

Diary Dates



Inset Days

Friday 13th February 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Residential dates

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| January 27th—30th - | Year 6 Calshot |
| April 24th - | Year 4 Fairthorne Manor |
| September 16th—18th - | Year 5 Avon Tyrrell |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| January 5th Monday - | Start of term | April 13th Monday - | Start of term |
| January 14th Wednesday - | FOLH Meeting (Parents welcome) | April 16th Thursday - | School Disco (more details to follow) |
| January 27th—30th - | Year 6 Calshot | April 24th Friday - | Year 4 Fairthorne Manor Trip |
| February 5th Thursday - | Year 3 Mary Rose Trip | May 11th—14th - | Year 6 SAT's Week |
| February 12th Thursday - | Last day of term | May 22nd Friday - | Last day of term |
| February 13th Friday - | INSET day | June 1st Monday - | INSET day |
| February 23rd Monday - | Start of term | June 2nd Tuesday - | Start of term |
| February 24th Tuesday - | Year 5 River Trip Classes 9 & 10 | June 9th Tuesday - | Year 6 Bridging Day at Brookfield |
| February 25th Wednesday - | Year 5 River Trip Classes 11 & 12 | June 12th Friday - | Class/Club Photo |
| March 6th Friday - | World Book Day | <div> June 15th—19th - Sportacular Week </div> <div> June 17th Wednesday- FOLH Fair/Sportacular Fair 3:30 - 5pm June 17th Wednesday - Year 5 Biathlon (am) Parents welcome June 18th Thursday - Year 6 Biathlon (am) Parents Welcome June 19th Friday - Sports Day (am) Parents Welcome </div> | |
| March 12th Thursday - | Collaborative Concert | | |
| March 13th Friday - | Year 4 Southampton Art Gallery Trip | | |
| March 16th Monday - | Class 16 Parents Evening | | |
| March 17th Tuesday - | Parents Evening (excluding classes 1 & 16) | | |
| March 18th Wednesday - | Classes 1 & 5 Parents Evening | July 6th Monday - | Transfer Day |
| March 19th Thursday - | Parents Evening (excluding class 5) | July 15th Wednesday - | Year 6 Production |
| March 18th-20th - | Book Fair | July 21st Tuesday - | Reports Drop-In Session |
| March 25th Wednesday - | Class 5 SEND Parents Evening | July 22nd Wednesday - | Last day of term |
| March 26th Thursday - | SEND Parents Evening (excluding class 5) | | |
| March 27th Friday - | Last day of term | | |

The Headteacher's Celebration



Mrs Natasha Farrell



Mrs Shelley Rogers

As we wrap up this term, we want to thank all our families for their support and involvement. It has been a term full of learning, creativity, and community spirit, and we are proud of the progress and achievements across the school. Our children have made us very proud and I am sure you will enjoy looking through the many photographs contained within this newsletter to give you a flavour of all that has been happening at Locks Heath Juniors.

You will be aware that Mrs Rogers has been acting up as Deputy Headteacher. I am delighted to announce that this has been made a permanent position by our governing body. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Rogers and in looking forward to her continued commitment and dedication to our school and your children.

It is with sadness, that I share the news that Miss Mayhew will be leaving Locks Heath Juniors after 27 years of teaching with us. She began her career here and has taught many classes. More recently she covered just one day a week, but she leaves a lasting legacy having touched the lives of many, many children over the years. She will be missed and we wish her every success in her next steps.

Christmas is always a magical time in any primary school, but this year at Locks Heath has been extra special. Our Year 4 production has been a real highlight. The children delighted us with their stunning interpretation of A Christmas Carol. The Year 3 Christmas visit to St John's church is always a personal favourite of mine. There is something about the resonance of children's choral voices in church that pulls on the emotions. In our Christmas assembly we shared the award winning short film—The Gift of Giving and the children reflected on presents that hold more sentimental value than monetary worth.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish all our families a joyful festive season and look forward to another exciting term ahead, in 2026!

Year 3

At the start of the term, we were treated to an exciting visit from Iron Age Matt. The children were inspired by everything they learned. During the day, we became warriors and took part in warrior training, practising moves and drills. We also found out about the different roles people had in Iron Age society and explored the types of fabrics and animal skins they would have used for their clothing and everyday life.

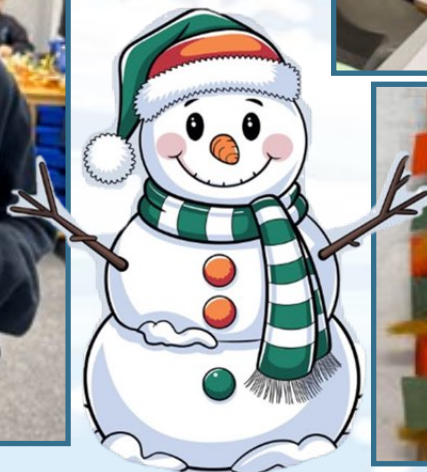
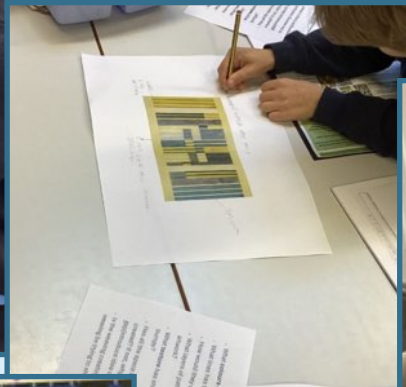
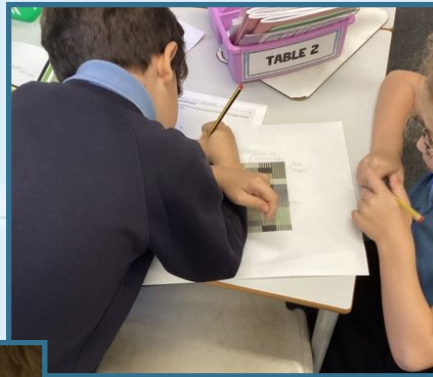


In DT, we have been learning how to strengthen and reinforce materials. The children designed and made their own boxes to display a special stone. They explored ways to make card stronger and then used these techniques in their final designs. Each child created a unique display box that both protects and shows off their stone.

