

History and Geography Newsletter, January 2023

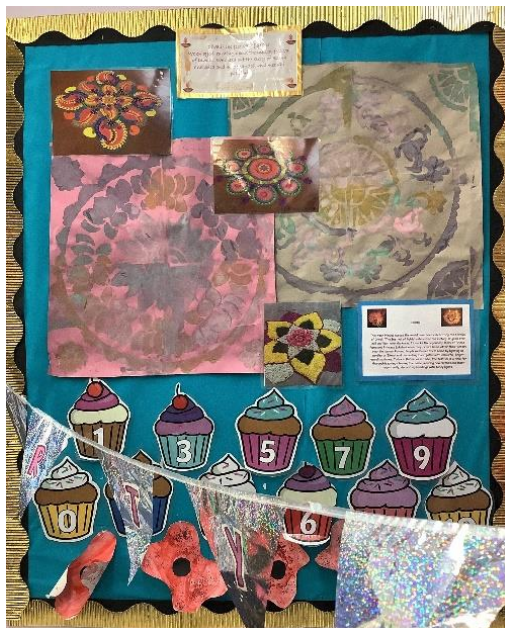
Welcome to another Humanities Newsletter, highlighting the excellent work produced over the Autumn 2022 terms. The topics are taught in a creative, cross-curricular way, involving literacy, drama, discussion and art, starting with questions they would like to know about, and are often inspired by interesting books. Topics follow a broadly chronological approach in History in Key Stage 2, and work from a local to global perspective in Geography.

What have we been learning?

Nursery

The Autumn topics of 'Favourite stories' and 'Festivals' gave opportunities to learn and talk about the seasons, special family times and birthdays, and festivals including Bonfire Night, Diwali and Hanukkah. The children enjoyed tasting special food from the festival of Eid al-Fitr and Christmas. They conducted simple science experiments and dressed up in the role play area. Opportunities were taken to learn outside as much as possible. It was a pleasure watching their Christmas songs production.

In the Spring, Houses and Homes is the new topic, based on several traditional tales as a starting point for learning about animal homes, and homes around the world, as well as many other things.



Reception

The two topics in the Autumn were 'All About Me' and 'Terrific Tales'. 'All About Me' included talking about where the children lived and their families. This was developed further in the second term during Show and Tell time, when the children brought in photos and information, telling the class about what life was like for their grandparents, about their homes, and how their families celebrate Christmas. During the second term, 'Terrific Tales', based on the 'Gingerbread Man', 'The 3 Little Pigs', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', and 'Cinderella', covered mapwork, (linked with the fictional stories *Through the Woods*), their local area, the village and even Chester Zoo. They explored materials for making houses, designing lovely models.

Learning in the Spring term is based on the book 'Dear Polar Bear', investigating the countries and climate where bears live.

