag and drop' feature of the 9 piece Autumn jigsaw on the CTouch screen. They have created firework/bonfire night pictures on Jit5. To commemorate Remembrance Day, the pupils have created poppy pictures using Jit5.

Reception

The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed using different coding apps on the iPad and C-Touch. They are beginning to use the iPad to take photos of their Enhanced Provision challenges. The pupils have been learning all about how to stay safe on the internet, and they wrote a class email to highlight everything that they had learned. Pupils used Jit to draw themselves and write in Welsh who they were and how they were feeling. In maths, the pupils used Jit to create a table and pictogram to record the results of their science experiment into the best light source.



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Year 1

Pupils have watched the internet safety story 'Smartie the Penguin' and working in their talk partners discussed their top tips on how to stay online. They learnt to only communicate with people online that we know in the real world and to ask for help when we are unsure. Pupils have actively been using the Class Dojo app to upload photos of their challenges to their individual portfolios. Pupils have been introduced to 'Teach Your Monster Read' app and 'Numbots' and are beginning to use their log in details to log in independently. These have also been shared with parents, and some pupils are using these apps at home. Pupils are also beginning to use Tric a Chlic games, independently on the iPads during our weekly Welsh lessons. In our weekly challenges, pupils use a variety of online maths games i.e. Topmarks on the laptops. As part of our topic 'Let's Celebrate Me', pupils have used J2Data to create a block graph using the tally charts they created about their favourite toys. They worked as a group using the CTouch board to input data into the block graph and then discussed their findings with their groups.

Year 2

At the start of term, we learnt about the importance of using the internet safely. We listened to 'Buddy the Dog's Internet Safety Story'. Buddy taught us a song to help us remember what to do when we are unsure and need help deciding. We also made a list of important safety rules and then made our own posters which we have displayed by the computers and iPads in our classroom. As part of our 'Sparkle and Shine' topic we learnt about local lighthouses and used JIT mix to draw and write about our favourite.



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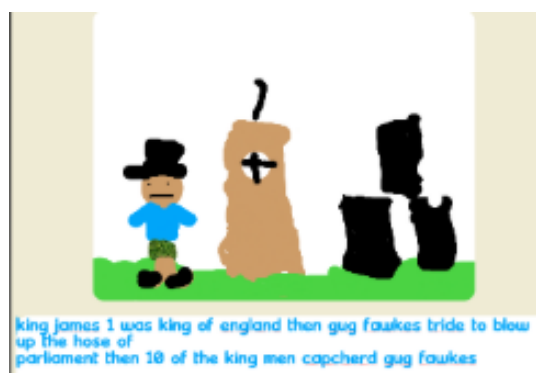
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Pupils used JIT Mix to draw and write about bonfire night. We practised lots of skills such as changing colour, size of lines, keyboard skills and the importance of typing our names and saving our work.



We have also been learning how to log on and off when using 'Numbots', with independence, and play many learning games such as 'Top Marks' maths and 'Word Wall'. We use the class iPads to upload photos of our work onto our class dojo portfolios.

Year 3

Year 3 began the year by exploring the important topic of internet safety, learning how to stay safe online through engaging discussions and activities. They particularly enjoyed using Interland, an interactive game by Google that helps children understand key principles of online safety in a fun and educational way. In addition to this, pupils have been practising logging on to Hwb and other educational apps and websites. Their confidence is growing as they become more independent in accessing digital tools, setting a strong foundation for future learning.

The pupils have developed their digital skills by learning how to safely search using Kiddle and copying and pasting images into J2 Writer and writing captions about their images. Some pupils have also used J2 Writer to type up final drafts of work such as instructions and

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recounts. They explored changing fonts, size and colour of text and also different formats such as underlining subheadings and bullet points. Pupils enjoyed using Adobe Express to demonstrate what they have learnt about food chains by following a live lesson tutorial. They added text, images and changed backgrounds. To develop their coding skills, the children have been using Hour of Code, which introduces programming concepts in a playful and accessible way. Reading has been a big focus too, with pupils enjoying a wide range of texts on the Epic Books website and app. This has helped foster a love of reading and encouraged independent exploration of different genres. The pupils have been engaging with exciting digital tools to enhance their learning. Using J2 Branch, they created interactive branching databases to sort and classify woodland animals, developing their understanding of data handling and logical categorization. This activity supported both science and computing objectives in a creative and hands-on way. Pupils have been sharpening their skills through interactive games such as Hit the Button, Splash Learn, Numbots, and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS). These tools have made learning fun and helped reinforce key number facts.

Year 4

Year 4 pupils have been regularly accessing their HWB accounts to use applications such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and OneDrive. The vast majority of pupils can now independently log into both a laptop and their HWB accounts. They have also been using Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) to practise and improve their multiplication skills. At the start of the academic year, pupils explored Internet Safety and discussed how to stay safe online. They signed an ICT Agreement and helped establish class rules for online safety. Pupils were able to identify personal information and explain why it should not be shared online, demonstrating an understanding of the associated risks. After half term, they applied these skills while playing Interland.

Pupils have also developed word processing skills using Word Online. They have typed up their *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* scripts and stories, as well as their first-person profiles during Welsh lessons. In PowerPoint, pupils have learnt key features and used them to create a collaborative presentation on notable Black individuals for Black History Month. They've also enjoyed adding to their "Food Glorious Food" PowerPoint throughout the term. These presentation skills have been applied in Mathematics & Numeracy lessons, where pupils created topic-based presentations, such as on measurement. They have also been

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enhancing their presentation skills using Microsoft PowerPoint, creating a range of presentations including one for Shwmae Day.

Pupils learnt about the structure and features of emails. As a class, they composed and sent a thank-you email to Swansea Market following their visit. They then independently wrote and sent emails to Mrs Smith, explaining how they would support the Salvation Army. Prior to this, pupils used Padlet to collaborate and share fundraising ideas.

Year 4 have also been learning how to input data into spreadsheets and use formulas to calculate total costs when buying different chocolate bars. They created databases and analysed nutritional information of various chocolates.

Finally, pupils have been developing their coding skills through Hour of Code activities and have been introduced to Microbits.

Year 5

Year 5 began the academic year by looking at Internet Safety. They discussed how to stay safe online and how to be good citizens. Pupils created PowerPoints about cyberbullying, highlighting what this is and how to react and who to tell if this was to happen to them. Pupils signed our school ICT agreement and discussed the impact that online behaviours can have on their futures. After half term, pupils have also looked at internet safety by identifying ways to make a strong password and how to keep personal details safe. Pupils have looked at the language and structure of emails and used this knowledge to write a thank you email to a lady who performed a World War 2 show for us for our current topic. Our pupils have also taken responsibility to organise their folders on OneDrive, ensuring folders and work is named correctly and easy to find. Pupils will now be able to sort their files throughout the year, with increasing independence.

When learning about the Blitz in our World War 2 topic, pupils created and added data to a database about the planes used throughout the Blitz. Pupils were able to create and add information to a database and practise sorting the information. Also, year 5 have used Minecraft to practise their coding skills to create Anderson and Morrison shelters to protect people from the Blitz. They added lots of detail both inside and outside of the shelters using various commands. Throughout the term, pupils have used laptops and iPads to aid their learning and independence for our topic. Pupils enjoyed using the internet to research information to create an information page for Remembrance Day. Pupils have also used various apps and websites to help them with skills such as times tables and number facts.

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Pupils have also developed their word processing abilities when typing up their World War 2 evacuee letters. They have developed confidence in changing the size, colour and font of the text, underlining and aligning text and using spell check to check their work. Finally, pupils have used Excel to create a rationing spreadsheet with their talk partners. Pupils used a variety of formulae to calculate the number of coupons they had spent and how many they had left to spend on various clothing during the war.

Year 6

This term, pupils have completed a series of important internet safety lessons, focusing on topics such as cyberbullying and how to protect ourselves from online phishing and scams. We discussed real-life examples and explored strategies to stay safe and make sensible choices online. They have also learned how to send professional e-mails, including adding attachments and setting up automatic signatures, which will be useful as they prepare for comprehensive school.

In addition, pupils have developed their collaborative skills by working together on Office files and learning how to share documents safely with other pupils and teachers. They have also explored creating databases and spreadsheets, using formulae to support their Enterprise project. This included calculating averages, mode, maximum, minimum, and range, which really helped them understand how data can be used in real-world contexts.

We have also spent time improving word processing skills using software such as Word and Adobe. Pupils applied these skills when typing up their English persuasion texts and poems, ensuring their work was well-presented and professional. They have enjoyed creating multimedia presentations and websites that include sound, images, text, and video using PowerPoint and Adobe, which allowed them to showcase their creativity. Finally, pupils have developed their coding skills using Scratch to design an enterprise-related game and coded Microbits using block coding to write their own algorithms. These activities have really encouraged problem-solving and logical thinking, and the children have shown fantastic enthusiasm throughout.