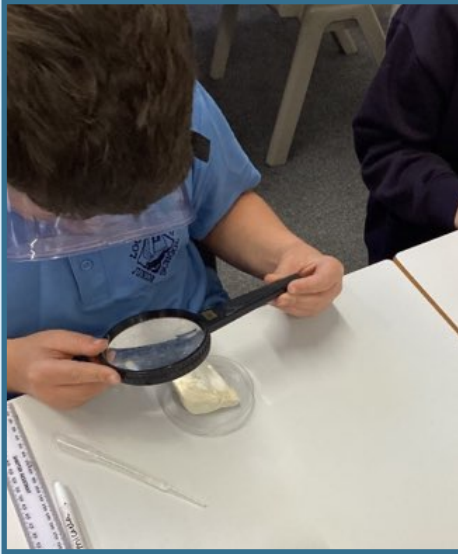


Year 3

In art, we were inspired by the textile artist Anni Albers. We looked at how she used patterns, colour and weaving to create her work. We then used our knowledge of Iron Age clothing to design and weave our own swatch of fabric. We thought about the kinds of materials and colours Iron Age people might have used and tried to show this in our weaving.



Year 3



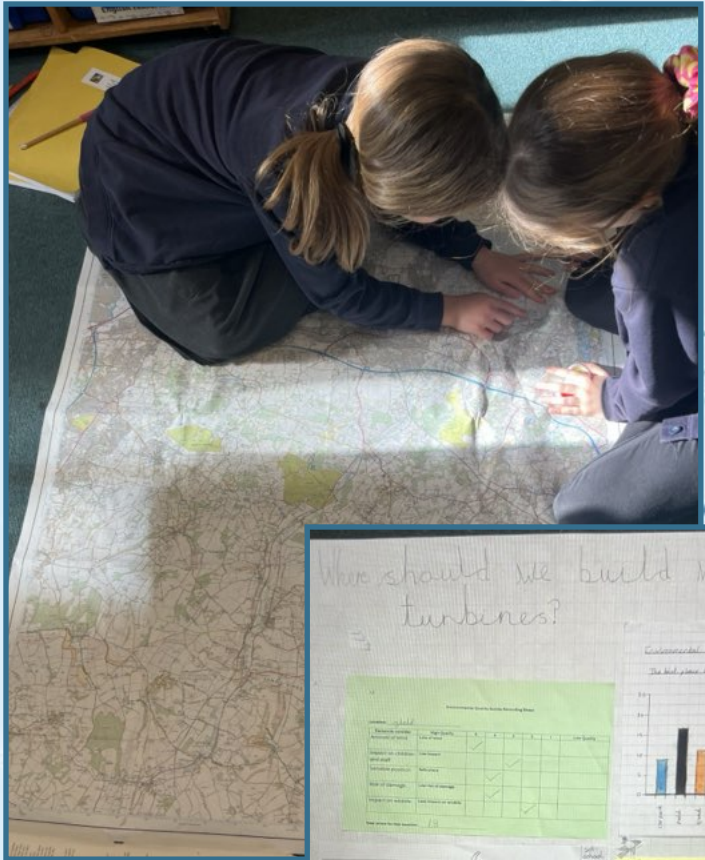
Chocolate Rock Cycle!



In science, we have been exploring rocks. First, we discovered different types of rocks. Then we tested them to see what they had in common by investigating their hardness, permeability and how they react to acid. After that, we made our own chocolate and sweet “rocks” to help us understand how sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks are formed. We did also enjoy eating them!