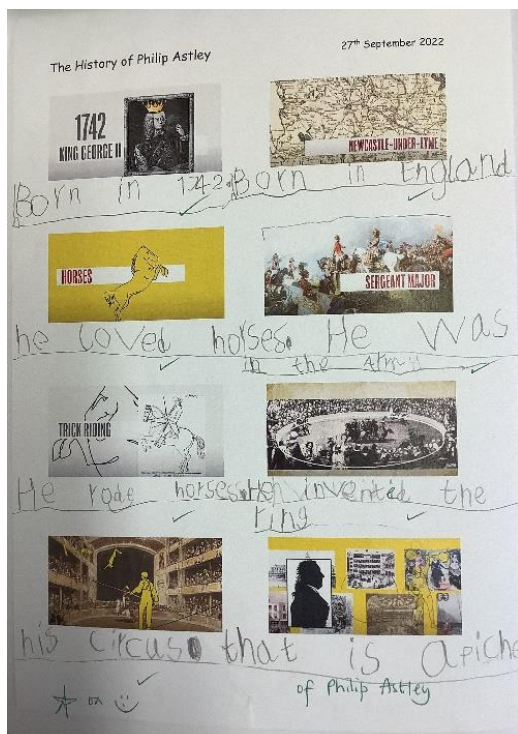
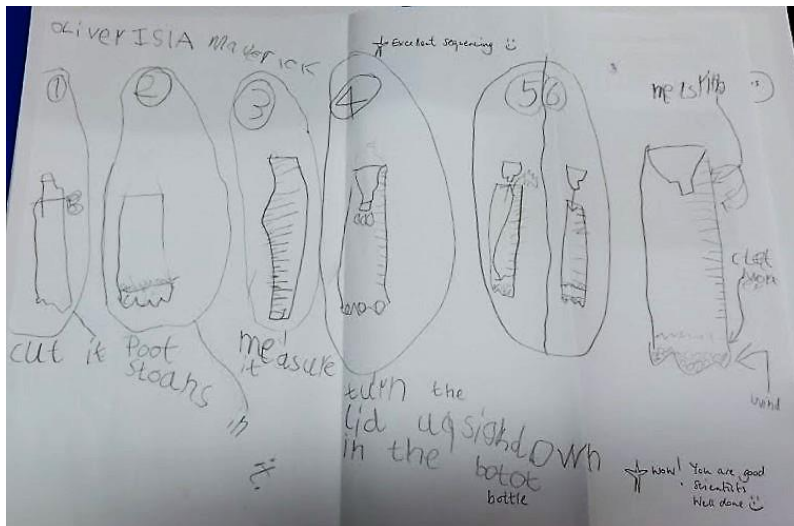
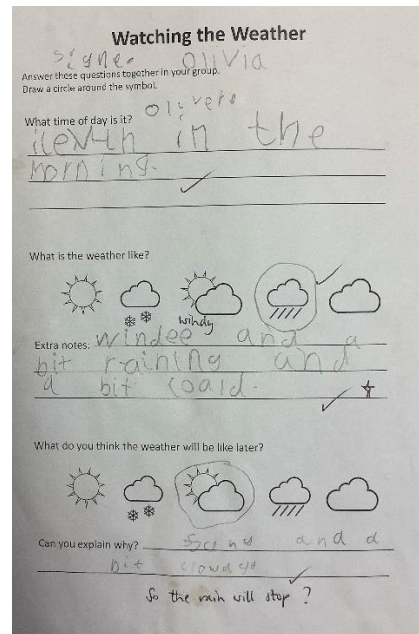
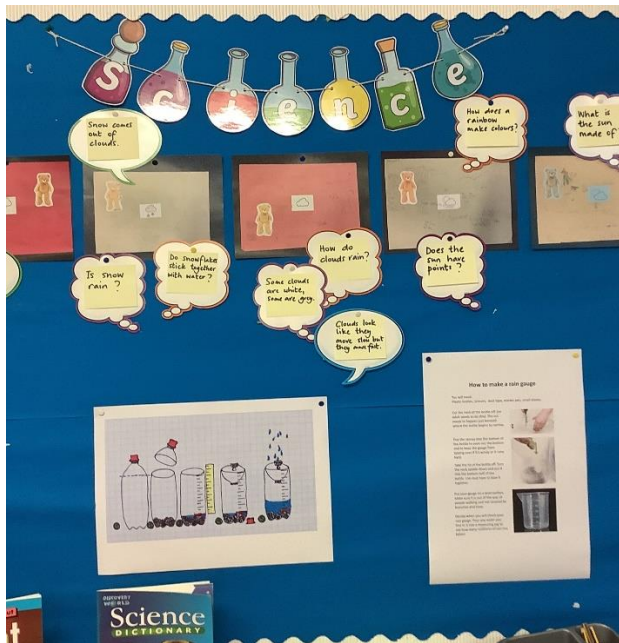


Year 1

The Geography and Science topic was 'Weather', which started with the children asking many questions and making comments, such as "Clouds look as though they move slowly, but sometimes they move fast", "How does a rainbow make colours?", and "What is the sun made of?" They made rain gauges and took measurements, recording the daily weather. They also investigated nocturnal animals. In the topics 'What is Geography?' and 'Where and how do we live on planet Earth?', Year 1 learnt that the British Isles includes England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The capitals, mapwork and facts of each area were discussed, with some children relating this to their travels.

