

BISHOP'S TACHBROOK C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday January 12th 2024

Newsletter 16

C. Kilbey

Mrs C. Kilbey
Head Teacher

Worship this week...



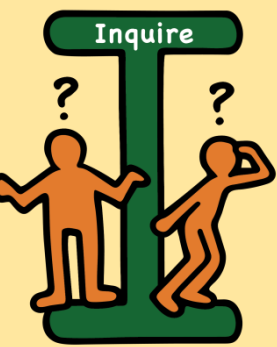
In worship this week we began to think about **'Encourage'** as a focus for this half term.



We thought about Epiphany and how the wise men would have gone on a very long journey to get to the stable. We thought of phrases we could say to the travellers to encourage them on their journey and not be tempted to turn back. There were lots of great ideas... "You can do it!" "Don't give up!" "It isn't far now!" "You've got this!" and lots more. We have challenged ourselves to use encouraging words as often as we can this half term with others in school.



In Picture News the team told us about Teddy, a 10-year-old from Oxfordshire, who has asked Apple to change the glasses emoji, also known as the 'nerd emoji', as it gives a negative impression of people who wear glasses. The children acted out some different emojis brilliantly and the worship was great fun. We reflected about how emojis should provide a fair representation of people's differences as they capture appearance as well as emotions.

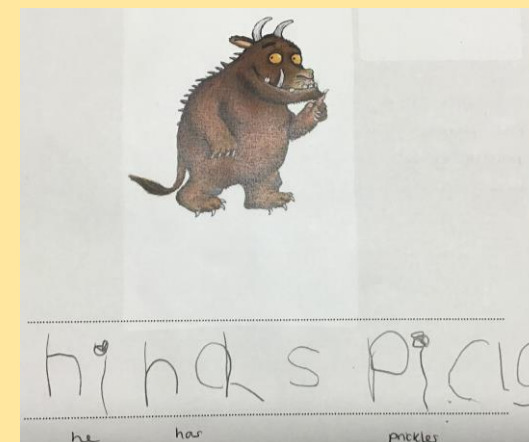
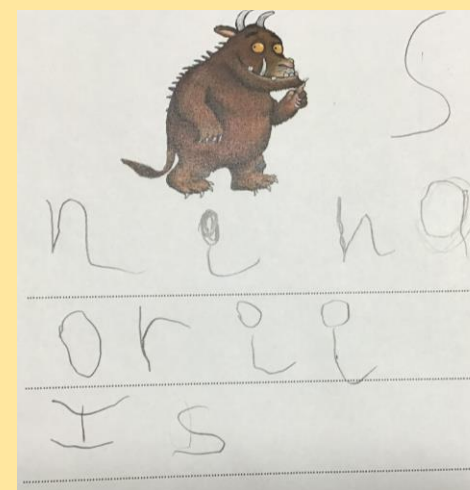
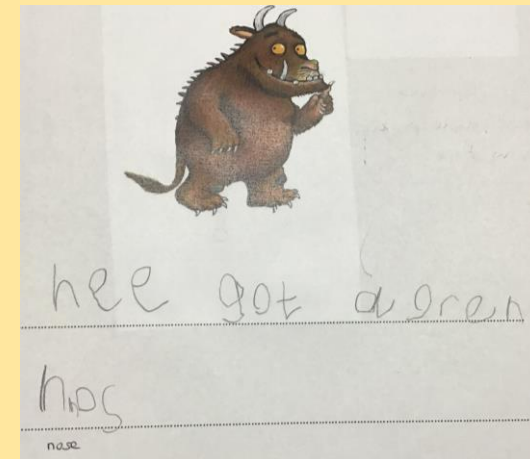
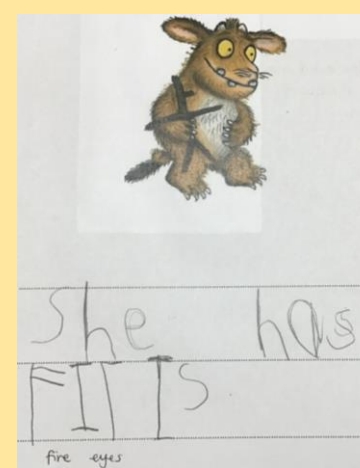


