

Crown Prince's  
visit to Hornbill  
School,  
Page 3



Christmas Festivities,  
Pages 4 & 5



100th Day Celebration  
in School,  
Pages 6 & 7



Chinese New  
Year  
Celebration,  
Page 8



## Dashian Festival Picnic

On Friday, 13th October 2023, the school celebrated Dashain with our community by holding a whole school picnic. The school was buzzing with joy and laughter as families shared picnics in our school grounds. It was wonderful to see our families sharing food and enjoying each other's companies during this festive season.





# Remembrance Service





# Crown Prince visits Hornbill School

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince of Brunei visited Hornbill School on 11th December 2023. Our pupils welcomed His Royal Highness enthusiastically.





# Christmas Performances

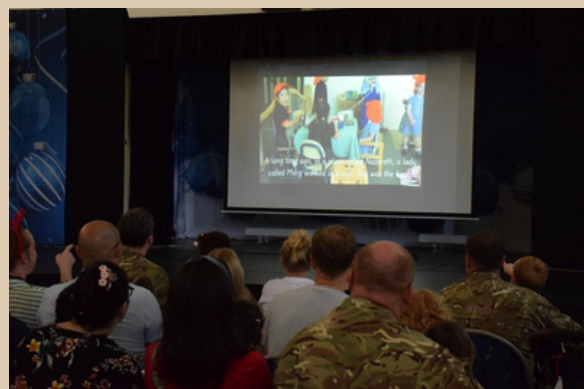
## KS1 Nativity



## KS2 Nutcracker



## FS2 Nativity Showing





# Father Christmas arrives in style



## Jolly Holly Fair





# 100th Day Celebration

Monday 12th February 2024



We celebrated our 100th day of school on Monday 12th February 2024. The children came to school dressed as if they were 100 years old. The day started with a catwalk and the best costumes were awarded with prizes. Throughout the day the children completed many tasks about the number 100 and joined other year groups to share their learning. The children celebrated being 100 days smarter!



## Charity Event – Thank You

As part of the 100th Day celebration, we collected food for the Love Paw Sanctuary Charity that supports needy animals in our community. Thank you for your amazing support as we were attempting to collect 100 items. However, we managed to collect over 130. Thanks for your support!





"In the 100th day I enjoyed it because we got to look all fancy and there was a special guest (Mrs Woods) who rated the best outfits of Y3 - Y6 and we got to walk the catwalk. A once in a lifetime experience! Another thing I really enjoyed that day, was seeing the Lion Dance and how the music really complimented the movements. It has given me great memories of Year 6."  
-Naveed, Year 6



"I enjoyed reading to the younger FS2 children and dressing up as a 100 year old, although I didn't win a prize, I still had fun. I also helped year 3 children with their learning about numbers to 100. I asked them lots of questions and I enjoyed being the teacher."

-Henry, Y5 Gecko Class



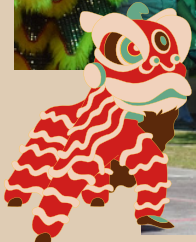
"I really enjoyed the 100th day of school because we did an amazing catwalk. Mrs Wood handed out the prizes. We created a 100th day mind map. It focused on everything we could think about the number 100 such as 100 metres, additions that totalled 100, subtraction problems and other things. The best thing about the 100th day was that we all dressed up."

-Zara, Y4 Gibbon Class





# Celebrating Chinese New Year





# Open Morning

14th February 2024



Following instructions to make Chinese New Year Lanterns.





# WONDERFULLY CREATIVE HORNBILLERS

## THE ARTS JOURNEY BEGINS!



Mr Simon Brown

Creative skills on display!

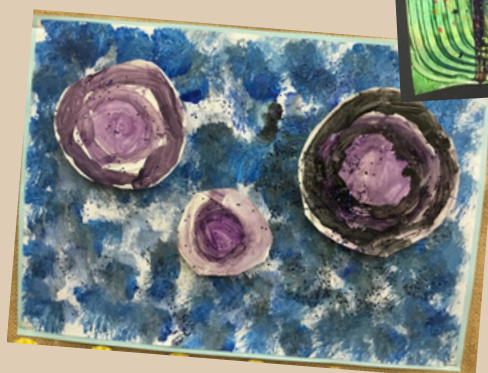
What a wonderful term of creativity we've had in the art room. All year groups have developed a plethora of artistic skills.