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Pupil Voice:

- The Science & Technology Senedd are continuing dedicate time to developing Digital Competence across the school.
- We have discussed our plans for the year ahead and how we can develop digital competence in Science and Technology using Microbits.
- We discussed the use of Digital Competence skills if we were able to plan a Science Experiments Day.
-

Professional Development / Leadership Activities:

- S. Thompson has attended Smarter teaching with AI course.
- M. Wotherspoon has arranged the distribution of 80 new laptops and 20 new iPads to classes in school.

Health and Well Being Governor Report Miss C. Rowe

Nursery

During PE, the children practise listening and being a part of a big group. They use their bodies, exploring different big body movements and little body movements together. The children have open access to the outdoors daily. Here they can develop their gross motor skills on bikes, cars, running, jumping, balancing and sliding together.

During Welly Wednesday, the children are able to build resilience and independence freely. Climbing, running, rolling, balancing, working alone and working together.

During Anti-Bullying Week, the children wore odd socks to school and thought about how to be a good friend.

On Children in Need Day, the children discussed how they could help others in need and they completed lots of Pudsey/Pudsey spots activities.

Many children can take their coats off independently and hang it up during the start of the session. Some children can put their coats on independently, and some can do their zips up with little adult support.

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Reception

At the beginning of term, the children read 'The Colour Monster goes to School' and they created a class charter based on this book.

This term, the children have taken part in class assemblies about their rights and our values. The children take part in daily check ins and are able to communicate whether they are happy or sad and are beginning to give a reason why.

The children learnt about internet safety and how to stay safe online.

During our PE sessions, the children have been learning how to use the different apparatus safely and using their bodies to make coordinated movements. They have also been practising putting their coats on by themselves and putting their socks and shoes back on after their PE sessions.

To celebrate Mental Health Day, the children read 'The colour monster' and discussed all the different emotions that the colour monster feels. They had lots of fun making their own colour monsters and using lots of different materials to create an image of how they were feeling.

The children took part in Anti-Bullying week and we discussed staying safe on the internet and being kind to each other. The children enjoyed making kindness hearts to give to their friends.

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Year 1

Since the start of the term, the children have been participating in circle time activities which have all focused on different skills including: listening, concentrating, breathing techniques and attention focus. They have learned through these activities how to be ready and respectful.

Before the children participate in their class assemblies, they do 5-10 minutes of movement in the mornings where they focus on using their bodies in different ways and focusing their minds for the day ahead. They also focus on breathing techniques and a positive affirmation a day.

The children have also worked through the 'Growth Mindset' chapter on Class Dojo as part of their class assemblies and have been reflecting on these during their learning experiences.

As part of Black History Month the children completed a role on the wall after learning about Floella Benjamin and were encouraged to have discussions with their talk partners about the feelings inside she may have felt and how she was perceived from the outside.

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Throughout our PE sessions the children have been creating dances through our toy theme and persevering to use their bodies in different ways, speeds and shapes. They have also been learning to use the apparatus more recently which has encouraged them to have more of a growth mindset.

The children have daily story time at the end of every day and the adults read stories to the children that focus on understanding, emotions, empathy and values. The children are encouraged to talk about the story and answer questions.

As part of our Anti-Bullying Week we have been talking about how we can be kind to each other and the children have taken part in an activity where they have drawn around their hands and then written one word on each finger about how they could stop bullying and help someone e.g. kind, friend, play, listen

Year 2

At the start of the year, the children thought carefully about what was important to them as a class and what would help them to feel safe and happy in school. This helped them to create their class charters which is displayed in both Year 2 classes so that the children can refer back to it when they need to.

The children have been using some story books to help them settle into their new classes and help them know who they can turn to when they are worried about something, how they can be a good friend to others and how to develop a positive and calm mindset.

The children thoroughly enjoy circle times and are developing their listening skills as they wait for their turn and show respect to others when they are talking. They have been looking at the Right and Value of the month. In class assemblies the children have been learning about Mental Health Day, Shwmae Day, Guy Fawkes, Remembrance Day, Odd Socks for Anti-Bullying and Children in Need.

As part of Anti-Bullying week, the children learnt about being kind and using their power for good. They created a kindness agreement as classes which will hopefully be beneficial to help improve playground incidents.

The children have been learning about Alma Thomas as part of Black History Month in our Expressive Art lessons as they were inspired by her art work. As well as learning about Rosa Parks.

In PE, the children have thoroughly enjoyed using the apparatus, developing their balance, climbing and jumping skills.

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Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the school year, taking part in a wide range of activities that promote teamwork, values, and personal development.

In PE, the children have enjoyed playing team games such as family tag, bench ball, and netball, which have helped them build cooperation, communication, and resilience. To help the children get to know each other better, they also took part in a series of team-building games including hula hoop pass, silent trust ball, relay races, parachute games, and dodgeball. As part of these activities, the children worked together to devise a success criteria for playing together as a team thinking about what makes a good teammate and how to support one another during games.

At the beginning of the year, Year 3 worked together to create their Class Charters, shared agreements that outline the rules and expectations for a respectful and supportive classroom environment. These charters are proudly displayed and referred to throughout the year.

During circle time, the children have explored important values such as Friendship and Respect, as well as their Rights of the Month. They've enjoyed watching themed videos and listening to stories that help them understand how to live by these values in everyday life.

Year 3 have also shown great enthusiasm in supporting key events such as Black History Month where they learned about influential figures including **Lois Mailou Jones**, an African-American artist known for her vibrant work and contributions to the Harlem Renaissance. The children explored her art and celebrated her legacy, demonstrating empathy and a strong sense of community.

As part of the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum, the children created beautiful family portraits using natural materials art, celebrating the uniqueness of their own families.



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The pupils were introduced to the concept of diversity in family structures and friendships. A story was read aloud that featured non-traditional families, such as *And Tango Makes Three*, *The Family Book* by Todd Parr, or *My Friend Has Two Mums*. Following the reading, children were encouraged to reflect on the similarities and differences between the family or friendships in the story and their own experiences. This activity aimed to foster understanding, respect, and acceptance of diverse family models within the classroom community.

Year 4

At the start of the year, our pupils in Year 4 worked together to co-construct their class charters. These charters outline the agreed rules that everyone follows in the classroom. They are displayed prominently and referred to throughout the year to reinforce expectations. As part of our Food Glorious Food topic, pupils have been learning about healthy eating and making informed choices about their diets. The pupils have had a lively discussion about the difference between needs and wants.

Pupils have been keeping active and healthy this term by playing cricket and focusing on bat and ball games, throwing and catching. Dan from Cricket Wales has delivered 4 cricket sessions this term, building on the pupils' throwing and catching, and teamwork skills. Year 4 have been working on developing their understanding of friendships, they have looked at what makes a good friend, fixing friendships, how to include others and saying sorry. In addition to all of this, Year 4 have supported a number of important events and causes, including Children's Mental Health Day, Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month, and Children in Need. Pupils also led our Harvest appeal this year, supporting The Salvation Army's "Kettle Packs" initiative. The response was fantastic, with generous food donations from families. Mrs Smith was absolutely delighted with the amount collected and has sent a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed

Year 5

Year 5 P.E this term has focused on gymnastics. The children have built on previous knowledge of the PESS shapes. Year 5 have made sequences using the shapes and transferred them onto the apparatus and wall bars, the children have also completed the daily mile.

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The children have supported Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month and helped support Children in Need which was supported with discussions about children less fortunate than themselves. Year 5 also helped to collect for the school's Harvest appeal this year where they supported those less fortunate than themselves. The children also made poppies and sold them to raise money for The Royal British Legion.

Through the Year 5 topic Beacons of Hope, the children have been learning all about World War II. They have looked at the diets of people during the war and our diets now. Wow, what a difference, we don't think children now could have survived the rationing!

Year 6

Year 6 have been learning rugby and netball skills in their outdoor lessons. The children have focussed on catching, passing, evading, and team games. They have been learning evasion skills through team games.

The children have participated in circle time sessions which focus on well-being and kindness. Also, during Anti-bullying week, the children focussed on promoting positive relationship and supporting others when faced with bullying in person and online. Pupils applied their digital competence skills when learning about online bullying and online safety.

The children have daily check ins to share how they are feeling. They have weekly assemblies in class which are linked to the value of the month and our school rules.

Recently, two Year 6 pupils were also chosen to attend an event hosted by Young Ambassadors where they received training which will enable them to independently lead a variety of playground games and activities for other pupils.

Pupil Voice

The children have enjoyed attending two Senedd meetings and have been discussing what they can do to improve their Senedd Group and what they would like to see implemented into the school.

The whole school celebrated 'Mental Health Awareness Day' and we held 'Tea and Chat' sessions for the adults working in school which focused on their mental health and wellbeing.

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Humanities AoLE report

Autumn 2025

Mr G. Thomas

Nursery

Our Nursery pupils have used **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world** by thinking about themselves and asking questions such as: Who am I? What do I look like? How do I look different now? Some children created self-portraits, carefully observing the features on their faces to draw pictures.

During Anti-Bullying Week, pupils thought about how they can be a good friend, and for Children in Need, they discussed how they can help children all around the world. These experiences begin to develop pupils as ethical, informed citizens who understand kindness and responsibility.