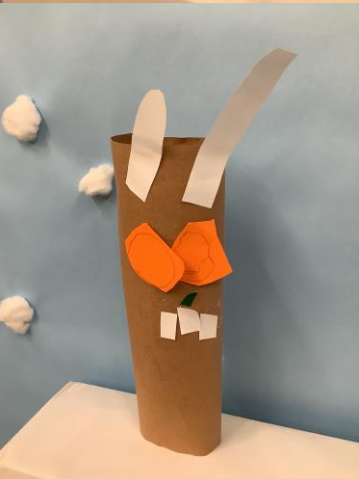
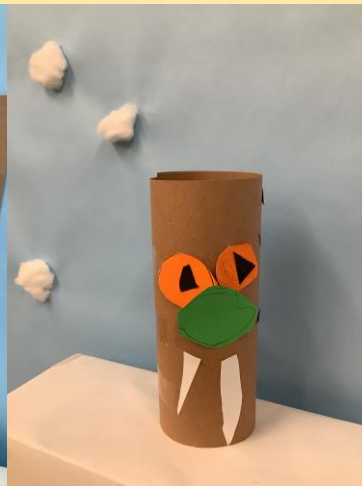
Have you seen a Gruffalo?

In Reception this week the children have really enjoyed reading the story of The Gruffalo's Child in their classes. RB have all made their own Gruffalo model, thinking carefully about what features to include and cutting out the shapes really carefully.

What is the Gruffalo like though?

RB have also been writing about the Gruffalo characters, listening to the different sounds in the words they wanted to write really carefully.



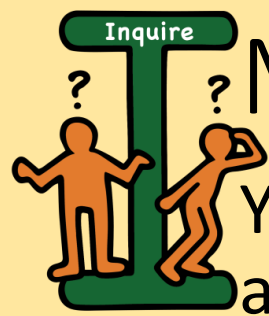




Amazing Artists:

RP have been developing their painting skills this week. They need to create a brown colour by mixing red and yellow together and adding a touch of black. They also thought about which brush to use, choosing a big brush to paint a large area and a small brush for more intricate small areas. They also discussed the features of the Gruffalo which they drew with oil pastels. Can you spot the purple prickles, orange eyes, green warty nose, sharp horns and curved ears?





Magnificent materials:

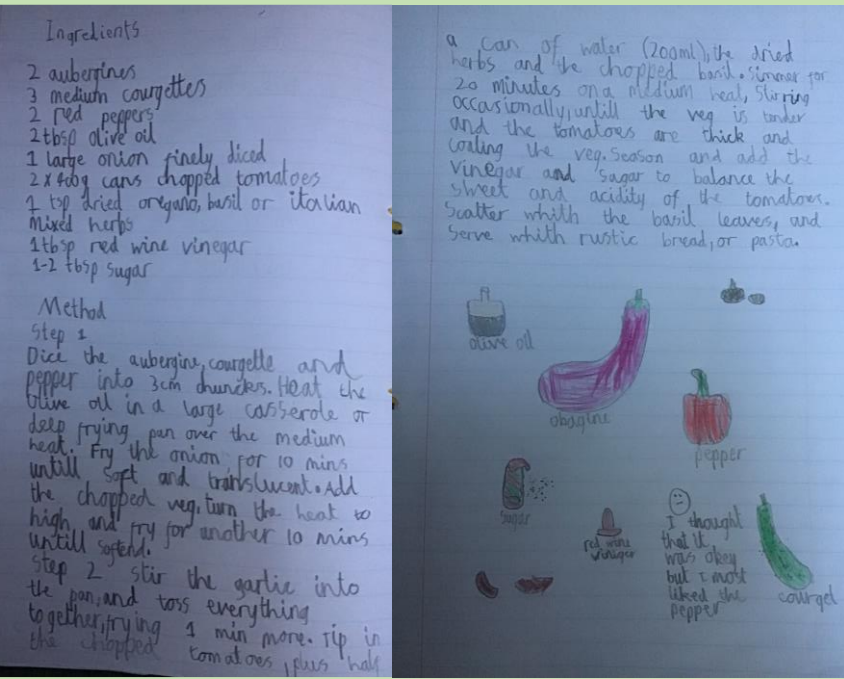
Year 1 have been investigating natural materials in their science work and thinking about what objects we use are made from. They could talk about a hat coming from sheep's wool, slushie drinks coming from water that is frozen, a chair being made from wood from a tree and lots more! They discovered that metal was a natural material found in the ground too. Great inquiry work, Year 1.