**FS2** have explored the wide variety of lines and how they can be created using different mediums. They explored 'texture' and create texture boards before they investigated how to make a colour lighter and darker. They focused on the artists, Kandinsky, Mondrian and Seurat. From this exploration, the FS2 children have created their own pieces of artwork.



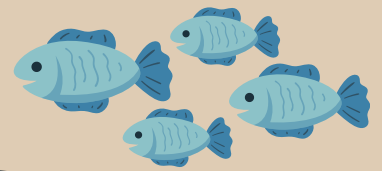
Linking in with **Year 1**'s focus on 'It's a Wonderful World', we explored weather and some paintings depicting weather from the artists Renoir and Henri Rousseau.

The children created a number of pieces of artwork that allowed for the exploration of making colours lighter and darker, line making, collage and using a paint brush in different ways. We followed that by focusing on the landscape artwork of contemporary artist David Hockney. The children created a David Hockney inspired collage and a woodland scene using scraping, printing and adding coloured sand to create texture.





**Year 2** have developed their drawing skills through an exploration of fish. They explored how to improve pencil drawings of fish and then, using the inspiration of artist Frank Polson, they created their own fish art work in his style. This involves the use of concentric shapes, oil pastels and water colour paint.

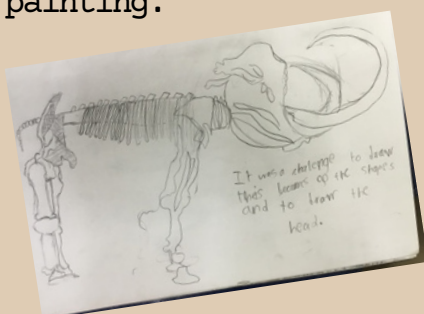


The Year 2 learners also explored various sea creatures. They created their own printing stamp made of cardboard and used it to create various prints. Once these were dry, they layered on detail using oil pastels. They used careful energy when using their fingers to rip up small pieces of paper which they collaged onto paper to create a turtle. Exploring the skill of weaving wool, Year 2 also created a woven fish. All these under-the-sea creations were mounted onto a backboard which was designed to reflect the ocean environment using various sponges.



**Year 3** have been digging deep into an exploration of the world of stone age cave painting. They explored the story of the Lion Man, investigating how to create colour brown and tints, shades and tones. They used clay to create their own Lion Man sculpture. Features of cave art were explored and recreated using varied mediums: paint, soft pastels and charcoal.

This exploration culminated in the children creating their own cave painting.



**Year 4** have explored Ancient Rome. They looked at the sculptures of Emperors and carried out observational drawings considering the use of light and shading, using different pencil grades and charcoal. They also explored painting still life vases. Year 4 studied Roman mosaics and used collage to recreate a section of a mosaic. Finally, they looked at Roman fashion especially ancient Roman footwear. Having explored the evidence for what styles of sandals the Romans wore, the children designed their own sandal. Firstly, they created a prototype out of paper to allow for easy adapting. Having learnt from this, the children used this prototype to make their final sandal out of cardboard, felt, wool and faux leather.





**Year 5** have been exploring the interesting artwork of the Ancient Mayans. We looked at the Mayan calendar and the symbols that were used to represent days and months. Using drawing ink, the children created a montage of the different symbols. Following on from symbols, the children looked at patterns that have been found on Mayan temples. Using this exploration, the children created their own printing stamp of a Mayan pattern which they used to print a repeated Mayan pattern from. Finally, the children curiously looked at Mayan masks and, having carried out some drawings, they designed their own Mayan mask which they made of out clay.



Linking in with **Year 6**'s exploration of the Second World War, we looked at the words 'war' and 'peace'. We considered what the words mean and how other artists have shown the juxtaposition of the two words. As the children were reading the book, 'The Machine Gunners' we looked at some technical drawings of some World War Two aeroplanes. The children developed their skills of carrying out technical drawings so that they could make thin card templates which could be used to trace around onto thicker cardboard to create a plane sculpture. Having considered how artists use line, colour and shape to show feelings and give messages to the artwork's audience, the children decorated their plane sculptures to depict both war and peace.