Our Welly Wednesday sessions have provided opportunities for pupils to explore the wider area of the school. They listened to the sounds around them, discussing nature sounds and environmental sounds, **learning that our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.**

Nursery pupils have also started to learn that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs** by celebrating the Hindu festival of Diwali. They explored the meaning of the festival of lights and enjoyed creative activities linked to the celebration. Pupils also learnt about Bonfire Night by watching the CBeebies video 'My First Bonfire Night'. They shared stories about fireworks and their own celebrations, using descriptive phrases such as: 'it was dark!', 'Bang!', 'Woosh!', 'Family', 'Whistle', 'Night time', 'On a hill', 'in the garden', 'on the beach'.

To mark Remembrance Day, pupils explored the question 'Why do we wear a poppy?' by watching 'My First Remembrance Day' on CBeebies and creating poppy pictures using Jit5, applying their Digital skills. These experiences inspire **curiosity about the past** and help pupils begin to understand the importance of remembrance.

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Reception's topic this term has been *'Me and My World'*, which included a geography focus on the children's local area. The pupils went for a walk around the local area and talked about the different buildings they could see. They then drew a map of the area and created models of the buildings they observed, combining them to make a large map. This encouraged **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.**

Reception pupils created a timeline showing the stages of growing up from a baby to an elderly person, helping them understand the chronology of ageing. They also celebrated **Black History Month** by reading *'My First Heroes: Black History'* and watching videos from CBeebies. Pupils then made handprint butterflies using different skin tones to represent diversity, supporting the understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

Pupils have learned about important religious festivals, including Harvest, where they explored where food comes from and discussed Christian values of giving to those less fortunate. They also enjoyed learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali, reading the story of *Rama and Sita* and creating diva lamps, Rangoli patterns, and Mendhi designs. These experiences help pupils begin their journey as ethical, informed citizens who respect and value different cultures and beliefs.

The children participated in a minute's silence for Remembrance Day and learned about its importance. They created their own poppies using playdough and buttons, developing the understanding that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.**

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Year 1

This term's Year 1 topic has been *'Let's Celebrate Me'*, which focused on celebrations within Wales and the wider world through History and Religion, Values & Ethics. At the beginning of term, pupils were introduced to the school's mascot, Rory the Rights Respecting Rhino. With Rory's help, they learned about the UNCRC Rights of the Child and how all children have these rights, along with responsibilities. Pupils worked together to create their own classroom rules, which they strive to follow every day, supporting their development as ethical, informed citizens.

Pupils explored the history of toys and how they have changed over time. They discussed similarities and differences and the materials toys are made from, then sorted toys into old and new categories using a Venn diagram. Working with Swansea Museum, pupils borrowed a box of very old toys—some nearly 100 years old—and were able to handle and, in some cases, play with these artefacts. Each toy had a fact file written about it, including its type, age, materials, and interesting facts, learning that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.**

In RVE, pupils learned about the Jewish celebration of Sukkot by watching a video of a family preparing for the festival. They explored its traditions, including the Sukkah, foods, and decorations, before working outdoors in teams to build their own Sukkah huts using natural materials. Pupils also celebrated Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light, by watching a day in the life of Jessica as she prepared for the celebration. They learned about the variety of sweets and desserts made for Diwali and enjoyed making their own Diwali sweets. Pupils are learning that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

Pupils marked **Black History Month** by listening to a rap by Rhys from CBeebies and learning about Baroness Floella Benjamin, a children's author, TV presenter, and politician. They worked collaboratively to create a 'roll on the wall' listing all the amazing qualities of their chosen Black hero. As Bonfire Night approached, pupils discussed why it is celebrated in the UK and learned about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. They explored the conflict

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between Catholics and Protestants during this time and concluded that everyone has a right to their own religion and that we should respect others' beliefs. Finally, pupils participated in a minute's silence for Remembrance Day and made poppies to remember those affected by war.



Year 2

At the beginning of the year, pupils discussed what type of classroom environment helps them learn best. Through this discussion, they agreed on classroom rules and expectations and created a display to refer to throughout the year. This term's topic, *Sparkle and Shine*, encouraged pupils to use **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future**. Through EPIC (Everyone Planning In Class), pupils decided they wanted to learn about the history of electricity and explore Welsh lighthouses, including their location, age, and designs.

To celebrate **Black History Month**, pupils learned about Rosa Parks and discussed how rules in society have changed over time. They created a timeline of key events in Rosa's life, learning that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways**.

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Pupils also explored how light is used in celebrations. Some children shared how they celebrate Diwali at home, enabling the class to learn about Hindu traditions through art and storytelling. Learners listened to the story of *Rama and Sita* and created a story map, supporting the understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

Through these experiences, pupils have demonstrated curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, developing as ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives.

Year 3

To begin the year, pupils explored the theme of rights and responsibilities. Through thoughtful discussion, they identified what was important for their class community and selected the rights and rules they felt **were most meaningful, helping them develop as ethical, informed citizens** who understand fairness and respect.

As part of their topic *Into the Woods*, pupils enjoyed an exciting trip to Penllergare Woods. They explored the natural surroundings and practised map-reading skills to navigate through the woodland. Back at school, they created their own maps of Penllergare Woods and compared them with maps of Pembrey Country Park. They identified both natural and human features in each location and discussed similarities and differences, linking to **our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.** Their learning extended into local history as they discovered the story of John Dillwyn Llewelyn. By examining images of Penllergare Woods past and present, they identified changes over time and explored the reasons behind them, learning that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.**

In celebration of **Black History Month**, pupils began by learning why this important event is marked each year. They explored the lives of influential figures in Black history and studied the work of artist Lois Mailou Jones. After appraising a range of her vibrant artworks, pupils sketched their own ideas and used oil pastels to create expressive pieces inspired by her use of colour and pattern. These experiences encouraged **enquiry, exploration and**

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investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future, while fostering creativity and cultural appreciation.



Year 4

To begin the school year, pupils explored the concepts of rights, needs, and wants. They discussed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and ranked the rights most important to them. This led to the creation of a Class Charter, helping learners understand how to be ethical, informed citizens who respect fairness and responsibility.

As part of the topic *Food, Glorious Food*, pupils designed front covers showing what they already knew and what they wanted to learn. Their ideas helped shape the term's planning, including a visit to Swansea Market where they spoke with traders and learned about local produce – encouraging **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future**. Pupils studied the continents and oceans, identifying where different foods are produced. Using atlases and online maps, they labelled their own world maps, learning that **our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions**.

In RVE, pupils learnt about the Christian festival of Harvest. After watching a video from the Salvation Army, they discussed how communities support those in need. Pupils wrote letters to parents requesting donations and set up a Harvest trolley at school, demonstrating empathy and ethical action. Our Year 4 pupils are becoming **informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action**, and this was evident as pupils reflected on how their

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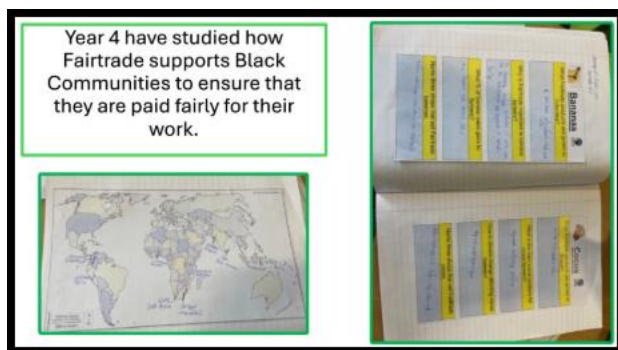
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contributions could make a difference. They also explored the celebration of Christmas through an interactive visit to Swansea Minster, where they learned about the biblical stories of Christmas and Easter in a multi-sensory session.

During **Black History Month**, pupils researched key figures such as Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks, and Mary Seacole. Working in groups, they created PowerPoint presentations and used their oracy skills to share findings with the class, linking to the statement that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways**. Pupils studied Nelson Mandela's role in ending apartheid and raising awareness of racism worldwide. They also explored how Fairtrade supports Black communities, listening to the story of the 'Fairtrade banana' and discussing the importance of fairness and respect for all.



Year 5

Similarly to other year groups, Year 5 began academic year by exploring the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Working with talk partners, they read through the rights and selected those they felt were most important and relevant to school life. These ideas were used to create a Class Charter and agreed class rules.

Encouraging curiosity and pupil voice, the Autumn term topic *Beacons of Hope* began with pupils examining a range of artefacts and asking questions about what they already knew and what they wanted to find out. They then explored how, when, and why World War II started. As a topic hook, pupils enjoyed a drama performance titled *Living through the Blitz*,

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which told the story of a woman living in Swansea during the war. This interactive experience allowed pupils to participate and learn about significant aspects of wartime life. Following the performance, pupils wrote summaries of what they had learned, demonstrating **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.**

Pupils studied the impact of the war locally, focusing on the three-night Blitz in Swansea. They examined before-and-after photographs and reviewed lists of those who lost their lives, discussing how close to home some addresses were. They then explored evacuation, watching *The Railway Children*, reading real evacuee letters, and using a higher-order question matrix to prepare questions for real-life evacuees. Pupils also investigated rationing, linking it to COVID-19 for real-life connections, and analysed propaganda posters to understand why growing food was encouraged during the war.