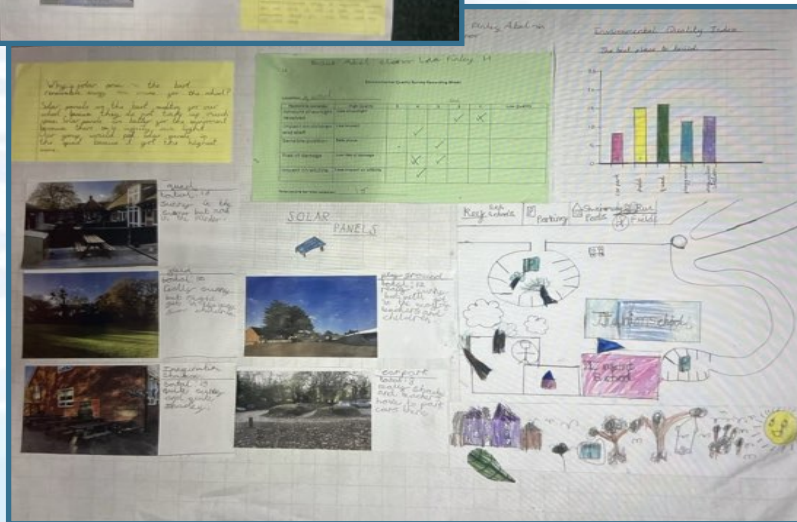
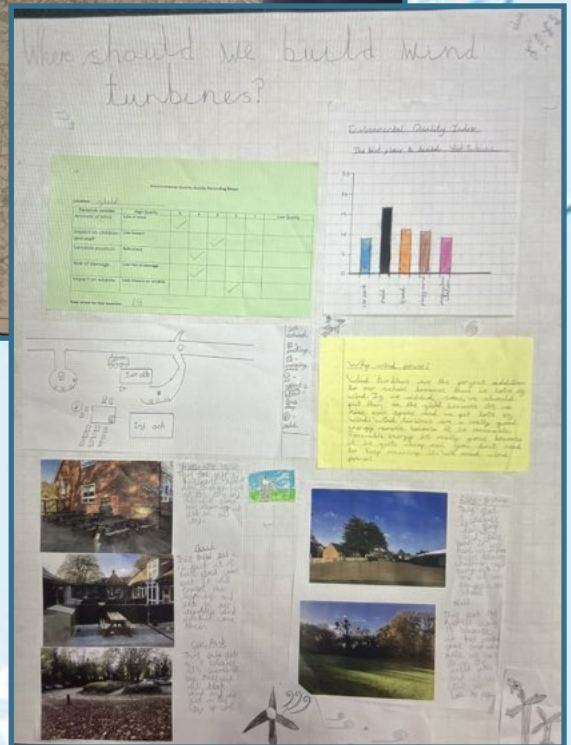


Year 4

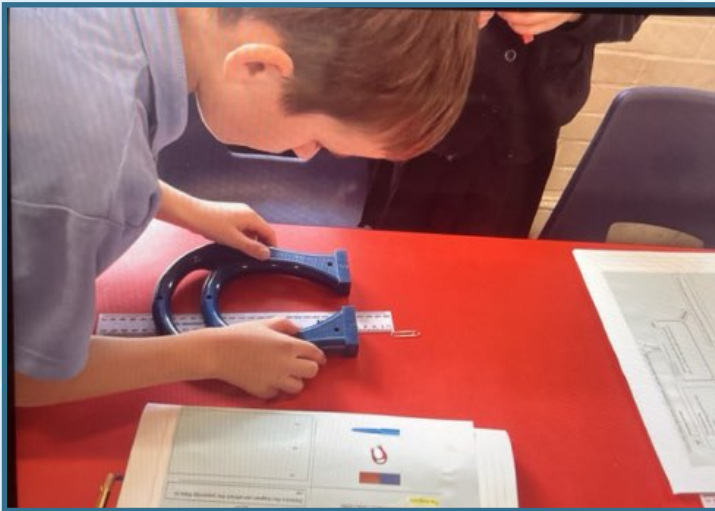


Geography

In geography, we have been looking at renewable sources of energy and where would be best to install either wind turbines or solar panels within our school grounds. We learnt how to use a map key and used this to draw our own maps of the school to add to the presentations of our findings. Lots of us thought the field would be best for wind turbines and the roof of the Year 5 area would be best for solar panels.

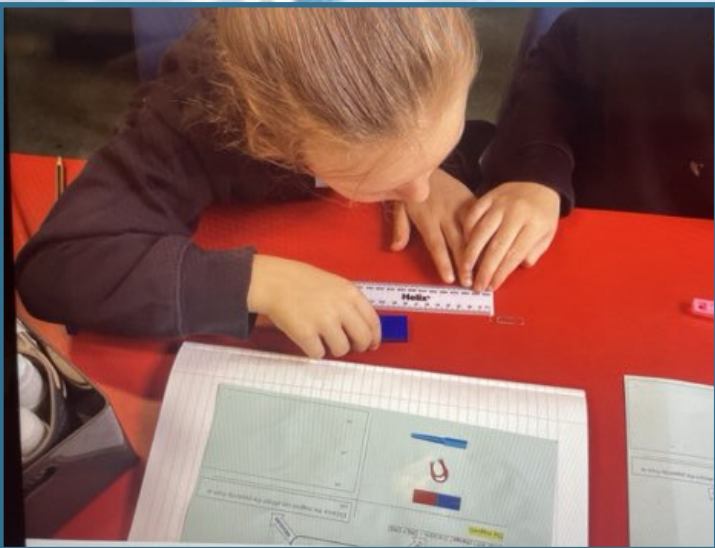
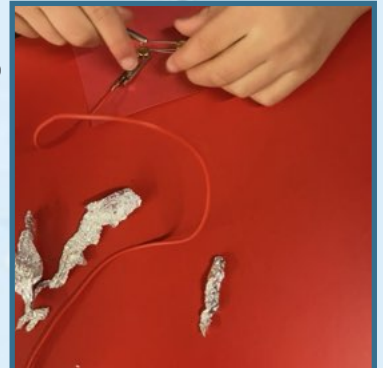


Year 4



Science

In science this term, we have looked at electricity, including making circuits and our own switches. We then looked at forces and magnets, looking at what materials are magnetic and conducting an experiment looking at different strengths of magnets. Finally, we looked at light. We used UV beads to look at the power of UV rays from the sun and also looked at how shadows are created.