In the second half of the term, the Year 6 learners looked at World War Two uniforms and were challenged to created their own uniform to dress a drawing mannequin in. This process involved a lot of resilience as the children challenged themselves to create trousers, skirts and jackets that fitted their mannequins. They first used crepe paper to create their garments before next creating them out of felt. They developed their sewing skills in order to join the felt pieces together to create the garments. We then added details onto the clothing during the first art lesson of Term 2.





# SNAPSHOTS OF TERM 1 & 2.1



## SPORTS ACTIVITIES



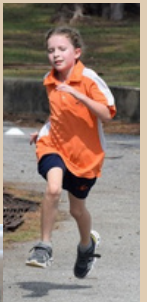
### FOOTBALL FUNDAY



### INDOOR ATHLETICS



### Panaga CROSS COUNTRY



### SWIMMING Gala



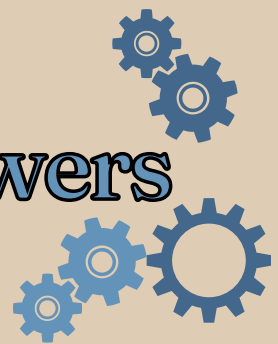




# Learning to Learn Building Learning Powers

**Focus on: Learning Powers**

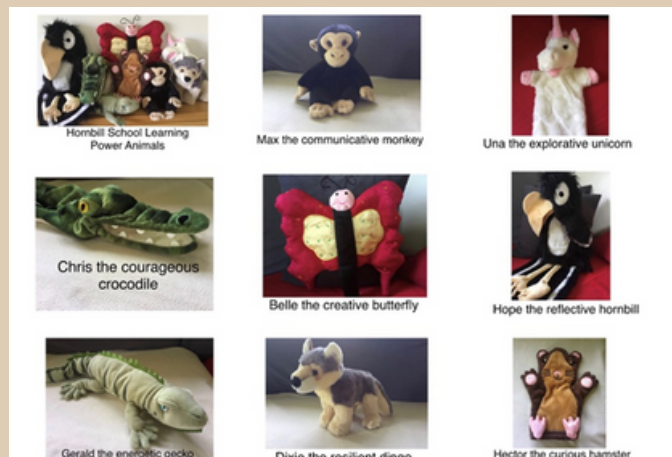
**Mrs Jo Brown**



At Hornbill School, we know how important it is to learn about different subject areas but we also know how important it is to learn about learning itself. To be a brilliant, high-flying learner takes some great skills which we work to develop from our TreeTops setting onwards, all the way through to Year 6, using our 8 focus 'learning powers'. When we use these powers whilst learning, and when we are able to be aware of times when we are not using them enough, this helps us to become better learners. Our core driver of 'metacognition' means that we can be aware of our own thinking and the times when we need to make changes to this to be the best learning versions of ourselves.

Our 8 focus learning powers are:

- energy
- communication
- curiosity
- exploration
- resilience
- reflection
- creativity
- courage



Each of these learning powers is represented by a learning power animal, chosen by learners as animals which also make use of this power in their own lives.

This term in our weekly CLT sessions (Community Learning Time), teachers have taken turns to present time to think about one of our learning powers in detail. This has been really interesting and enjoyable.

Imagine learning without these learning powers... it would be very challenging to make great progress.

**Energy** can be visible (in the way we use our bodies) or invisible (in the way we use our brains) and, without it, we would get through very little of our learning. We use energy to pay attention and to make the most of our working memory power to make long term learning memories.

**Communication** is essential for learning. We listen and speak, read and write to take information and ideas in and also to outwardly share our own ideas and outcomes. Learning without communication is impossible.





**Curiosity** fuels our desire to find out more. Humans are naturally curious and maximising this power drives us to find out so much more about our world and the way we live our lives. Without curiosity, our learning potential is restricted.

**Exploration** is used to dive deeper into our areas of curiosity. By exploring we can find out the answers to our questions and take our knowledge and understanding to another level. Without exploration, our questions may remain unanswered.

**Resilience** is essential for learning success. This power enables us to understand the need to keep striving, even when we are presented with challenges. Without resilience, learners can feel unable to continue to try their best when they are unsure or stuck.

