



SPARK

Newsletter February 2024

Michelle Ricetti – Family Liaison Officer

Spring is coming...



Welcome to Spark. Where did that half term go?

Since coming back after welcoming in the New Year, our feet haven't touched the ground.

We've had our art enrichment day at

the start of term where we looked at all sorts of different artists.

The application deadline, for children wanting to join our school in September of this year, has now passed. We'll be offering places at the start of the summer term.

Mrs Philbrook has been doing a brilliant job as acting Head Teacher and the interim senior leadership team have supported her well.

We have also welcomed our new interim SENCO Mr Strange who is also settling in well.

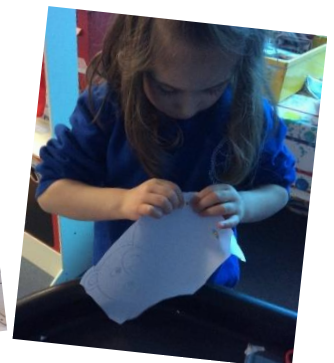
Read on to find out more about what our wonderful children have been up to.....

Reception *Flying around*



In Science, we have been learning about where birds live and what they need to survive. We made bird feeders to help the birds.

In DT the children have been learning how to join and attach using split pins.





In maths we have been exploring mass. We have been learning how to use a balance scale and compare the weight of different items. We tried to find the mass of an object by balancing the scale with multilink and finding out how many blocks the object weighed.

Miss Anscombe



In English we have been looking at non fiction books on bears. The children have become whizzes at identifying non fiction books in our book nook and spotting a contents page!

Year 1 **Lost and Found**



In Year 1 we have been having lots of fun in DT developing our sewing skills. We designed, made and evaluated some bunting flags based on the book 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We did our own cutting and sewing but Miss Cordell, Mrs MacAteer and Mrs Farmar did help us with threading the needles (because that was a bit tricky!) Our bunting flags are hanging proudly on display in the hall so look out for them next time you come into school. We're looking forward to bringing them home at the end of the year!

Year 1 children

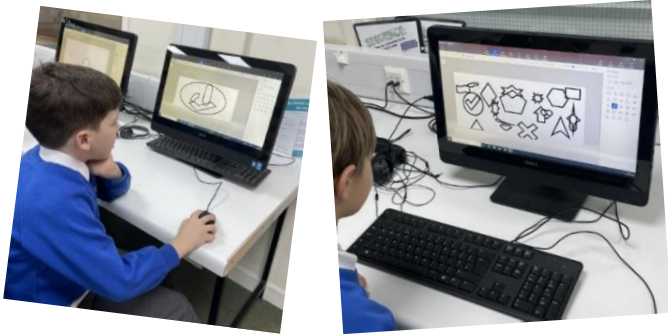


Year 2 **PAINT**



For ICT this term, Year 2 have been focusing on mouse control and how we use the mouse in different programmes on the computer. For our first lesson we looked at the programme Paint and the children explored the different functions they could use/manipulate all through mouse control. They were then set a challenge to create a picture by only using shapes (which links to our current maths topic). Some of the results were brilliant!

Miss Hamilton



Year 3 **POP ART!**

In year 3 this half term we have been looking at the Pop Art movement with a focus on Andy Warhol. We have discussed what we like about Pop art and how we would like to change it, moving on to creating our own pieces, and they look fantastic!



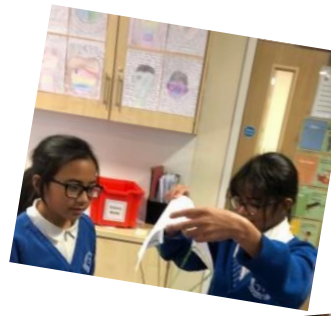
Year 3 have also been brilliant mathematicians this half term, looking at multiplication and division with remainders and partitioning. Despite finding this tricky at the start they have worked incredibly hard and have become experts at doing this, even using equipment to explain how they reached an answer, I have been so impressed! Well done year 3!

Miss Turner



Year 5 **FORCES**

Year Five have been having a brilliant time in their science unit 'Forces' enthusiastically embracing their learning and relishing any challenges. So far, they have investigated the effect of gravity on objects with different masses, the effect of air resistance of parachutes of different sizes and how the shape of an object affects its water resistance. We particularly enjoyed making the parachutes and testing them out! They have made fantastic predictions using their scientific knowledge and have shown a really great understanding of fair testing.



This week we had a great time testing the friction of different surfaces around the school. They have made fantastic predictions using their scientific knowledge and have shown a really great understanding of fair testing. They could all identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces, when investigating how things move. They are so mature, evaluating their methods and how we could improve on them to be more scientific and accurate. Here are some photos of them when investigating air resistance and friction! It was wonderful to hear them helping each other!

Mrs Tyndell

Year 5 **Russia**

Year Five want to say a huge thank you to Mrs McAteer for giving us a fantastic talk on Russia (our geography topic). She told us amazing facts and wrote all of our names for Russian for us. We learnt so much - particularly we loved hearing about the Ural Mountains and the beautiful malachite that that region is so famous for. It was so informative learning all about Russian culture, the alphabet and inventions. Thank you for a wonderful and informative treat that enriched our learning!

Mrs Tyndell





Year 6 went on a trip to Downs infant school to visit the air raid shelter under the playground and hear stories from some people who were evacuated from London to Brighton during the Blitz. They had a great time discovering what life would have been like.



A highlight of the trip was the air raid simulation where the pupils experienced the sights, sounds and vibrations of a bomb landing overhead.

Mr Hill



Adventure Trail



Thank you to the parent volunteers who worked hard to clear an area of the adventure trail ready for some exciting improvements coming soon.

More volunteers always welcome!

Mr Hill



Mr Strange



I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new interim Special Education Needs & Disabilities Coordinator at this wonderful school. With many years of experience in supporting students with SEND, I bring a deep understanding of the challenges they face. Being a parent to a child with severe anxiety and dyslexia has given me first-hand insight into the importance of creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment. In addition, my passion for Computers, Football (BHAFC) and Eurovision allows me to connect with students on diverse interests. I am incredibly happy to be part of this school community and appreciate the warm welcome I have received so far.

Mr Strange



We have already played some tournaments and, you guessed it, brought back a trophy but I'll be updating you in full, on all things sport, at the end of next term. Please see our website following the link below and then 'afterschool clubs' for all sports clubs running this term.

<https://ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/pe/>

Mrs Golawska



If you have any comments about the newsletter or any ideas for the next one, please email us at michellericetti@lourdes.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Remember to follow our Twitter account

@OLOLRottingdean