To celebrate **Black History Month**, pupils focused on Rosa Parks. They watched a video about her life and worked in small groups to create lapbooks detailing her story and the bus boycott, learning that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.**

Year 5 also researched **Remembrance Day**, learning why it is such a significant date. They created handmade felt poppies and advertised their products as part of an enterprise project to raise money for the Royal British Legion, showing that **informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.**

Finally, pupils explored Humanist and Christian values, creating information pages about beliefs and annual celebrations. Pupils compared similarities and differences between these worldviews, learning that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.** They shared their findings with the other Year 5 class via Teams, promoting collaboration and respect for diversity.

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Year 6

Year 6's topic this term has been *Enterprise*, with a strong focus on financial literacy and real-life business contexts. Pupils developed product concepts and collected authentic data by visiting classes and asking pupils and teachers which ideas they preferred. They investigated pricing options and considered how to make their products appealing, demonstrating **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.**

This topic provided meaningful opportunities to apply numeracy skills, as pupils calculated costs and profits, and explored local businesses such as CK's and global companies like Apple. They also developed cross-curricular literacy skills by speaking to customers, listening to feedback, and presenting ideas to large groups—key life skills that will support them in the future. Both Year 6 classes showed creativity and innovation in producing their final products, linking to the Four Purposes as pupils grew into **ambitious, capable learners** ready to play a full part in life and work.

As part of **Black History Month**, pupils studied Oprah Winfrey, learning that she was the first Black female billionaire. Her inspiring story encouraged discussion about resilience and success, supporting the understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.** In RVE, pupils explored the religious festivals of Harvest and Sukkot, using a Venn diagram to compare similarities and differences. This activity helped pupils appreciate diversity and respect for different beliefs.

Humanities Senedd Group:

This term, the Humanities Senedd group has worked collaboratively to strengthen the provision of Humanities across the school. Key actions included:

- **Prayer Room Review** – Discussed and evaluated the impact of the prayer room and considered ways forward to ensure it meets pupils' needs.
- **Future Planning** – Briefly explored ideas for a *Burlais Religions Day* to take place later in the year, promoting understanding of diverse faiths.
- **Curriculum Monitoring** – Reviewed current topics across the school to ensure consistency and progression in Humanities learning.

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- **Community Engagement** – Planned for Year 3 and Year 4 to undertake an 'Experience Christmas' workshop at St. Mary's Church in December, fostering links with the local community.
- **Collective Worship** – Emphasised the importance of daily collective worship across all year groups and agreed to email reminders to teachers during the next meeting.

LLC Report to Governors – Autumn 2025 Miss H. Hill and Mrs S. Young

Nursery

Through their Planning in the Moment ethos, the Nursery children have enjoyed a range of activities this term such as:

English

There are many fine motor skills developing activities on offer to the children daily, such as mark making, cutting and sticking, threading beads, building blocks, doing zips up on coats with little support, chalk on the ground, paint brushes and water.

The Nursery pupils are provided with lots of opportunities for singing well known traditional rhymes and songs in small groups and on a whole class basis. As a whole class, they explore songs and rhymes through Makaton. The children enjoy watching/singing/signing Makaton rhymes. We are learning 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' in Makaton for the Christmas concert. There are ample opportunities to talk and listen to talk through their play – talk about personal experiences, talk about families and home life, talk about their plans for the day etc. The children have access to topic/seasonal related stories throughout their session. They can choose to sit and hold these books as a reader at any time. They can request an adult to read to them and talk to them about the books. We also have 'Story Time' as a class on the carpet.

Sound of the Week – every Monday, we explore a new sound from our RWI programme. So far AM Nursery have found out about m, a, s, d, t, i and n. This is a whole class activity and will continue through the year.

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Welsh

The Nursery take part in a number of activities to promote and practice the Welsh language:

- Counting daily in Welsh.
- Sing songs together in Welsh.
- The children have been observed using Welsh in their play.
- All adults use Welsh language incidentally in class during the session.
- Every Thursday they have a whole class 'Amser Cymraeg' where they follow the songs set on the Foundation Phase Welsh CD and listen to the Joio Dan5 stories. The children thoroughly enjoy responding to the words and phrases practised here.
- Ddraig Dwynwen – Every Thursday during 'Amser Cymraeg' they choose a different person to look after our class friend Dwynwen. So far she's been to our Capital City, Cardiff; Folly Farm; Cwmbwrla Park; the Doctors; Shopping and to the Parade Nadolig in Swansea City Centre! Oh! Mae Dwynwen yn Iwcus!

Reception

English

The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of fine motor and funky fingers activities to get them ready for writing.

They have been practising writing their names and writing down how they were feeling.

At the beginning of the term, the children made an 'All about me' box at home which they brought into school to show the rest of the class. The children talked about what was in their boxes. After talking about their 'All about me' boxes, the children drew and wrote about one object from their box.

The children have begun to learn some RWI sounds and are working well within their new groups. They have all been given reading books which they are thoroughly enjoying, and they are learning the names of the main characters in the books.

The children enjoyed talking about their half term holidays and used some Pie Corbett actions to help them tell the rest of the class. They then used some sentence starters to write down what they had done.

After our Internet Safety class assembly, the children talked about how to stay safe online.

One of the children's favourite activities this term was performing 'Autumn Leaves are Falling Down'. They sung the nursery rhyme and even used musical instruments to accompany their singing!

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For story writing, the children read 'Owl Babies' and sequenced and wrote parts of the story using the new RWI sounds they had learned.

Welsh

The children thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Shwmae Day. They particularly enjoyed listening to and joining in with some Welsh songs and baking Bara Brith.

The children have learnt how to say and answer Pwy Wyt ti? Using Jit, they drew a picture of themselves and wrote ____ dw I. They have also been learning how to answer Sut Wyt ti?

During their check ins and have been writing down how they are feeling.

Using the Tedi Twt books, the children have been learning about the different weathers.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed the new Ffa-La-La songs to help them learn all the sentence patterns and vocabulary they need for their first-person profile.

Year 1

English

Speaking and Listening

Pupils have had lots of opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills through whole class carpet time, paired and group working using our Talk Partner rules. Talk Partners are changed weekly and are used in all of our carpet time sessions to encourage whole class participation in discussions. Pupils express their opinions during class assemblies and also participate in circle time sessions, where they are encouraged to develop their good listening skills as well as developing their confidence when speaking in front of others.

Reading

All pupils have been enjoying reading with an adult focusing on reading their individual reading books as well as choosing their own story books from the learning lounge. Pupils have also been introduced to the app Teach Your Monster to Read, they are able to use this in their independent challenges to develop their sound recognition and blending. In RWI pupils attend lessons specific to their ability which includes a range of reading tasks such as speed sounds, word time, ditties, stories and several writing tasks such as hold a sentence and edit a sentence. Our story times have focused on the author Jane Hissey and the tales of Old Bear. The children have thoroughly enjoyed listening to stories about Old Bear and his friends and all of their adventures.

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Writing

The pupils introduced themselves to Year 1 with writing a short piece titled "All about me" from this, pupils were taught the non-negotiables when writing e.g. capital letters, finger spaces, full stops and correct letter formations. Swansea museum kindly allowed Year 1 to borrow items from their toy museum for the pupils to explore and discuss, pupils then wrote a short piece about their own favourite toys. Pupils participate in multi-sensory handwriting activities including using play doh, sand, chalks and paints to help develop correct letter formations using cursive handwriting. When learning about the story of Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night the pupils discussed the importance of staying safe around bonfires and fireworks. They worked as a whole class to create a persuade skeleton to help them when creating their own safety posters. Our poetry focus for the term was onomatopoeias. Pupils learnt lots of new vocabulary to describe the sounds of fireworks on bonfire night, during talk partner discussions pupils created an onomatopoeia word bank which they then used to write their own onomatopoeia poem.

Welsh

In daily Slot Drillio sessions pupils have been singing familiar songs using the Ffa-La-La scheme which include the weather, days of the week, months of the year and numbers. Pupils are beginning to ask and answer simple questions to develop their first-person dialogue, these questions include 'Pwy wyt ti? Sut wyt ti'n teimlo? Faint ydy dy oed di? Ble wyt ti'n bwy? Beth wyt ti'n hoffi? Beth wyt ti'n ddim yn hoffi? Pupils will use their learning to develop and write their own first person profile. Each week a pupil is chosen to take our class mascot home, Dwynwen the Sheep has been on lots of lovely adventures over the weekends and pupils are trying their best at home to speak Welsh with their families. Pupils have really enjoyed using the Tric a Chlic scheme to learn new Welsh sounds and sentence patterns. Pupils complete a variety of activities these include spelling new Welsh vocabulary, reading Tric a Chlic Melyn books, building a sentence using the sentence pattern games to help them to write sentences independently and using the Tric a Chlic app. Pupils have also participated in Shwmae Day, pupils showed pride in speaking Welsh and understanding the importance of using and developing the language in our daily lives.