The children constructed their own timelines and learnt about the history of circuses, using the illustrated book 'Clown' by Quentin Blake, and Philip Astley's circus as stimuli. The topic was cross-curricular featuring literacy, drama, and artwork.

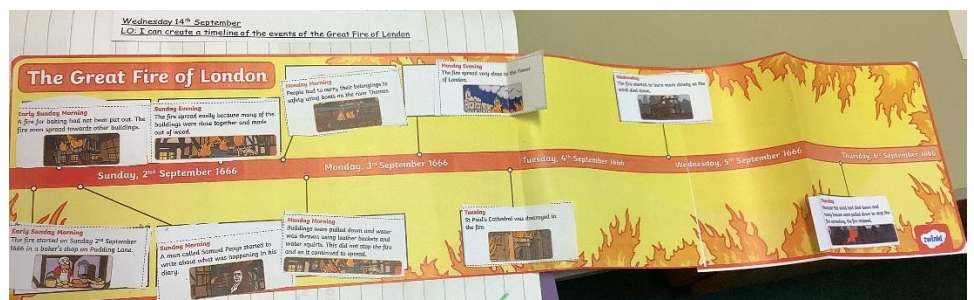
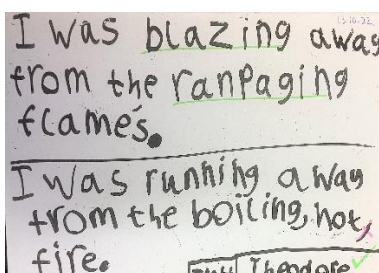
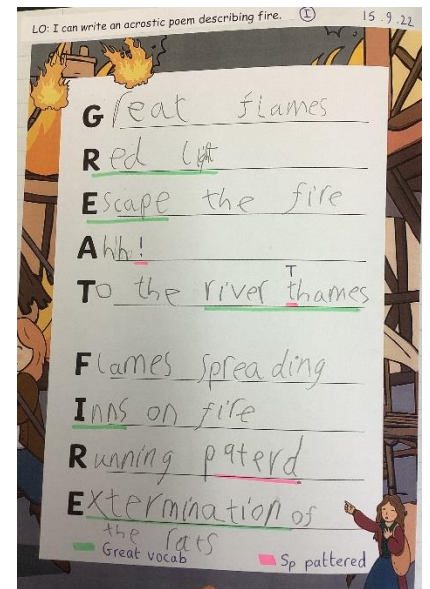