Fabulous chefs:

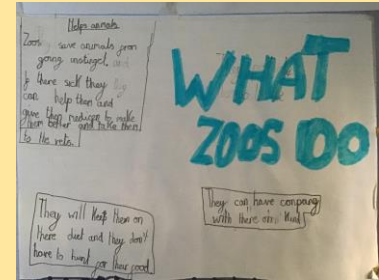
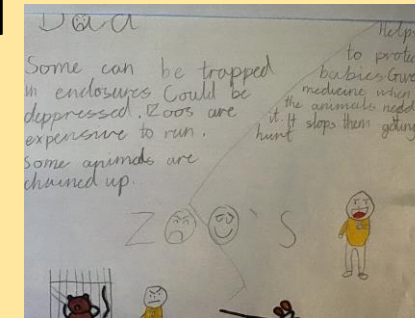
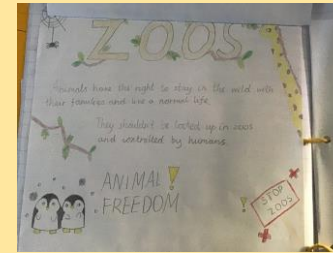
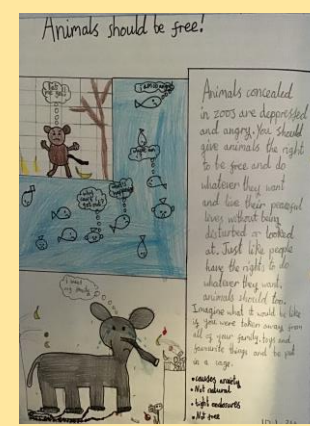
At the very end of last term, Year 3 worked as a class team to cook the most delicious smelling ratatouille dish. They prepared the vegetables carefully and afterwards wrote instructions for making the dish so they could cook it at home again if they would like to. Their reflections on the taste of the ratatouille ranged from it being 'delicious because it had a sweet taste', to 'it was okay but I most liked the pepper', to 'the ratatouille was not my favourite'. Why don't you try it?



Should animals be kept in zoos?



Year 5 have been researching arguments both for and against zoos this week. They thought about their own opinions, taking all the arguments into consideration and held a class debate to collect their ideas together. They listened to each other's arguments respectfully and wrote some great balanced arguments as a result.



What can stop ice from melting?

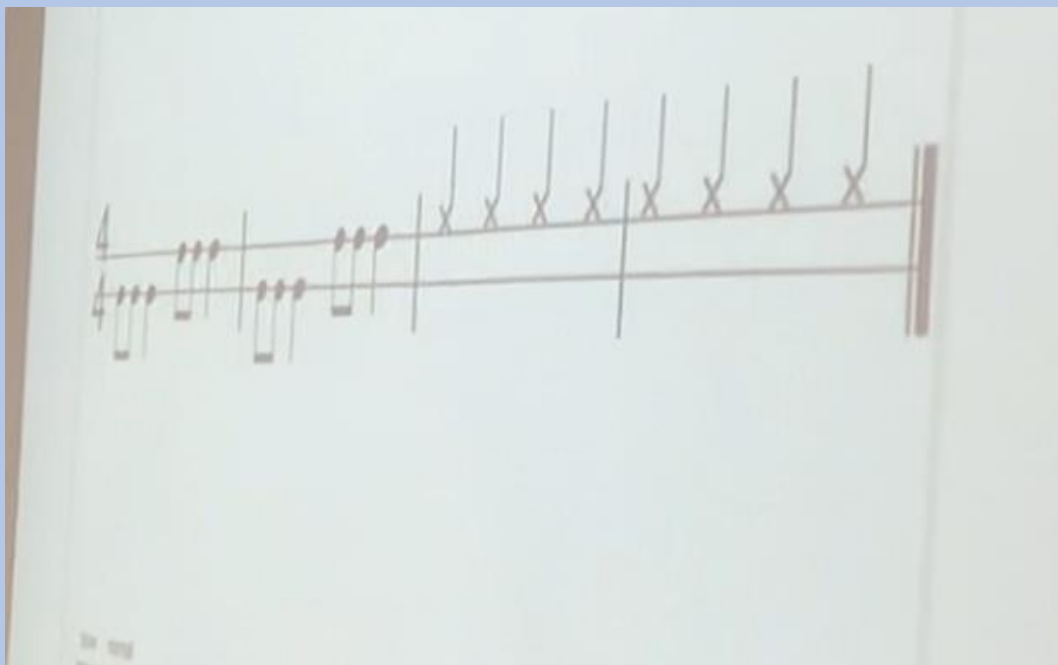
The children in Year 5 have also been investigating what materials make the best insulators in their science work this week. They made predictions, explaining their ideas carefully. Some of them were surprised by the results. Well done, Year 5.