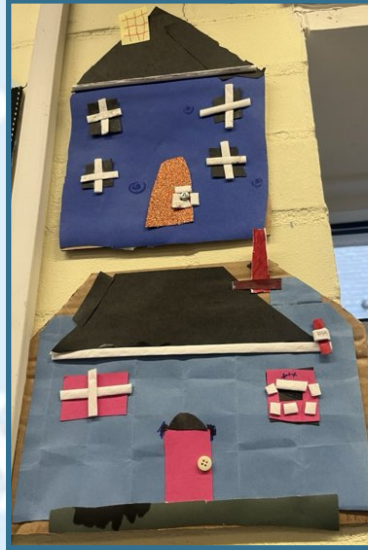


Year 4



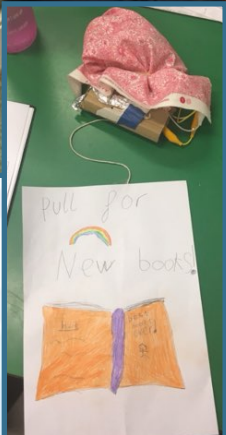
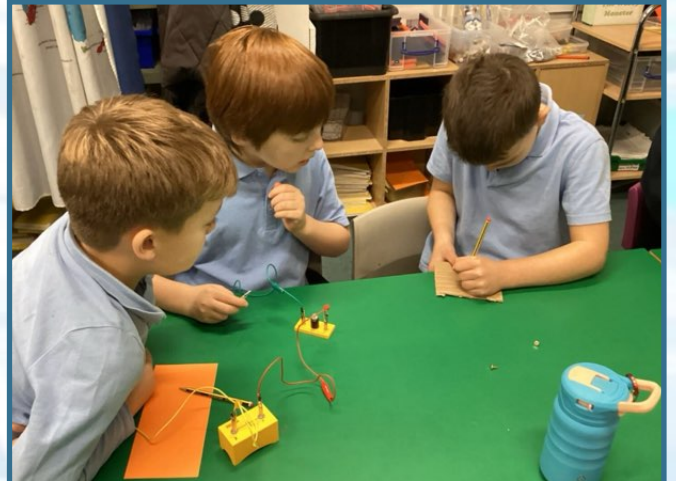
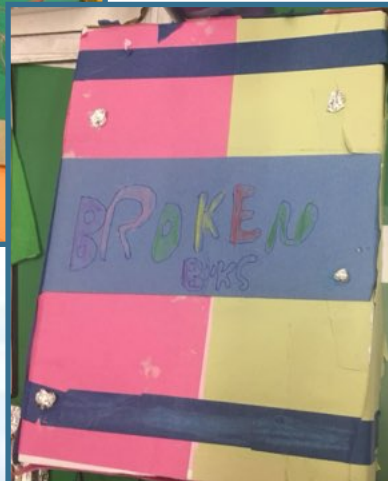
Art

In art, we have looked at the artists Ruth Allen and Aisha Haider whose artwork is inspired by buildings. We used line drawings, rubbings, water colours and collage to create our own building creations.



Design Technology

In design and technology, we have been designing intruder deterrents to stop Frankenstein's monster from entering the library. We used our electrical knowledge from our Science lessons to help us create circuits and our own switches to either use light or sound to scare away the monster.



Year 4 Nativity

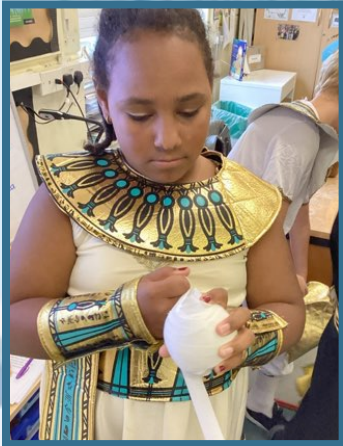


Year 4 Nativity

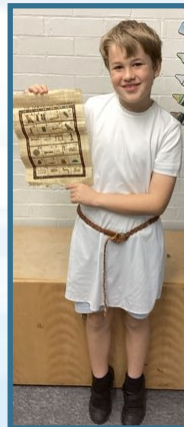


Year 5

We begun the term with our residential trip to Avon Tyrrell. Braving the elements (including a deluge of rain!), we tired our hand at a range of activities including pioneering, mountain biking, kayaking and raft building. We formed bonds with our new classmates, learned the value of teamwork and had a fantastic time.

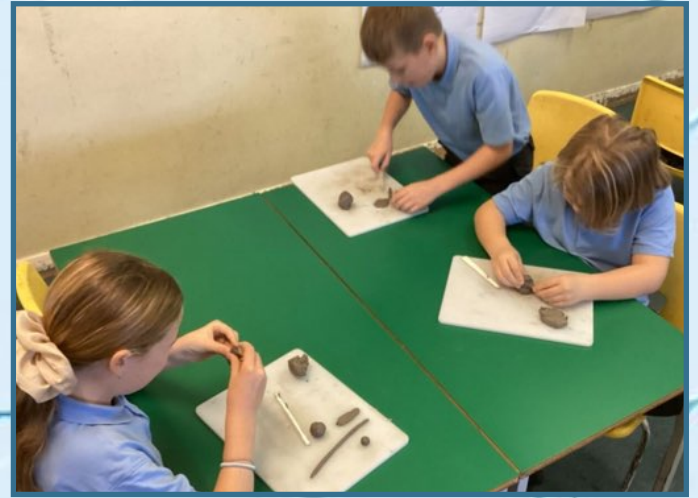


Later in the half-term, we thoroughly enjoyed our history lessons in which we thought carefully about whether we can learn anything about societies' values from the structures they built and of their societies. We learned about the Ancient Egyptians, Stone Age Britain and the struggle for power between the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings. The history unit culminated in our Egyptian Day where the children got to show off their Ancient Egyptian costumes and partake in the mummification of an orange, writing in hieroglyphics, created portraits of our teachers in the style of the day and even explored an Egyptian tomb!