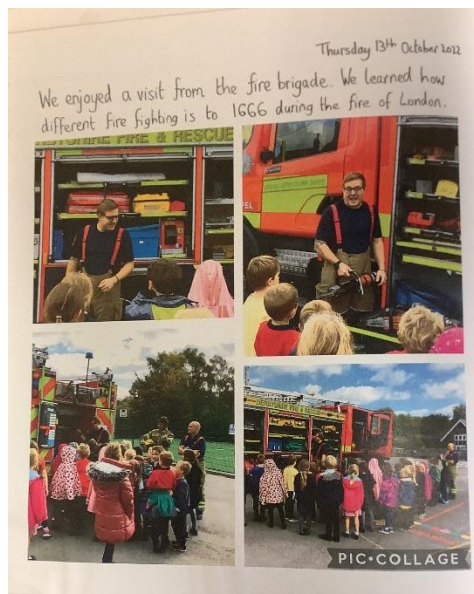
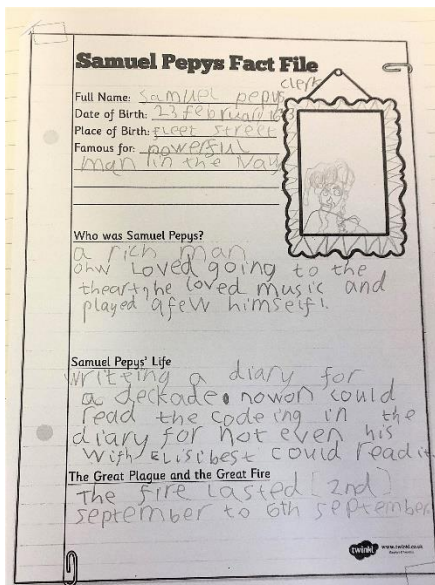
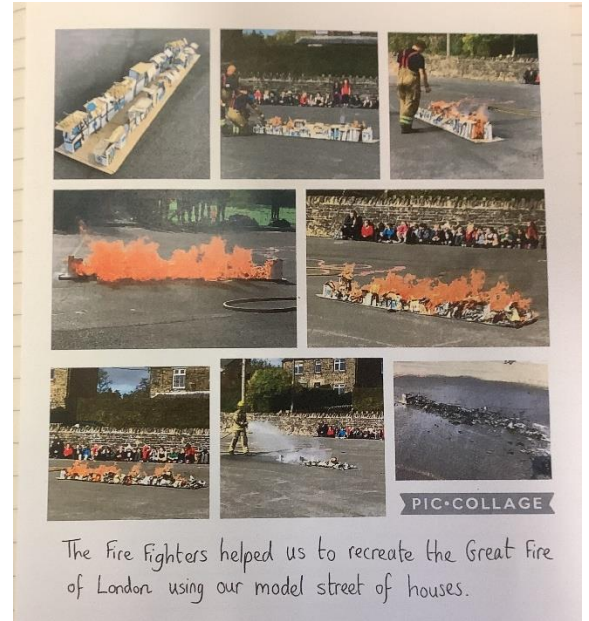
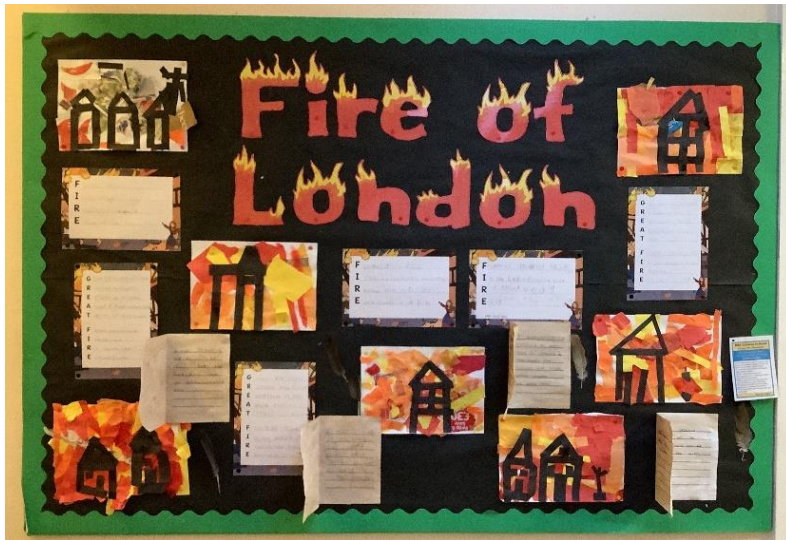
The Spring topic is 'From Here to There' about the local canal system and Bugsworth Basin, the Victorians, the human and physical features of the High Peak, and mapwork.