Musical Moment

After a fabulous performance on the Boomwhackers at the end of last term, Year 2 have been beginning to learn to read musical notation using some different sounds on a bucket. They read crotchet and quaver beats and listened really carefully to make sure they were playing along with the pulse of the music. They are stars!





Awards from home

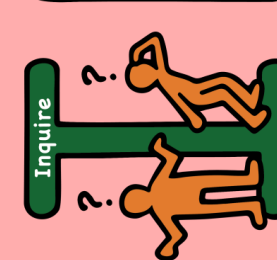
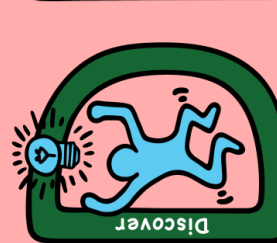
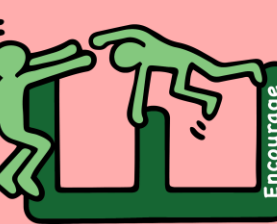
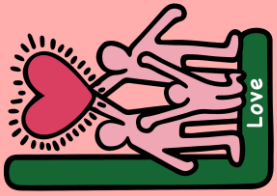
This week we celebrated Phoebe's swimming award. She has managed to complete Stage 3 in her swimming and can now collect an object from the bottom of the pool, push and glide for 10 meters across the pool and swim with a range of strokes. She said that she is ready to start working on Stage 4 and continue developing her swimming skills. Well done Phoebe.



Awards in school



This week came to share some art work that she was working on in class. Darcey explained that she felt she could achieve a better effect in the background of her art work and asked Mrs Dixon if she could have another go. She earned a raffle ticket from Mrs Kilbey for showing 'Achieve'. She had also demonstrated lots of our secrets of success too – especially 'Improve'. Well done, Darcey!



IDEALS time:

We have changed the way we celebrate our IDEALS in school after the School Council shared that children really missed our raffle ticket rewards. The children are now given a raffle ticket by members of staff if they are seen displaying any of our IDEALS. One ticket per class is then drawn each week and the children are invited to come to enjoy a game, a glass of squash or water and some fruity treats on a Friday afternoon. The first raffle ticket winners enjoyed a game of 'Pop up Pirate' with squash and grapes this week.

Across school, all raffle tickets are counted and given as house points towards the 'Wear What You Want' day at the end of term for the winning house.



Mental health and wellbeing update

As a school, we know that understanding the **social, emotional and mental health** needs of our children is incredibly important in helping our children to feel safe, happy and ready to learn. Throughout school, we aim to support children in understanding their own emotions, alongside the feelings of others, and to learn ways they can respond to these feelings appropriately, building their resilience and coping strategies when facing challenges.

As you will be aware from [our school website](#) and through our 'Meet the Teacher' discussions in September, in addition to the delivery of our PSHE and RSHE curriculum, we have embedded several different approaches and strategies across all year groups. These include **Protective Behaviours, emotional coaching, zones of regulations** and work on developing a healthy **growth mindset**, each aiming to help our children to self-regulate in order to complete everyday tasks, including learning and developing their own mental health and helping to build healthy relationships with others, showing a mutual respect.

We have also recently introduced the **Thrive Approach** to support our children as they learn to think about their emotions, choices and friendships, enabling them to develop into confident, skilful young people. Many of our children also access pastoral and social groups during lunchtimes or as a short intervention when required.

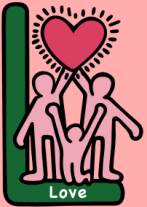
Where children have needed more support, the school employ a **child counsellor** to work with individuals. We also have staff trained in **bereavement counselling** and several members of our staff are recognised as '**Mental Health first aiders**' for both adults and children.

We are always looking at ways to further promote the social and emotional well-being, mental health and wellness for pupils and staff in school and are currently working to achieve a school improvement award to help us to identify ways to develop this further.

To help us evaluate our current provision, we would really value your input. Your views are important in helping us understand what we are doing well and how we can do even better and we would appreciate it if you could complete a short questionnaire which will be sent out during this week. If you have any queries, please do get in touch.