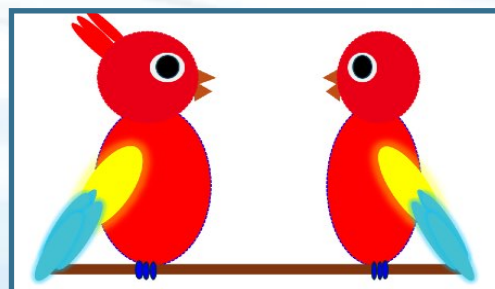
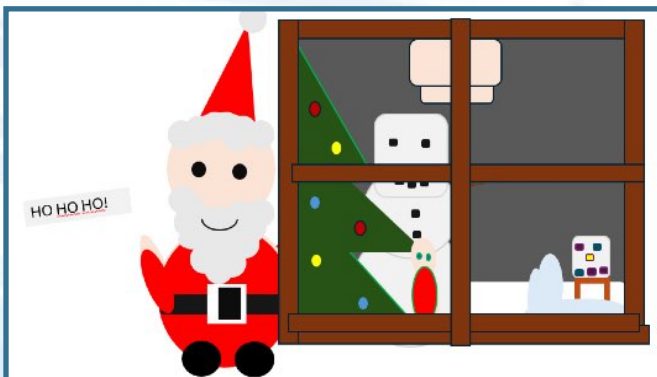
Year 5

In art, we have learned about the artwork of Joseph Cornell and his “shadowboxes” filled with objects that tell a story or have emotional resonance. We have practised our sketching skills with a focus on line, shape and tone as well as sculpting objects from clay.



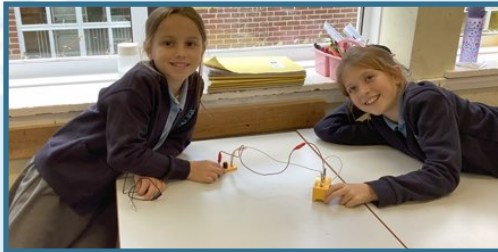
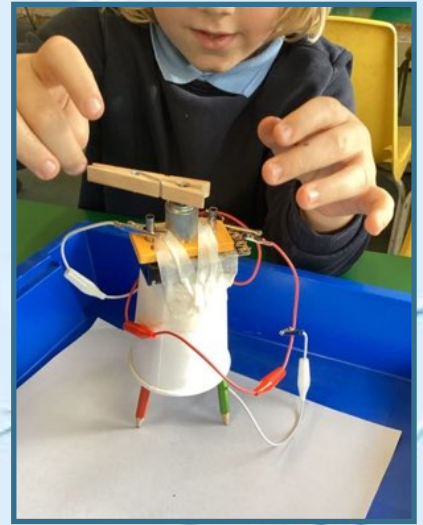
In our computing lessons, we have been learning how to make vector drawings using the shape and line tools on Microsoft PowerPoint. We learned how to layer shapes on top of each other to create images, as well as how to copy, paste and group shapes to use the software more efficiently.

Our unit of work culminated in the creation of Christmas cards where we learned how to create vector drawings on top of background images.

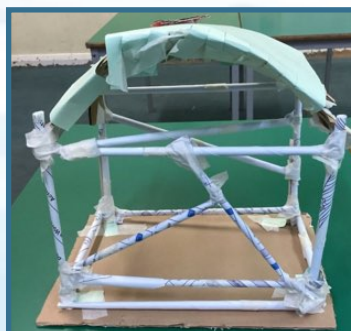
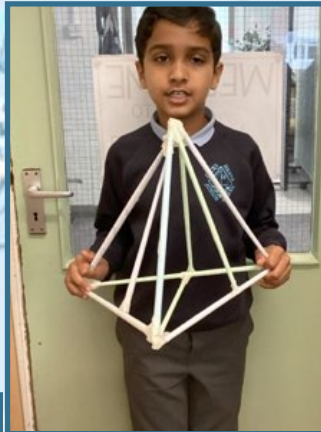


Year 5

In science, we learned about electricity. We revised our knowledge of simple circuits by building and testing circuits using different components before learning the difference between current and voltage. We then got the chance to apply our knowledge and skills to construct "scribblebots."



In DT, we learned how to join materials together using braces, flanges and slotting. We then applied these skills to creating prototypes for a playground shelter.



Year 6

During our maths sessions, we have been developing our 3D shape knowledge by playing 'guess the shape' games based on mathematical criteria.



In our English lessons, we have been exploring the text 'The Island at the End of Everything'. Through drama, we explored how the author has used vocabulary to show how the different characters were feeling when the news was delivered that changes would be happening to their island. We also have been exploring the active and passive voice.



This term we have been looking at the term 'interpretation' and what interpretation means in the birth narrative.

Within our science lessons, we have been exploring the human body's circulatory system.