**Reflection** is the power we use to consider how we can improve. It helps us to ask the questions 'What is going well?' and 'What needs to be changed?' Without reflection, we may repeat actions and methods that did not work so well. Reflection enables our positive evolution as learners.

**Creativity** enables us to innovate and to have original and unique ideas. We use creativity in all areas of our learning as we shape thoughts and ideas that are new. Without creativity, we only follow what others have done before, which - whilst a good idea at times - doesn't always allow us to explore our full, individual capacities.

**Courage** enables us to step out of our comfort zone and into learning that may feel unfamiliar and uncertain at first. Courage drives us towards new skills and development of ourselves as learners. Without courage, we limit ourselves to only those areas of learning that we already feel we can achieve.

Our learning powers are not just for learning at Hornbill School. They are just as powerful in any other learning environment and also throughout our adult lives.

**POWERFUL HORNBILLERS, ENGAGING POSITIVELY. WE ARE  
THE HIGH-FLYING HORNBILL COMMUNITY.**





# Foundation Stage 1



**Mrs Sujata Dewan & Ms Julie Bonner**

FS1 follow the Curiosity Approach in their learning. This puts the children at the centre of their own development. They are encouraged to explore, experiment and create with engaging resources and enthusiastic adults. Curiosity is awakened. Children learn to ask new questions as they express their imaginations. The children's interests have been diverse and interesting for example, pirates, minibeasts, growing seeds and gardening, dinosaurs, under the sea creatures and Arctic animals. We have had a very busy and engaging term in FS1.





# Foundation Stage Two

**Ms Yasmin Russell & Mrs Rachael Smith**

Foundation Stage Two had a wonderful start to this year and all children have settled fantastically into their new classes and learning environments. After two initial weeks of part-time hours to support the children's transition into a longer school day, in Week 3 full-time hours began and we started developing our fine motor skills, mark making and vocabulary through one of our now favourite daily learning activities - Drawing Club! In Drawing Club we have explored an exciting range of classic quality texts including Owl Babies, The Gruffalo, Handa's Surprise, Mr Gumpy's Outing, Rosie's Walk, Six Dinner Sid, Mrs Armitage on Wheels and Whatever Next! We have been amazed by the progress in the development of the children's pencil grip, the details in their drawings and their writing too, as they begin to put together graphemes to form simple words to annotate their drawings.



We enjoyed a number of special celebrations throughout the first term, with lots of opportunities for dressing up and fun activities. In Week 4 alongside Foundation Stage One, we celebrated International Talk Like a Pirate Day with a fun-filled week of pirate-themed enhanced provision activities like digging in the sand for buried treasure, using our cutting and hole-punching skills to make eye patches and inviting parents in to share pirate stories with us. We ended our week with a pirate dress-up day and capturing the enemy pirate, Mr Walters, who had stolen our treasure. He was tied up and made to walk the plank - that'll teach him for stealing our treasure!

In Week 7, as part of our Dashain celebrations, we made our own kites. We selected our materials then cut, stuck and taped them before testing them out on the FS Field.



In Week 10 we explored the importance of Remembrance Day through the story Ava's Poppy, making links to our own experiences, and created our own poppies too. In Week 11 we celebrated World Nursery Rhyme Week by sharing lots of rhymes and getting creative to make pails like Jack and Jill's, using playdough, coffee beans and pipe cleaners to make mice and many of us enjoyed playing the bus driver, the conductor or being a passenger on the bus in our outdoor construction area. We also enjoyed a special nursery rhyme character dress-up day, with lots of fabulous home-made costumes.

In Week 11 we also made time for writing and sending a very special letter to Santa, putting to use our phonics skills to sound out and spell as many words as we could. After writing our letters we went on an exciting visit to the Garrison Post Office, where we applied our stamps, added a date stamp and found out all about our letters' special journey to the North Pole. In Week 13 we began our preparations for our Christmas performance of 'A Very Hornbill Nativity', the children enjoyed learning about the nativity story and then trying on costumes and getting into role as a range of characters over the next few weeks for filming and recording voiceovers.