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Year 2

Speaking and Listening

The children have had lots of opportunities to develop their oracy skills through daily talk time activities; such as circle time and talk partners. We started the term by gathering as a year group and discussed our new topic 'Sparkle and Shine'. The children were very good at sharing their thoughts and ideas on what they would like to learn about. There have been opportunities weekly to take turns to share news and ideas on a range of topics and to develop listening skills.

Reading

The children have taken part in daily RWI sessions, targeted at their personal ability level. Activities have included phonics work (speed sounds), learning tricky words (red words), shared reading and reading with confidence, expression and fluency.

The children also have individual reading books which they take home to practise each week and are listened to 1-1 with an adult in class.

The children all thoroughly enjoy our daily story time and love to spend time in our class book corners, looking at books with their friends and reading for pleasure.

Writing

As part of our 'Sparkle and Shine' topic, the children learnt about local lighthouses and wrote about their favourite. Next, we will be learning how to make a circuit which will lead to us writing explanations on how to make a bulb light up, with diagrams.

Year 2 have also just learnt about Guy Fawkes and used jit5 mix to write sentences about the story. During Diwali week we learnt the story of Rama and Sita. We sequenced pictures to help us remember the order of events and then produced story maps to retell the story.

Welsh

We have been using lots of Welsh in class during registration time and throughout the day. We have had an emphasis on learning to say and write new vocabulary and simple sentences for our feelings and the weather and have been enjoying our daily slot drillio sessions.

Linked to our focus story 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch', we learnt the song 'Beth sydd yn y fasedg?'. This helped us practise food vocabulary which then led to us asking each other 'Beth wyt ti'n hoffi bwyta?'

We are currently learning how to say where we live, what type of house and with who. Next, we will be writing our one-page profiles.

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We had a great day last month celebrating 'Shwmae Day'. We enjoyed singing Welsh songs and having a little dance to Welsh music.

Year 3 English

This term, Year 3 have focused on developing their literacy skills through a range of activities based on our topic –'Into the woods'. The children explored features of instruction writing through highlighting of some texts linked to woodland activities. They then learnt to retell the instruction text on 'How to trap a dragon'. The class produced story maps on how to trap a forest animal of their choice. There were foxes, badgers, rabbits, mice and owls. Once the children internalised their versions, they wrote out their own set of instructions. Using the success criteria drawn up by the class, the children marked their own work against this. After their exciting trip to Penllergare Woods, the children returned to school and began working on their next writing genre: recount writing. The experience provided a rich opportunity to reflect and write about a real-life event. The class explored examples of recounts from other school trips and identified the key features that make a good recount. They then devised their own recount maps of the trip and used these to support their writing. Pupils used a shared success criteria to mark their own work and peer assess each other's writing, helping them to reflect and improve. Using J2Office, they typed up a final version, showcasing both their writing and digital skills.

As part of their literacy work, Year 3 also visited Brynhyfryd Library, where they met the librarians who introduced them to the different types of books available. The children listened to a story and each chose a book to take back to school and read in class. This visit helped to foster a love of reading and introduced pupils to the resources available in their local community.

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Towards the end of the term, Year 3 moved onto story writing. They read the story 'The Wild Robot'. The pupils have been developing their descriptive writing skills. They learned how to use adjectives, similes, and alliteration to make characters come alive. They practised text marking to spot effective techniques in examples and applied these in an independent write. They also reinforced punctuation skills, including using commas in lists, to improve accuracy.

The children also explored Kennings poetry, using creative two-word phrases to describe objects and ideas. They enjoyed experimenting with language and produced imaginative poems.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed beginning their journey into British Sign Language. They've practised the alphabet, their names and greetings

Welsh

Year 3 have enjoyed learning key sentence patterns in their slot drillio sessions. They have learnt new patterns from the communicative goals, such as 'Beth wyt ti'n hoffi chwarae/bwyta?', 'Beth wyt ti'n weld/clywed yn y goedwig? Beth sydd yn Abertawe?' The children especially enjoyed our questionnaire lessons where they went around the class to ask and answer questions with their peers. The children also enjoyed celebrating Shwmae day and creating posters to help raise the profile of our wonderful home language.

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The children have explored the Tric a Chlic apps to develop their reading and sound recognition. They have also used the slot drillio PowerPoint to develop their reading of these key patterns. We display Welsh books in our class library and some children enjoy looking at these.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed practising writing our focused language patterns. They particularly enjoyed the lessons where they got to write as if they were famous celebrities and 'Guess Who' game characters!

Year 4 English

This term, Year 4 have enjoyed developing their literacy skills through our topic Food Glorious Food. The children have enjoyed reading and listening to the story Charlie and the Chocolate Factory which has been an engaging text and has led lots of our activities.

The children developed their writing skills through a variety of exciting and purposeful tasks. They began by preparing for a visit to Swansea Market, where they practised writing and asking open-ended questions. After the trip, they wrote detailed recounts, using time connectives and descriptive language to bring their experiences to life.

Year 4 have explored poetry by writing free verse poems inspired by their favourite foods. As part of their narrative year 4 were given the task to invent a brand-new character to enter Willy Wonka's factory. They wrote detailed character descriptions, focusing on personality traits, appearance, and how their character would behave in the story.

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Later in the term, the children will move on to instructional writing. They will be focusing on instructional writing and will write A Recipe for the Perfect Christmas.

Year 4 have had lovely opportunities to develop their oracy skills this term. Before their trip to Swansea Market, the children practised their questioning skills in pairs and small groups, and wrote a list of questions that they would like to ask. During the trip, they confidently engaged with stallholders, asking their questions and listening to their answers.

After the children have written their recipes for a perfect Christmas, they will also be creating a video presentation of their Perfect Christmas recipe.

Welsh

This term, Year 4 have placed a strong emphasis on developing their Welsh oracy skills, with a particular focus on asking and responding to questions confidently. The children have enjoyed engaging in a variety of interactive games designed to promote effective questioning and active listening. These activities have not only strengthened their conversational abilities but also encouraged them to use Welsh naturally in real-life situations.

For example, pupils have learned to express their opinions using a range of sentence patterns and to communicate their preferences, such as choosing what they would like for lunch – e.g., "Dw i eisiau cyw iar achos mae'n flasus".

Year 4 pupils have been working towards creating a detailed first-person profile, describing their appearance, likes and dislikes, clothing, and family members. Through these tasks, learners have become more confident in using Welsh to share personal information and express themselves in meaningful contexts. Pupils presented their work orally, demonstrating confident, clear, and accurate speaking skills and pronunciation.

Year 5

English

This term, the pupils have enjoyed reading our class novel 'Letters from the Lighthouse' based on our current topic of World War 2. The pupils have enjoyed listening to our novel daily, with many volunteers to read to the class too! We have used lots of inference and

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deduction throughout the term, with lots of predicting and questioning. The children often refer to the novel when we are learning about new things in our topic, which has been lovely to see. The children have also taken part in our daily ERIC sessions for everyone to read books that they enjoy.

Year 5 have taken part in a variety of activities to develop their writing. They have written an evacuee letter and a propaganda poster linked to their topic. They have developed their skills in adding detail to their sentences by learning about adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs and similes. They wrote an anti-bullying poem during anti-bullying week. They also take part in weekly spelling and handwriting lessons.

Welsh

The pupils began the year by creating a passport for themselves, independently writing about themselves as much as they could. The pupils then developed new sentence patterns and vocabulary each week and will work towards writing a first-person profile using all the sentence patterns that they have learnt this term to write about themselves independently. The pupils have practised writing, and speaking a range of sentence patterns and questions each week, ensuring that they are adding as much detail as they can to their sentences by adding our ffrils. They have practised these in Welsh lessons, daily check-in and in daily slot drillio sessions.

Year 5 have carried out slot drillio sessions each day through a range of activities including Welsh stories, ffa la la songs, Welsh games, discussing our weekend and using our school scheme Gyda'n gilydd for new vocabulary.

Our current topic, World War 2 has also been incorporated into our Welsh lessons as pupils have created a Faciwi label in Welsh along with drawing and labelling all of the items in Welsh that they would have packed in their evacuee suitcase. The children then wrote some sentences about their new home in the countryside.

Finally, we have celebrated Shwmae Day in year 5 by holding a Welsh cafe for pupils to have a conversation in Welsh with their talk partner whilst enjoying squash and biscuits.

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Year 6 English

Pupils have had 20 minutes daily reading time during ERIC (*Everyone reading in class*) sessions. They have thoroughly enjoyed our class novel 'Billy Sure Kid Entrepreneur'. Pupils have written a persuasion text to convince people to buy our Enterprise products which they have made. They have also written fantastic poems about being successful and chasing your dreams. We have focussed on grammar skills including double commas, compound sentences, complex sentences, and semicolons. Pupils have also had weekly spelling lessons and tests, and they have learned about various spelling strategies and rules. Pupils have developed their speaking and listening skills by asking and answering open and closed questions to their partner. They activate their prior knowledge with 2 questions for their partner each lesson. They have also developed their Oracy skills by presenting a persuasive speech to the class.