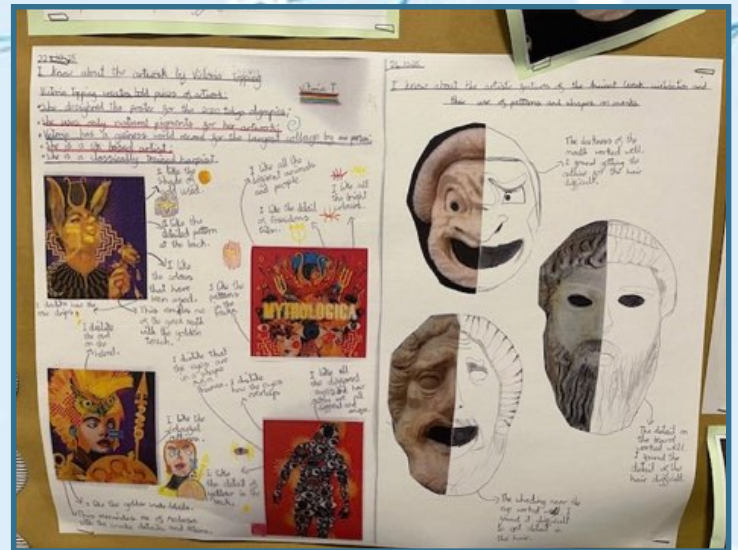
Year 6



Working in groups, we designed, created and baked our own savoury scones inspired by criteria set by Southampton General Hospital. We developed our cutting, grating and preparation skills before creating our final scones. Make sure you ask us how they tasted.



Year 6

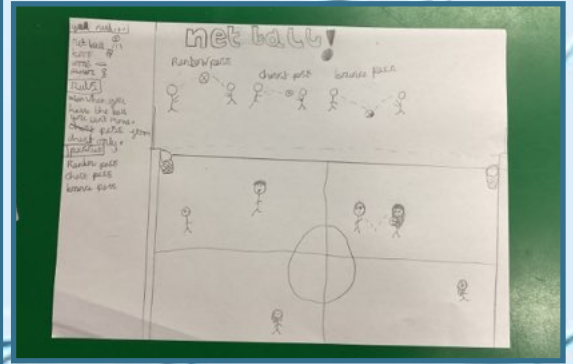


During our art lessons, we explored the artist Victoria Topping and created our own Ancient Greek inspired masks using Modroc.



P.E.

This term, we have enjoyed a range of PE lessons delivered by CM Sports. We have really enjoyed both outdoor and indoor PE lessons including netball, sit-down volleyball, rugby and dance.



On Friday 12th December. We took part in our annual Santa Fun Run. It was wonderful to see so many participating and getting into the Christmas spirit.



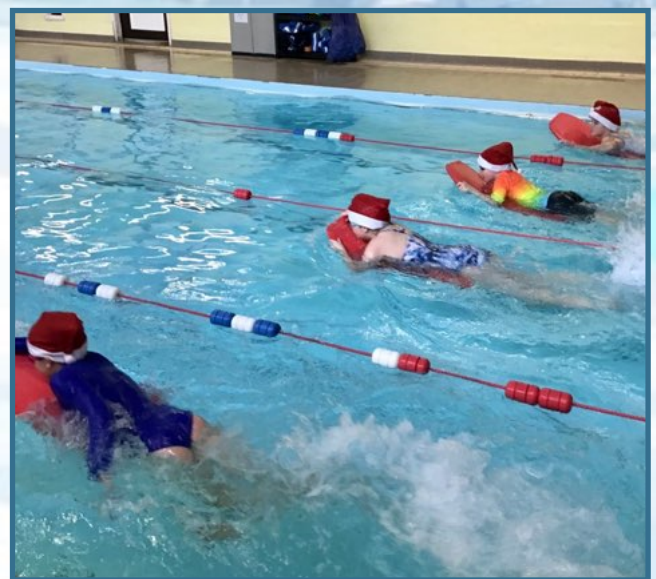
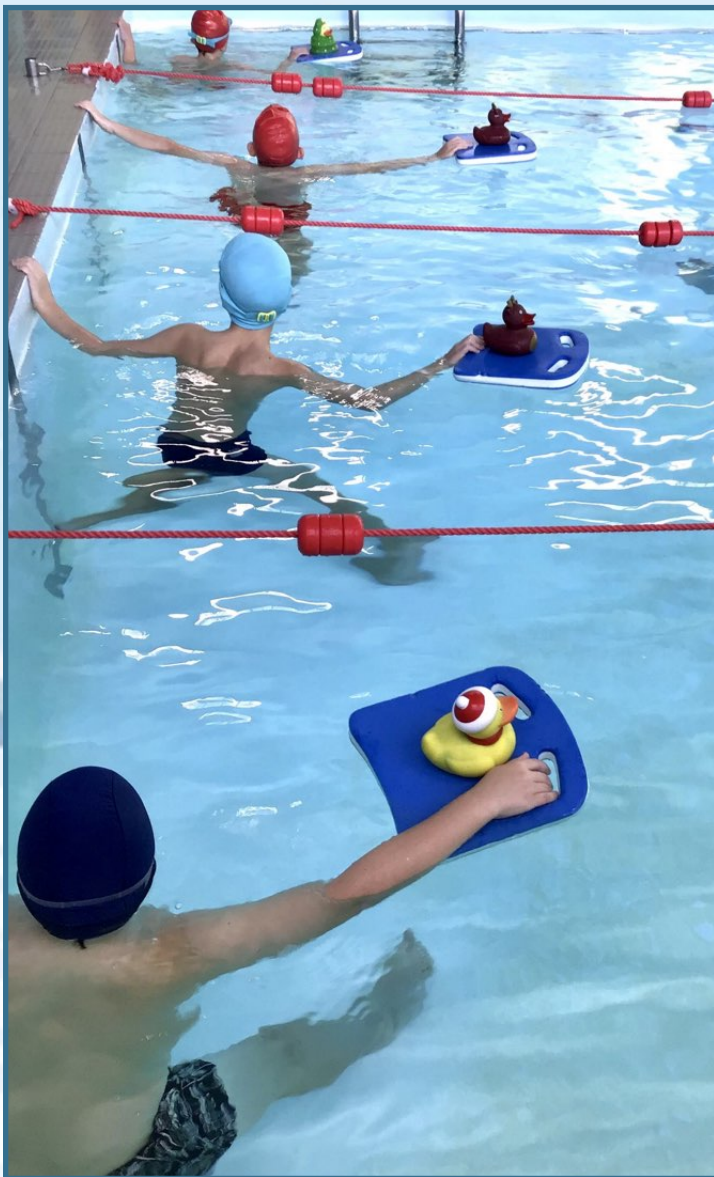
The football team and running club are back up and running, with both clubs training and competing. I know the children are very grateful to the adults who give up their time to run these. Netball club will be starting in the New Year.