In Week 14 we enjoyed visiting the Gill Theatre to enjoy Year One and Year Two's Christmas performance of Humph the Camel and Key Stage Two's The Nutcracker. During this week we also had a surprise visit from Santa who flew in by helicopter! We were very excited to see Santa and lucky to receive some lovely gifts from him too. Alongside the excitement of Santa, was the excitement that he was flown in by Harper's Daddy and had an elf who looked remarkably like Winnie's Mummy... Who knew FS2 parents were so well connected! Finally, in Week 15 we invited our parents to join us for our nativity showing and celebrations, with both the children and their parents delighted to see all of the hard work that the children had put into creating what can definitely be described as a very unique take on a traditional story - 'A Very Hornbill Nativity' indeed!





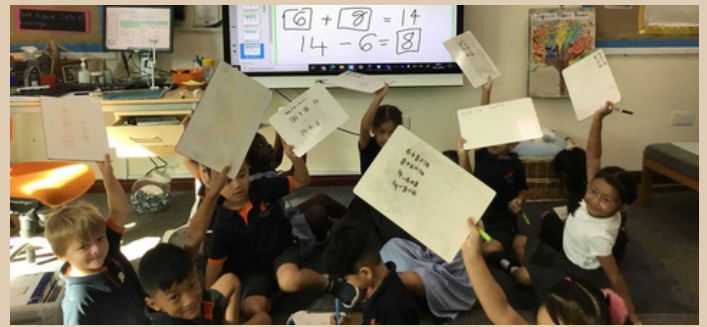


# Year One



Mr Kieran Leahy & Mr Jamie Sherwin

The autumn term was packed with exciting learning experiences across a range of subjects. In English, we explored acrostic weather poems; instructional writing on making a compass and diary entries about our trip to V-plaza in Kuala Belait. We also had the joy of posting letters to Father Christmas, which we had planned and drafted in the last few weeks of term. In Maths, we deepened our understanding of place value, developed addition and subtraction skills and delved into geometry and 3D solids. Geography learning, which focused on human/physical features, directional knowledge and our world, was enriched by school trips to Seria Park and V-plaza Hotel while in science, we studied the seasons, weather patterns and plants. The children certainly enjoyed planting their seeds and watch them germinate in the latter stages of the term! Our design and technology lessons involved building rain gauges and embarking on a food technology unit. We look forward to creating our own healthy snacks in the DT kitchen in the not too distant future! ICT sessions focused on online safety and creating maze adventure games. During PE sessions the emphasis was on multi-skills, invasion games and dance. Finally, Mr Brown's art lessons deepened the children's understanding of tint and shade through examining different weather types. Overall, a busy and fruitful opening Term!





During the Autumn term, Year 1 explored plants as part of their learning in science. The children identified living things in the environment around them, described the basic structure of a plant by labelling the individual parts and have identified a range of common and wild plants. In addition to this, the children were able to explain what all plants need to thrive and survive. Part of their science journey challenged them to plant a seed and take care of it by providing it with the right amount of water and sunlight. Those who were successful in this were rewarded with a sprouting okra plant. To conclude and celebrate our learning, the children visited Rimba Garden Centre. During the visit, we were given a guided tour packed with information about the different types of plants on display. The children reflected on their knowledge to identify some examples of deciduous and evergreen plants around the garden centre. The second stage of our visit was a small gardening class. The children were given a demonstration on how to repot plants, and were then asked to repeat the process with a plant of their own. The final part of our visit included some free time to enjoy the picturesque garden areas. During this time, the children identified and discussed the different plants and completed some artwork.

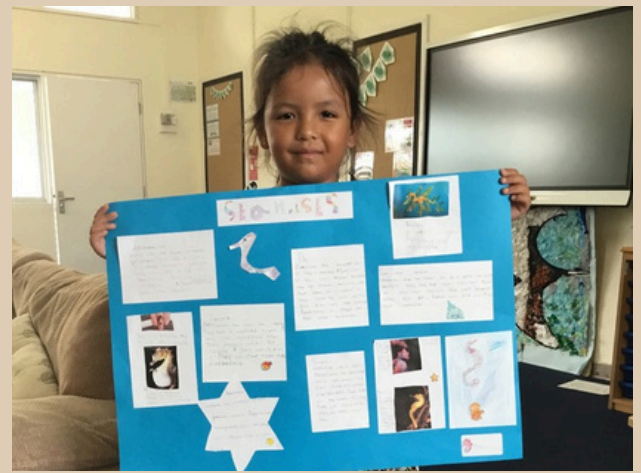




# Year 2

Mr Andy Cunningham &  
Mrs Abigail Cunningham

Year Two had a brilliant start to the year. We began our topic 'Under the Sea' by exploring and researching octopuses and seahorses as these are our class names. The children wrote some fantastic non-chronological reports describing their appearance, diet, habitat and even added some fascinating facts.