Welsh

Year 6 have been using lots of incidental Welsh during check in and throughout the day. They have been using Welsh comments when peer assessing. Pupils have also reinforced Welsh language patterns using Word Wall and LearnWelsh.net websites during lessons. They have completed daily slot drilio sessions, and they have developed their oracy and writing skills when writing Welsh conversations with their talk partners. Pupils have also been learning a variety of sentence patterns which they have applied to writing a first-person profile. They have learnt how to talk about their feelings, their appearance, where they live, their hobbies, and foods they like or dislike. They also celebrated Shwmae day with posters, PowerPoints, games, creative activities, and quizzes.

Pupil Voice

- In our first Senedd meeting of the year, the pupils chose our leaders for our team and discussed the role of the Senedd.
- The pupils recorded a variety of 'Patrwm yr Wythnos' to be shared with the whole school each week.

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Mathematics and Numeracy

Mrs. K. Meredith Williams

Nursery

Nursery pupils have been working hard to develop their mathematical skills and understanding of number through a variety of practical activities. They have explored Numicon plates in several ways, including threading, counting holes, and creating pictures using different shapes. Pupils have also practiced their counting skills, developing their understanding of one-to-one correspondence.

In the Geometry strand, pupils have explored 2D shapes such as circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles through practical activities. They have also developed their understanding of measurement by comparing objects using vocabulary such as big and small and more and less.

The pupils loved taking their mathematical learning outdoors during 'Welly Wednesday' sessions, where they explored making patterns in the natural environment and applied their counting skills to count their 'train line' together.

Reception

Reception pupils have been using the White Rose Scheme to develop their mathematical skills through the Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract (CPA) approach. They have used a range of resources to support learning and have covered many concepts within the What Matters Statements, including:

- Counting and recognising numbers to 10 and then 20.
- Matching pairs and objects.
- Comparing amounts using mathematical vocabulary such as more than and less than.

Pupils have begun to develop an early understanding of algebra by exploring, copying, and creating patterns. They are also developing data handling skills by sorting objects and creating sorting rules.

Reception pupils have explored a range of measuring activities, comparing objects by size, length, and capacity. They have thoroughly enjoyed playing number games on the C-Touch to reinforce and consolidate skills.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: Pupils applied their data handling skills during a science experiment on light sources, creating tables and pictograms to determine which light sources

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worked best in the dark. They also read 'Whatever Next' and applied their knowledge of shapes and properties by designing their own space rockets.



Year 1

Year 1 pupils have been using the White Rose Mathematics Scheme and engaging in practical number activities. They have focused on counting, ordering, and comparing numbers, practicing number formation, understanding 1 more and 1 less, and using symbols ($<$, $>$, $=$) to compare numbers and objects.

Pupils have investigated equivalence using balance scales and explored number bonds. They have worked hard on mathematical language, developing their ability to explain thinking using correct vocabulary.

In Geometry, pupils have explored 2D and 3D shapes through practical investigations and modelling. They enjoyed printing 2D shapes using 3D shapes and discussed properties using terms such as faces, corners, flat, and curved.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: Pupils collected data on favourite toys using tally charts, created graphs on JIT, and interpreted results by answering questions. They sorted toys into old and new using Venn diagrams and reinforced Welsh vocabulary during Shwmae Week by creating a pictogram of house types. Pupils also printed pictures of toys to explore shape properties. All pupils have been introduced to Numbots and enjoy using the app to develop mental maths strategies. Parents have been provided with individual logins for home use.

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Year 2

Year 2 pupils have continued using the White Rose Maths Scheme to develop their skills through practical activities. Key focuses include reinforcing number bonds to 20, counting objects to 100, identifying tens and ones, and ordering and comparing numbers. Pupils have used place value charts and number lines to deepen understanding. They have developed fluency by counting in 2s, 10s, and exploring 5s and 3s. They are beginning to understand fact families and use related facts to solve problems. In Data Handling, pupils analysed pictograms and block graphs, asking and answering questions to interpret data.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: Year 2 pupils sorted animals into Nocturnal and Diurnal categories, classified light sources, and created historical timelines. During Shwmae Week, they reinforced Welsh vocabulary by creating a pictogram of house types. All pupils have been encouraged to log onto Numbots independently and enjoy using it to develop mental maths strategies. They have also consolidated skills through online games on TopMarks, often challenging themselves to beat the adult's score.

Year 3

Year 3 have been using the White Rose Maths Scheme to develop their understanding of place value. They explored numbers up to 1000 and investigated different ways of partitioning and representing numbers using part-whole models and bar models. Pupils identified numbers on number lines to 1000 and found 1, 10, and 100 more or less than a given number. They learnt to order and compare numbers using symbols such as $<$, $>$ and $=$. Pupils have also started learning addition and subtraction, using their knowledge of number bonds to 10, 20, and 100 to add 3-digit and 2-digit numbers. They have been introduced to the column method for adding and subtracting 2-digit and 3-digit numbers.

To strengthen their skills, pupils engaged with interactive platforms such as Hit the Button, Splash Learn, Numbots, and Times Tables Rock Stars, reinforcing key concepts like number bonds, times tables, and mental arithmetic in a fun and motivating way.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: In their topic 'Into the Woods', Year 3 explored coordinates on maps and identified features of the local area. They used J2 Branch to classify woodland

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animals, creating interactive branching databases. This activity developed skills in sorting, grouping, and logical reasoning while deepening their understanding of habitats.

Year 4

This term, Year 4 have focused on place value and the four operations using the White Rose Maths Scheme. Pupils learnt to order and round numbers with increasing accuracy, building a strong foundation for future learning.

A highlight was learning about perimeters through a creative project—designing their own chocolate factory! Pupils applied maths knowledge in a real-world context by calculating the perimeter of each room in their designs.

To support addition and subtraction, pupils used the CPA approach (Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract), exploring problems with resources, diagrams, and then abstract methods. Times tables have been a major focus, practiced through songs, games, and competitions using platforms like Splash Learn, Hit the Button, and TTRS.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: Pupils applied numeracy skills in other subjects by creating a timeline of Swansea Market and exploring key figures during Black History Month. They also investigated and analysed data about different chocolate bars.

Year 5

Year 5 have consolidated and extended their understanding of place value and the four operations using the White Rose Maths Scheme. Pupils read, wrote, and ordered numbers up to one million, understanding the value of each digit. They applied this knowledge to addition and subtraction using the column method and checked answers with inverse operations. Reasoning lessons encouraged pupils to solve problems independently or with a partner. Times tables remain a priority, supported by weekly tests and practice using TTRS and Hit the Button.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: In ICT, pupils collected and organised data in databases and spreadsheets. They created a World War II timeline, ordering key dates, and applied statistical skills by calculating mean, median, mode, and range of temperatures in Allies and Axis countries. During the Enterprise Project, pupils calculated earnings from handmade poppies for Remembrance Day and are now planning and budgeting for a VE Day party.

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Year 6

Year 6 focused on the four operations—addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division—developing conceptual understanding and making connections between operations using inverse checks. Pupils also worked on place value, rounding, and decimal numbers up to millions with five decimal places.

They explored the Statistics What Matters Statement, developing skills in collecting, representing, and analysing data. Linked to their topic, pupils focused on financial literacy and applying money skills in real-life contexts. Daily 'Do It Now' tasks have strengthened logical reasoning and problem-solving.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum: Enterprise has been a key focus, combining creativity with data handling and money skills. Pupils analysed funding options for their project, applying problem-solving and financial literacy. They studied real-life business data from Apple, exploring product evolution and revenue trends—an engaging and relevant link to their Enterprise topic.

Pupil Voice

The Mathematics and Numeracy Senedd Group met to discuss development priorities for this term:

- Charlie Davies was elected as Chair.
- Keshvitha Ramu was elected as Vice Chair.
- Pupils shared their views on Mathematics in school.
- Pupils decided to carry out a Learning Walk during the second Senedd meeting of the term.

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Pastoral Team
Miss A. Begum and Ms. S. Couch

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, it is a pleasure to reflect on the work of our pastoral team and the support we have provided across the school community. This term has been filled with opportunities to build positive relationships, nurture wellbeing, and ensure that every child feels safe, supported, and valued in school.

From supporting pupils with transitions, friendships, and behaviour, to working closely with families and external agencies, the team has been dedicated to putting children's needs at the heart of everything we do. We are proud of the progress many of our pupils have made socially and emotionally, and we continue to focus on creating an inclusive, caring environment where every child can thrive.

This term, the pastoral team has worked closely with Reaching Wider to raise aspirations of our Year 6 pupils. Together, we organised a trip to Swansea University where the children became 'Uni Explorers' for the day. The visit gave them a real insight into higher education while encouraging them to see the many opportunities open to them in the future. The activities they took part in were fun, challenging, and inspiring, which supported them to develop problem-solving and analytical skills while building their confidence to aim high.