Swimming News

Our swimmers across all year groups have been working incredibly hard this term. They have been refining their technique in all four strokes and developing key water skills such as treading water and sculling.

Pupils also enjoyed a variety of fun and competitive activities, including water polo, races, and team games — all contributing to improved confidence and ability in the water.



Library



We have had another brilliant term in the library. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Year 3 pupils who have all settled well into the library routine. We hope they are enjoying all the wonderful books our library has to offer. Year 6 will have also been pleased to finally get their hands on our 'T' books which are reserved for our older readers.

We were lucky enough to be joined by Briony from Usborne books at our recent parents evening. Thanks to all those who purchased books which meant that we received a selection of brilliant new Usborne books, which the children have all been enjoying.

As Christmas is here we have been sharing seasonal books during our library time. Perhaps some of you have heard about the beastly Bradley Bartleby and his despicable plan to trap Santa and take all the presents for himself?

I hope there will be lots of books under the tree and in stockings on Christmas morning. Happy Reading!



Young Poets Week 2025

On 24th November, we launched Young Poets Week with an action-packed morning full of inspiring poetry activities. Children shared their favourite poems, and each class took part in a virtual masterclass led by young poets **Laura Mucha** and **Zohab Zee Khan**.



During the session, which involved 300 schools, pupils were invited to contribute to the creation of a brand-new poem—and we are delighted to share that two ideas from our very own children were chosen for the final twelve-line piece. What an incredibly talented group of budding poets we have here at Locks Heath Junior School!

The morning concluded with children crafting their own poems, producing some truly fantastic work. We are so proud of their creativity and enthusiasm.

In my suitcase

My grass-stained, muddy football,
it rolls down the hill racing
the wind,
the way it bounces into the
goals not leaving people to cheer,
I remember the time it flew into
the air then crashed into the
goal,
now my football makes me
proud.

By Lily

Class 15

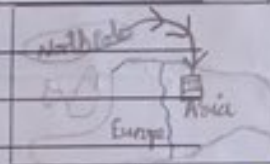
By Dolly

Class 16

I tried to write a poem,
I tried to write a poem,
But I jumped out a plane,
I tripped upon a pencil,
Then I fell on a pool lane.

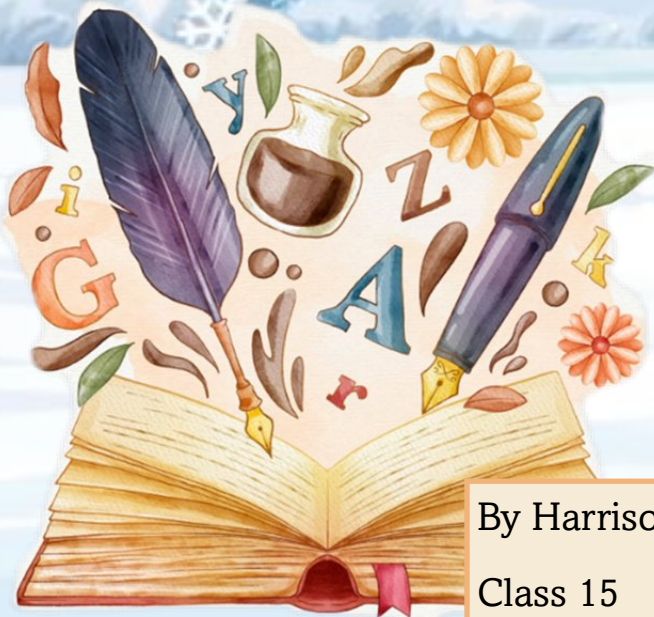
I tried to write a poem,
But I slipped on a road,
I ran across a box,
Then I fell onto a toad.

I tried to write a poem,
But I was shipped to the North Pole,
I was scared by the polar bears,
Then I was sent to Asia to find my inner side.



I tried to write a poem,
But I got nibbled by a bird,
I was distracted by an ice cream van,
Then I was sent back to the North Pole to help Santa.

I hope you like my poem,
Santa called it RAD,
The reindeer only neighed,
But I hope you like it Dad.



By Harrison

Class 15

Tomorrow
I called out to tomorrow to ask
for her plan. She said "wait for I am for
tomorrow there will be more time; time
takes time, nothing occurs instantly."

So as I'm waiting, buzzing with excitement
I wish for tomorrow as it waits ever so
slowly closer.

The night before the occasion, waiting
with curiosity I see an invitation slip
under the door calling me to come.

Tomorrow, I don't know exactly what
you have in store for me. My mind
searching for countless possibilities that
tomorrow could become.