In science, we had lots of fun finding out about micro-habitats. The children worked together in teams to create their very own microhabitats for a range of minibeasts, which we found in our local environment. We took great care of our minibeasts, making sure they had everything they needed to survive and thrive.



In maths, we used concrete apparatus to help us become confident mathematicians when working with numbers up to 100. We also spent time learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We worked together to count the number of edges, faces and vertices on 3D shapes. It was a challenge making our own 3D shapes but we were resilient and didn't give up!



In November, we teamed up with our Year Six buddies to go on a beach clean up to Panaga. We spent the morning picking up rubbish and creating beach art with our friends. We then headed to the Panaga Club for a yummy slice of pizza and a drink. Our trip also inspired us to write some great persuasive posters, which we are displaying around the Garrison and local community.



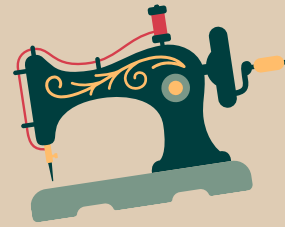
We ended our year with a fabulous performance of Humph the Camel. Everyone in Year Two had a line to read and we worked together with Year One to sing a range of fun songs.

Thank you to all our parents for your ongoing support since the start of the year.



# YEAR 3

Mrs Angela Sherwin  
& Mrs Erin Webb



What an incredibly busy term we had in Year 3! We started the year by heading back in time to the Stone Age and experiencing what life would have been like in the Paleolithic. We built dens, made spears, and considered what dangers we might have faced. In Design Technology, we designed a small bag for Otzi the Iceman, with the design brief being that he needed a suitable bag to store his arrow heads in. All the children thoroughly enjoyed learning to sew and Wednesday afternoons became our favourite sessions. Thank you to all our wonderful parents who volunteered their time to support the children learning how to sew and designing and making their own bags. Christmas time saw us participate in The Nutcracker and all the children dedicated themselves to learning lines, singing songs and forming part of a dance routine. I'm sure all those fortunate enough to be able to watch the performance were amazed at just how well they did. To round off our Journey through Time unit, we held a movie and pizza night in school and watched The Croods. A good time was had by all!