In addition to raising aspirations with our Year 6 pupils, we have also continued our strong partnership with Reaching Wider to provide family sessions for our Happy Hive and ALN children. Following the huge success of last year's sessions, we were fortunate to receive funding again to extend this work and collaborate with KeyCreates. Their creative workshops have been a fantastic way for children and families to explore new ideas together, building confidence, communication, and positive relationships through play, storytelling, and imagination. These sessions have been very well received and have given our pupils valuable opportunities to shine outside of the classroom.

We are also delighted to have built new partnerships with both Tesco and New Bees. Tesco have kindly supported our school by providing toys and sensory items for the children, as well as offering additional support to some of our more vulnerable families. In the same way, New Bees, a local charity, have been instrumental in helping us to meet the needs of families within our community. Their generosity and commitment have already made a real difference, and we are extremely grateful for the positive impact these partnerships are having on our children and families.

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We have worked closely with City Church to provide our families with a baby bank located right here in school, ensuring that parents and carers can easily access essential items when



they need them most. In addition, we have partnered with Mr.X to provide Christmas gifts for our children and families, bringing a little extra joy and support during the festive period.

Another highlight of the term has been the visits from Teddy, our therapy dog from Cariad Pet Therapy. Teddy has been joining us for whole-class story time sessions, where the children have loved listening to stories linked to their topics. These sessions have not only supported reading and listening skills but also given the children the joy of spending time with Teddy, who is always rewarded with plenty of fuss and affection!

In conclusion, it has been a wonderful and eventful Autumn Term for our school community. The pastoral team has worked closely with children and families to nurture wellbeing, build confidence, and celebrate each child's achievements. Highlights this term have included our Year 6 "Uni Explorers" trip, creative family sessions with KeyCreates, the generosity of our

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partners Tesco and New Bees, and the joyful story times with Teddy, our therapy dog. We are incredibly proud of the progress and resilience the children have shown, and we look forward to continuing this positive work in the spring term. Thank you to all our families for their ongoing support in helping every child feel safe, valued, and inspired to thrive.



Science & Technology AOLE Report Mr. D. Webster

Leadership & Pupil Voice

This term, we have had a push on analysing data which has come from the mathematics & numeracy AOLE team and work undertaken in the cluster. This is a very big part of the science & technology AOLE and will be an area that the AOLE will benefit from.

Our Year Six pupils visited Swansea University and worked with Reaching Wider in the science lecture rooms. They even interviewed current students.

Our upstairs library has been superbly renovated by Mrs. Kierl and Ms. Thompson. They've used a space theme, using artwork and sculptures from last year. Great news for science & technology in Burlais, as this further emphasizes the subject. It looks wonderful.

We have set up our pupil voice Senedd group for the academic year, and the group had some excellent ideas.

Initial ideas included looking inside an old laptop to see how they work – which sounds like fun!

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Nursery

Our Nursery pupils have enjoyed exploring the Autumnal season during our Welly Wednesday. The children spotted the leaves falling each week; almost leaving the big tree bare! They observed different colours, talked about keeping warm, what could we do to keep warm in the autumn?

During Design and Technology (D&T), our pupils have access to ample crafting resources to design and make whatever they wish. The children enjoyed making binoculars using tubes and masking tape.

Using the big blocks, tyres and steering wheels; the children have created homes, vehicles and towers. Sometimes this is in solitary play, but often this is with the support of other peers and a member of staff.

Using their digital skills, our children enjoy the open access to the apps on the iPads. Here they play games that require them to follow paths using their fingers developing fine motor skills in the process. The children have enjoyed using a 'drag and drop' feature of the 9-piece Autumn jigsaw on the CTouch screen. To commemorate Remembrance Day, the children have created poppy pictures using Jit5.

Reception

In Reception the focus this term has been Space and the planets. The children have learned the difference between night and day and learned that the position of the sun is why we get night and day.

They have learned about nocturnal animals and sorted animals into different categories. They have explored light and dark and conducted an experiment on what makes the best light source.

They learned about the different planets in our solar system and made their own planet out of paper mâché. In Design and technology, using the different blocks in the construction area, the children built something that they saw on our walk around the local area. We built the shop, the church, the pharmacy and the dance studio

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Year One

This term, our science and technology foci are forces and magnetism. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with magnetism in the investigation area. They explored the classroom testing different objects to see if they were magnetic or non-magnetic and developed their scientific vocabulary using the words repel and attract.

The pupils explored a range of push and pull forces that make different toys move and took part in an investigation to find out how to make a toy car travel further using ramps.



During our visit from the Swansea toy museum the children identified the different materials that toys are made from including wood, metal, cloth and plastic. They have also experimented with a variety of moving toys and explored the different forces involved in making them move.

Through the 'Old Bear' stories the children have developed their skills in design technology by designing a way to help Old Bear escape from the attic. They have also applied their knowledge of materials to create a sukkah following specific criteria.

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Year Two

This term we are focusing on Physics and learning about light and dark, shadows, energy and electricity. We started by looking at light and dark which linked to celebrations of light from around the world. We learnt how to sort animals into nocturnal and diurnal. We took inspiration from the story 'Can't you sleep little bear?' and questioned how we can light up our home, what powers that light, how humans make lights to light things up and does the moon need electricity. We then explored natural and man-made light sources practically and will also be learning about stained glass windows in places of worship and how light changes them.

We have learnt about electrical safety and will be experimenting how to make a complete circuit that will light up a lightbulb through trial and error before learning about electrical symbols when drawing a circuit. We are also hoping to make our own junk model lighthouses that we can light up as we have been learning about local lighthouses in South Wales.

We had lots of fun learning about making a scientific prediction when we put a sparkler through the middle of a pumpkin and had to predict what might happen when it is lit. Lots of children thought it might explode, glow or fly up into the sky. After we observed what happened, we learnt how to write a conclusion that referred to our predictions.

Year Three

To launch our new topic, *Into the Woods*, Year 3 embarked on an exciting exploration of our school grounds, discovering and identifying the wide variety of plants and animals that call our local environment home.

Our pupils had a fantastic time on their recent trip to Penllergare Woods, where they deepened their understanding of woodland habitats through hands-on exploration. During the visit, they identified a variety of trees, twigs, and leaves, learning how to recognise different species and their unique features.

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Inspired by the natural surroundings, the children then designed and built their own habitats using materials found in the woods. Each habitat was carefully crafted to suit a chosen woodland animal, with thoughtful consideration given to the animal's characteristics and adaptations. It was a brilliant opportunity to connect classroom learning with the real world and to spark curiosity about the environment.



The pupils used Epic Books to research a chosen woodland animal to find out about its habitat and why it is suited to live there.

The pupils also found out about food chains of woodland animals and used BBC Bitesize to find out more about food chains and used the interactive activity to create their own food chains. They then drew their own food chains and labelled them using the correct vocabulary. The pupils explored adaptation and looked at how woodland animals are adapted to their environment. They drew pictures of a woodland animal and labelled the adaptations.

Year Four

This term, Year 4 have immersed themselves in the exciting topic *Food, Glorious Food*, exploring a wide range of cross-curricular themes that have sparked curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking.

In Science, pupils investigated material changes, conducting hands-on experiments to explore both reversible and irreversible reactions. From melting chocolate to baking Halloween

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biscuits, they observed how heat and mixing can transform ingredients—sometimes permanently! They also followed recipes, selected appropriate tools safely, and evaluated the outcomes of their cooking.

Pupils studied food groups and what makes a balanced diet, sorting foods and designing healthy plates. They explored food chains, plant habitats, and how organisms adapt to their environments—such as how cactus roots store water. These lessons deepened their understanding of sustainability and the impact of human choices on the natural world.

Inspired by the work of Sir. David Attenborough, pupils watched clips from his documentaries and created informative pages about his life and legacy, including sharing presentations on him with the class. They discussed environmental issues and how we can protect our planet, linking this to their learning about sustainability.

Looking ahead, pupils will be designing their own experiment to help Santa keep his hot chocolate warm on Christmas Eve—a festive investigation that blends their learnings in Science & Technology with seasonal fun!

Year Five

The children have been focussing on physics this term. They have investigated sources of light and how this light travels.

Year 5 have looked at the sun as a source of light and how shadows are created and why. We have also investigated translucent, transparent and opaque materials.

The learners experimented with the amount of light in the classroom with black out sheets on the windows and thought about living like this through the war.

As part of our World War II topic, we investigated electricity and circuits. We created simple and complex circuits and then designed and made a working lighthouse with the circuit in.

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Year 5 have also looked at sound and how our ears work, amazing things!

Year Six

This term, Year Six have focussed on chemistry and the study of matter: solids, liquids, gases and plasma. We have studied the three states of matter and investigated ice melting. Both classes have been investigating properties of liquid, as we have been working with slime, a non-Newtonian fluid. We learnt about how different liquids behave, and that you can even walk on some non-Newtonian liquids! Incredible.

We've learnt about pioneers in chemistry including Marie Curie and Newton. We also visited Swansea University and interviewed under and post-graduate students.