After School Clubs

This half-term, the children have enjoyed a wide range of clubs. Lego Club returned, giving children the freedom to design and create wonderful buildings. Their imaginations truly came alive as they worked in teams, producing some truly amazing designs.

Our popular Christmas Sewing Club was also a highlight. It was lovely to see the children making decorations for family members to hang on their Christmas trees. Sewing Club allows children to use pre-made templates or design their own decorations, and this year we saw a fantastic variety of creative designs.

Christmas Cooking Club was another huge success. The children began by making mincemeat for their mince pies, followed by baking a Christmas cake, which they marzipanned, iced, and decorated. They then used their homemade mincemeat to make mince pies. In the final week, the children worked in small groups to create gingerbread houses,



Parliament Visit

Our School Council went on an exciting trip to the House of Parliament. We were taken on a tour, which included being able to go into the House of Commons. The House of Lords was sitting in the afternoon so we were not able to go in but we did see a few Lords and Ladies. We then took part in a workshop which helped explain how our laws are made and their journey from the public through Parliament. The children represented the school beautifully and all left inspired.



Music

Rocks Heath displayed their hard work in a Christmas Concert to their parents. It was lovely to see a range of instruments and they were working well as a team. They had a wide ranging repertoire and ended with a lively rendition of Jingle Bells.



Waypoint Church



Thank you to all those parents that helped us continue to support the wonderful work of Waypoint Church by collecting donations of toiletries and 'sweet treats' to be distributed to those less fortunate than ourselves this Christmas.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity in helping to make Christmas a little brighter for others.

J. West Seasonal Store

Many thanks to J.West for donating our beautiful Christmas tree this year!



March - June (approx)
We sell Spring/Summer plants, fruit, veg, Bedding packs, hanging baskets and pots. With a small selection of perennial & Shrub plants.

Compost, Bark, Manure & Decorative Stone.

We also Deliver all of our products ALL YEAR ROUND to order call or place and order on the website!

www.jwestseasonalstore.co.uk



June - October (approx)
Glide about on a Segway Experiences around the grounds, from beginner to expert we have various tracks to choose as per ability.

We also sell gift vouchers ALL YEAR ROUND you can order these on the website below to either be sent to yourself to print or sent on the day you wish to a recipients email address.

www.solentsegways.com

SIRIUS FIREWORKS

The brightest star in the sky

FIREWORK SHOP OPEN SEASONALLY SEE BELOW

Daily 10am - 4pm

Bonfire night 19th Oct - 11th Nov

New Years Eve 14th - 31st December

(closed 25/26th)

Sparklers - Coloured Smoke - Gender Reveals
- Selection Boxes - Single Ignition - Rockets -
Low Noise & Compounds

We are open ALL YEAR ROUND ONLINE for
CLICK AND COLLECT & LOCAL DELIVERY
order on the website below.

www.siriusfireworks.com



J. WEST CHRISTMAS TREE SUPPLIER

From mid November - 25th December

Our 'Pre Cut Forest' Premium Cut Xmas Trees all out their nets with 360 view in stands, ranging from 3ft to 10ft Larger Sizes available however we recommend to pre order anything larger.

Cut Your Own Tree* (Booking only see website)

Tree Stands, Wall Brackets, Pot Grown Trees, Lights, Decorations & Xmas Wreath Workshops! Pre Order for delivery or collection available.

www.jwestxmastrees.co.uk



J. West Seasonal Store

From a Train Ride to
a Segway Glide!
Here's a leaflet
about what we do
here at J West
throughout the year.

**Home Delivery
& Ticket Hotline**

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Brownwich Lane, Titchfield, PO14 4NY

www.jwestseasonalstore.co.uk

jwestseasonalstore@gmail.com



Indoor and outdoor space available to hire for your event or party.

Popular Optional extras include:

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Inflatables

Merry go Round

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See more options and to request a price list/
booking form head to -
www.jwestseasonalstore.co.uk/theorchardroom



New for 2025 Toddler Stay & Play Sessions.

Indoor and Outdoor play for more info and to see times and dates available go to the website below.

Tickets must be pre booked online.

<https://www.jwestseasonalstore.co.uk/service-page/little-pips>

Summer Screenings

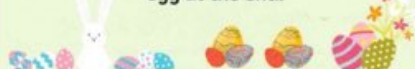
Laser Shows & Firework Display
Evenings

Follow our social media for more info on these New 2025 Events

Easter Egg Hunt Eggsperience

All aboard The West Express Easter for our Easter Egg Hunt Eggsperience.

With a few various stops to find your* coloured egg then exchange for a chocolate egg at the end.



The West Express Land Train Events

These are very popular and often sell out keep an eye out on our Facebook page and website for upcoming events and tickets

PYO Pumpkin Patch

Pick your own Pumpkin with a train ride. Play seasonal games with picture points.

New for 2025

Look out for Moonlight *Pumpkin Nights*



PYO Sunflower Patch

Pick your own sunflowers in our multicoloured sunflower patch, The West Express, bouncy castle & merry go round available for pay as you go rides. (weather permitting)

Suitable for Adults too not just kids! No need to book in advance, pay to PICK & take PICS

Summer Fest

Must be Pre Booked 1 admission charge then get 2 Hours of free non stop fun including 1 FREE ride per person on The West Express* Food & Drink, Bouncy Castles, Assault Course, Inflatables, Mascots, Music & DJ. Designated SEN Area.

Illumination Experience

At Christmas we light up our train & grounds, with a train ride to start covered in lights & sing along music along the way. Followed by a magical walk around our all weather paths with photo points along the way. Light up toys and hot food*