# Year 4

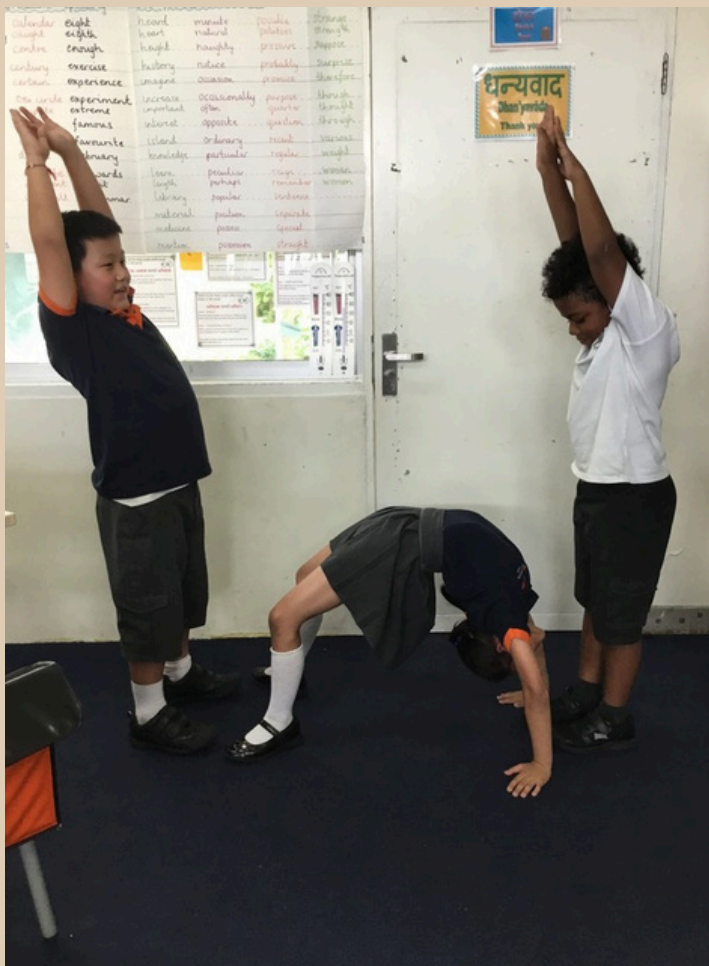
Mrs Bidhata Rai & Mr Mike Crichton

Year 4 had a busy term! In English, we explored a wide range of books of different types and genres including *Escape From Pompeii* and *Bill's New Frock*. As well as discussing the issues and themes in the books, we used them as prompts for our writing. The children enjoyed writing stories with dilemmas in them. Linked to our history theme of Romans, we also wrote explanations about some of inventions the Romans gave us, such as concrete and aqueducts.

In theme, we explored the impact the Romans had on Britain and why they invaded and eventually left Britannia.

In PE, we explored ball skills (both large and small balls) and team games. Bench ball helped to develop the use of space to make and receive a pass. Teamwork was also a focus. Batting and fielding were the skills most in evident in T-ball.

The use of practical materials formed the basis of much of the learning in maths. This entailed manipulating base ten and place value materials, prior to representing their thinking pictorially and then eventually in abstract form.





Children had thoroughly enjoyed exploring Living Things and Their Habitats; the names and functions of the eleven different organs that make up the digestive system; dental hygiene and the names and functions of the different types of teeth. While some children found the formulation of classification keys to place animals into different groups quite tricky, others enjoyed challenging themselves by creating several. Investigating tooth (we used egg shells) decay was another fun lesson! They were excited to see their predictions match their conclusions. Building a food chain based on animals' eating habits led them to learning about producers, prey and predators.

Each PSHE lesson gave us an opportunity to reflect on our actions and be the best versions of ourselves. During the first half of the term, we looked into our community and our roles within it - how every little action makes a difference. Children had expansively indulged in discussions about celebrating differences and the importance of recognising how special and unique everyone is.





# Year Five

Mrs Amanda Donald

## We Are Explorers

In year 5 we had an exciting term where we wrote stories from other cultures, exciting poetry, newspaper reports and amazing narratives. We enjoyed making Chilli and chocolate truffles as part of our design and technology work. Our science work on materials meant we enjoyed investigating fair tests and the properties of different materials. During our theme work on the Mayans, we learned about how they lived as a society, their writing, their gods, number system and what they ate!