Continuing our work on liquids, and how they're different, we tested the densities of oil and water; creating *lava lamps in a bottle!* We added an Alka-Seltzer tablet, and food colouring, to create the various colours being suspended in the fluids. A very fun afternoon!

Our learners have undertaken work on basic elements of the periodic table, and how these elements can make basic compounds. We applied our digital skills and created databases using the elements of the periodic table.

Our pupils have really excelled within the computational thinking facet of the AOLE. We have undertaken coding tasks, and the digital work during our Enterprise Project has been amazing.

Our Year Six pupils are really excelling within this AOLE, and the work we are seeing in the books, and digitally, has been wonderful this term.

AOLE Report to Governors **Autumn Term 2025** **Expressive Arts** **Mr. M. Bowen**

Across the School

Once again it has been a busy term with regards to Expressive Arts and the work covered has been of the highest quality. As I am writing this report, all year groups are busy rehearsing their Christmas Concerts, with lots of roles for the pupils - both onstage and backstage.

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Nursery

The children in Nursery have had access to a wide range of resources for independent crafting – paper, cardboard, pens, tubes, tubs, tape and scissors. They also have open access to paints and the painting easel where they can explore the different colours on offer and how they can change – colour mixing. The Writing Table is always stocked with different media for exploring mark making at their individual level – chunky crayons to encourage grip, chunky pens, felt pens, pencils and small crayons. As part of their Seasonal Opportunities the children have made pumpkin prints using apples and used the story book 'Pippa the Pumpkin Fairy' to help with their mark making. For Bonfire Night, the children experimented with colour mixing on black card and then adding some glitter for that extra WOW factor! The children have also used JIT to create poppies for Remembrance Day. The iPad apps the children access encourage fine motor development with mark making activities.

Reception

The children in Reception have painted self-portraits to use as a class display. They also created autumn wreaths and they collected different leaves to do leaf rubbing. The children talked about the patterns on the leaves and the different colours. To celebrate Black History Month, the children made butterflies using handprints to show that we are all different. The children also used leaves to create a leaf man and an autumn collage.

The children enjoyed completing Halloween crafts such as pumpkin collages and pumpkin printing and they also used chalk to create firework pictures. As part of their Diwali celebrations, the children used different materials to create Rangoli patterns.

This half term, the children have looked at the paintings of Ron Banning and drawn their own picture of Worm's Head during the night.



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Year 1

Children have access to a range of materials and art resources daily such as chalks, paints, crayons, felt pens and they have explored using different size paintbrushes.

At the start of term our Year 1 children used mirrors to study their individual features and then painted self-portraits which are used for the class display. They also listened to 'The Dot' story which focused on growth mindset. The children then created their own dot picture using a range of paintbrushes and painting tools, which are displayed in our classroom to remind the children of the importance of not giving up.

Pupils have contributed to their EPIC and contribute to this weekly for their independent challenges and used their ideas to create their own topic front covers for our Autumn topic 'Let's Celebrate Me'.

The children have learnt a variety of daily songs that are sung as part of our routine through the Ffalala Welsh scheme. Pupils have also recently been learning songs for the Christmas concert and creating actions for the songs ready for their performance for parents and families.

Our topic is 'Let's Celebrate Me' and throughout this we have listened to the Old Bear stories by Jane Hissey and the children have then used sketching techniques to draw a bear. They used observation skills to do this and practised their sketching techniques beforehand. They have also used WAGOLLS and Success Criteria to create their own Firework Safety poster.

Throughout our circle time activities, they have been using musical instruments to focus on listening skills and focus and attention. This has been something they have really enjoyed doing and practising using different types of instruments.

Year 2

The children in Year 2 learnt about positive and negative shapes by applying dots of paint to a circle of card which was placed on top of a piece of square card. When the circle was

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removed, it left behind a negative circular shape. The children listened to the story Mixed by Arree Chung, and through this, they learnt about primary and secondary colours. They used paint to complete a colour wheel. They explored warm and cold colours and created a collage of them. They also undertook an outdoor learning digital photography activity, where they had to take photos of items and then create a tally to show warm and cool colours. For Black History Month, the children learnt about the artist Alma Thomas and created a group collage in her style. For Shwmae Day, they children looked at the work of the Welsh Artist, Dorian Spencer Davies, they gave their opinions of his work and then were asked to carefully colour in a picture in coloured pencil, using the correct colours, including colour mixing to get the correct colours.



Year 3

To launch their 'Into the Woods' topic, Year 3 explored the captivating work of environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy. Inspired by his use of natural materials and outdoor settings, the children ventured outside to create their own nature-based artworks. Using leaves, twigs, stones, and other found objects, they experimented with patterns and shapes, carefully arranging them into swirls, circles, arches, and lines.

This hands-on experience not only encouraged creativity and teamwork but also deepened their appreciation for the textures, colours, and forms found in nature. The children showed great focus and imagination as they transformed everyday natural items into striking visual designs, just like Goldsworthy himself.

As part of their 'Into the Woods' topic, Year 3 delved into the world of animal habitats. After learning about the different environments animals live in, the children used clay to sculpt their own animals, carefully shaping features and textures. They then took their creations

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outdoors, designing and building natural habitats using sticks, leaves, stones and other found materials bringing their clay animals to life in imaginative settings.

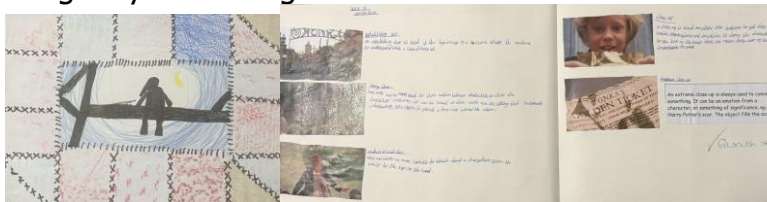
In celebration of Black History Month, the children explored the vibrant work of African-American artist Lois Mailou Jones. They studied a range of her pieces, discussing what they liked about each one and identifying elements they wanted to incorporate into their own art. Inspired by her bold use of colour and pattern, the children sketched their ideas and used oil pastels to create expressive, colourful artworks that reflected both personal creativity and cultural appreciation.



Year 4

The children have been looking at film this half term, they learnt about how colour, camera, characters, sound, setting and stories are used in films. We watched the 1971 version of Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory, the children read reviews of the film and then wrote their own reviews. They also identified the six most important parts of the story and created a storyboard. They will be linking Expressive Arts and LLC to create a group script and then an individual story about what happens when the film ends.

For Black History Month, the children learnt about the artist Faith Ringgold and they created a picture in her style using crayon rubbings.



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Year 5

The children in Year 5 have looked at the photographs of Herbert Mason and created their own version of the photo, *St Paul Survives*. They drew and cut out a template of the London skyline, including St Paul's Cathedral, and used black paper and white chalk to create their art. The children also looked at the work of Swansea artist Will Evans, they discussed the content of the pictures, the colours and the techniques. They were given a black and white copy of one of his pieces, and different shaped viewfinders. The children drew around the inside of the viewfinder in their books, then positioned the viewfinder on the picture and drew what was inside using sketching pencils, concentrating on shape and shade. They then copied the template and pastels technique again, but this time they had to create a template of the Swansea skyline from one of Will Evans's paintings. The children used red, orange and yellow chalk pastels to create a background. They used a polytile to make a skyline and printed this on top of the background in black paint.

The children were given the opportunity to look at the work of 6 Welsh artists, they then voted on their favourite artist and this information was turned into a graph. The children then answered questions about the graph. For Shwmae Day, the children looked at the work of local artist, Craig Jones, they then copied his picture of Mumbles lighthouse using collage. For Black History Month, the children looked at the work of the artist Romaine Bearden and created a collage of Martin Luther King in his style.

For Remembrance Day, pupils completed a collage of handmade poppies with various resources.



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Year 6

The children in Year 6 have been focusing on the film element of Expressive Arts this term. They learnt about how colour, camera, characters, sound and stories are used in adverts. For the camera lesson, the children learnt about camera shots and angles, then in groups they worked to take photos of each of the shots and angles and then made a PowerPoint of the photos with a written description of each. The children have had the opportunity to look at and discuss older adverts and how advertisers have used slogans and songs to make them memorable. They will be using this knowledge to create an advert to advertise their enterprise project items.

For Black History month, the children learnt about the artist Lorna Simpson and created pictures in her style.



AOLE Working Group

The AOLE group for Expressive Arts have met and are in the middle of transforming the upstairs learning lounge! It is really beginning to take shape so if you have time pop up and have a look – you'll be transported out of this world! The group have also distributed a wide selection of arts and crafts equipment across all year groups as the school had received a donation of spare equipment from people in the local community. In discussion with the pupils, we are hopefully planning a new competition that will run in the spring term. Watch this space for further news!

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Finally..... my thanks

The staff have gone 'above and beyond' this year to ensure not only are the children safe but are provided with an inspiring education. They have been truly amazing and a real credit to the school. Also, our wider community including our parents have supported us so much. It is humbling to lead such a wonderful team. I look forward to working together during 2026, onwards and upwards!

Mark S. Thompson
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