Important information:

Mrs Dixon is looking for volunteers to support with art lessons on a **Wednesday afternoon**, working with Year 1 and Year 2 children. If you feel you would like to support please contact school on admin3141@welearn365.com or call 01926 426020 for more information.



We would like to remind parents not to park on the yellow zig-zag lines, or block residents' drives at drop-off and collection times. It can be very busy at the front of school at drop-off and collection and the Sports and Social Club have kindly allowed parents to use their car park and walk the short distance to school. Alternatively, please use the access on Underhill Way if you are driving to school as there is much more space to park safely at that entrance. Thank you.

Reminder:

Please can you remind your child/children that equipment is not to be used before or after school. This includes the climbing equipment and also the footballs, hoops, tennis racquets, basketballs etc.

We do not have staff available to be outside to be on hand for first aid at these times. Balls being thrown or kicked could also hit parents or younger siblings, so we request that no equipment is used at these times to prevent any accidents or injuries.

Thank you for leaving all scooters and bikes in either the bike shed or the outdoor classroom and not bringing any wheeled toys onto site.

The doors to classrooms open at 8:45am so children should arrive and come straight into class please.

Thank you for your support with this.

Attendance Matters:

Children's attendance at school really does matter. Unsurprisingly, there is lots of research that shows that children with a higher percentage of attendance make most progress in school academically and socially.

Please have a look at the [school website](#) to find out when you need to keep your child at home, and when they can come in.

If you need school to administer medicine to your child please speak to the office to complete the forms required.



Dates for your diary:

- w/c 15.1.24 is Week A
- Fridays – Year 5 Forest School
- Tuesdays – Year 3 Swimming
- Mon 5th Feb – Music concert for parents (Y2, Y4 and Y6) 5:30pm
- Mon 12th Feb – Fri 16th Feb – HALF TERM
- Wed 21st Feb – Sports Hall Athletics Y5/6 team
- Wed 20th Mar – Voice in a Million Concert (Wembley Arena)
- Mon 25th Mar – Fri 5th April – EASTER BREAK



Stars of the week:

RB – Finley

RP – Olivia

Year 1 – Bianca

Year 2 – George

Year 3 – Beth

Year 4 – Diana

Year 5 – Harrison

Year 6 – Isaac





Mighty Writers

RB – Grace

RP – Max

Year 1 – Lennox

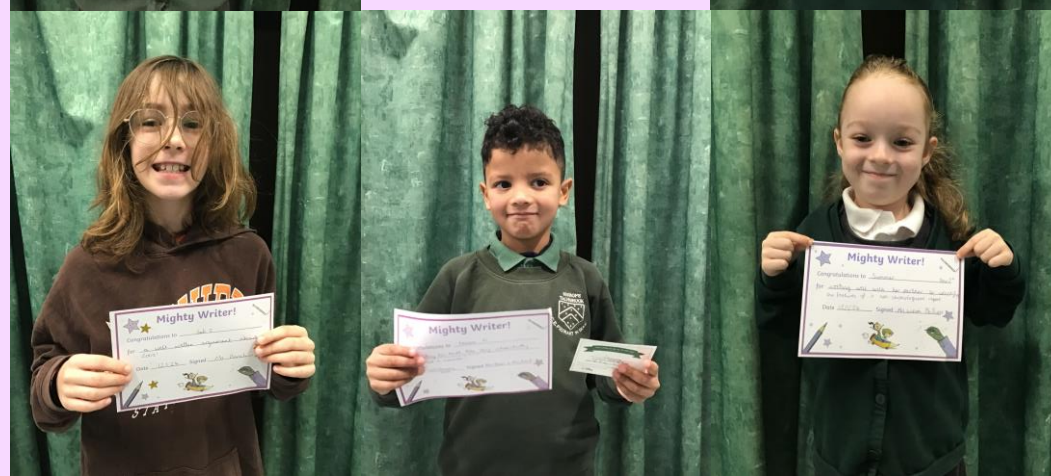
Year 2 – Summer

Year 3 – Evie

Year 4 – Jacob

Year 5 – Seb

Year 6 – Sienna



Immy has worked hard to achieve her pen licence. Well done!



Head Teacher's stars of the week:



Willow and Bella for being so willing to help the children in the 'Voice in a Million' choir learn the dance moves that go with the songs. As a musician but unable to dance myself, I was worried about how to teach the choir the dance moves and the girls have certainly helped me to have less sleepless nights now. Thank you!