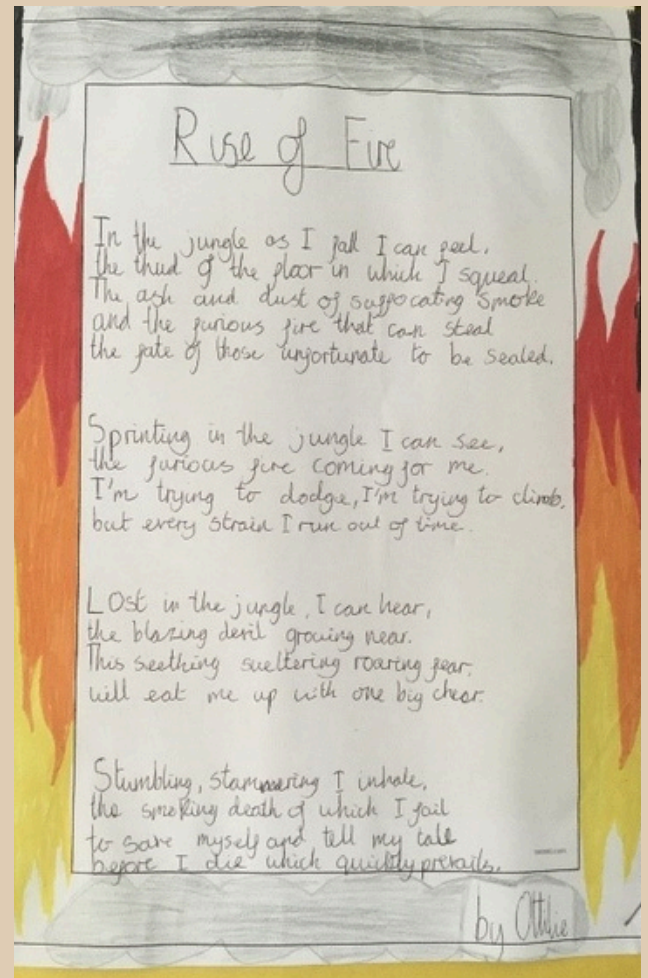
## Rise of Fire

Poetry - By Ottlie Stanford-Tuck



In the jungle as I fall I can feel,  
the thud of the floor in which I squeal.  
The ash and dust of suffocating smoke and  
the furious fire that can steal the fate  
of those unfortunate to be sealed.

Sprinting in the jungle I can see,  
The furious fire coming for me.  
I am trying to dodge, I'm trying to climb  
but with every strain I run out of time.  
The sparks are answering the fire is answering!



## The Jungle

Description - By Leon Rana

The jungle is a beautiful world where lots of exotic animals live. The lush fruits are guaranteed a luxurious taste and your taste buds will explode. The beautiful, sparkling rivers contain shining silver fish and delightful dolphins. Deep inside the entwined vines, there are colourful humming birds which drink the sweet nectar from rainbow flowers. In the small ponds, tropical frogs bathe on emerald lily pads. Diamond waterfalls stream through the dense jungle.



"This term was brilliant, I got to do a lot of things. Everything we have done was either fun, educational or creative. I particularly enjoyed the cooking, I think all subjects are fun! I have got so much better at maths and reading." - Jason

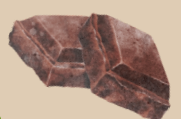
### Making Chilli



### Science - Investigating a Fair Test



### Making Chocolate Truffles





# Year 6

**Mr Jonathan Deane**

As the term drew to a close, we reflected on the breadth and depth of our learning and the experiences Year 6 have had so far this year.

In terms of our learning journey, our focus in mathematics had encompassed embedding previous learning around arithmetic and the use of mental strategies, accompanied with the intricate concepts of fractions, ratio, and measurement. Mantis class honed their problem-solving skills and developed a comprehensive understanding of quantitative relationships around these areas, making strong progress this term. In science children explored topics encompassing evolution and the symbiotic relationships that underpin living organisms within their respective habitats, with all pupils showing good understanding when working scientifically.

In English, our learning pathway had been World War 2 provided a poignant backdrop for our writing exploration. From persuasive pieces urging societal contributions, explanation texts detailing the Blitz, narratives set amongst the Normandy landings, compelling biographies and emotive poetry commemorating



Remembrance Day, our students exemplified their adeptness in articulating diverse genres with depth and sensitivity. Additionally, the historical facets of World War 2 were examined in Geography, History and DT, ranging from the catalysts that ignited the conflict to the impact of significant events such as the Blitz and D-Day. The children passionately embraced this topic, immersed themselves in the socio-political ramifications of this pivotal period, empathised with those on whom it had an impact and the legacy the war has left today across the world, including in SE Asia.



It was not just the academic focus however that is important to Mantis class as we also looked at improving skills in independence, resilience, socialising and maturity to ensure they will be ready to make the step up to secondary school next year. All of the Year 6 pupils made huge strides in these areas this term with several events where they were challenged in new ways and asked to take responsibility for key moments in our school calendar. Mantis class managed themselves admirably during a transition day to JIS and on a transition sleepover to ISB, where they have gained valuable insight into life in Year 7. The class also showed great courage and confidence in their efforts during the Christmas production.

I hope the honour of welcoming His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince, on his visit to Hornbill school, will last long in the memory. And finally, the most significant milestone of the term for Year 6 was the poignant and dignified stewardship of the Remembrance Service. Their role in orchestrating this sombre occasion, epitomised their display of maturity and reverence and I hope they remain proud of how each member of the class managed this service.