Year 2

The Fire of London was a wonderful topic for Year 2, involving literacy, history, dance, drama, art, DT and reasoning. The children were inspired to write in many different genres, including poetry, diary, factual, and newspaper formats. They were able to compare and contrast life then compared to now, and learnt about significant people like Samuel Pepys. Model houses were constructed and spectacularly set light to in the playground, under the watchful eye of the Fire Brigade.

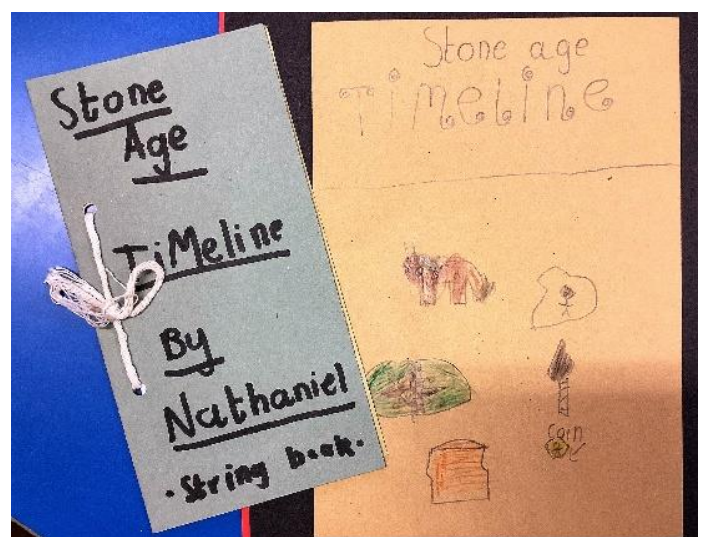
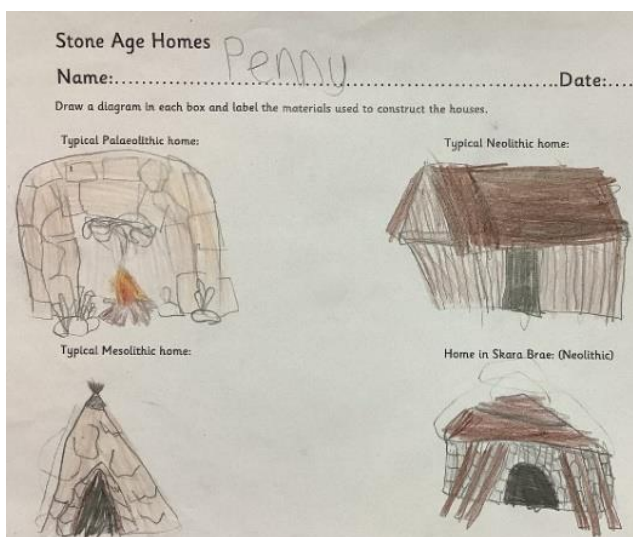
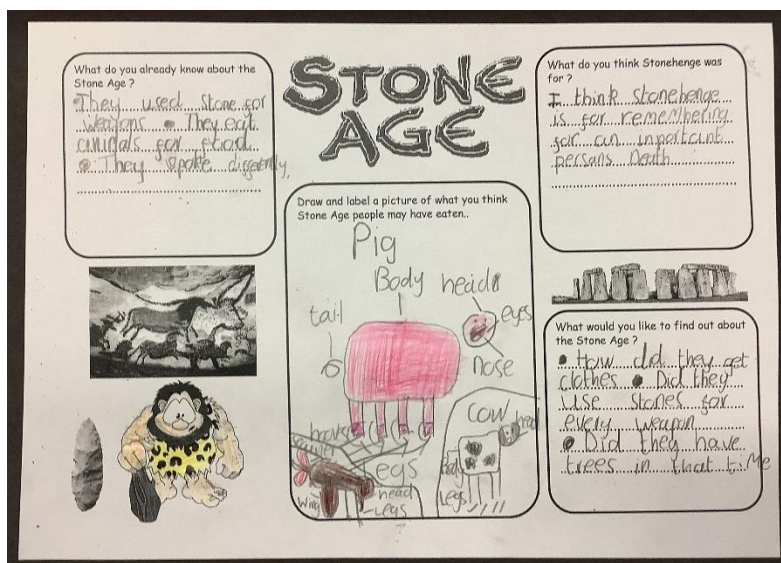
The next topic is 'Worldwide Wanderers', covering knowledge of the seven continents and five oceans, other countries, mapwork, and explorations of Columbus and other significant explorers.



Year 3

History in Year 3 began with the Stone Age, inspired by a visit from the History Van. They learnt about the lives of these early hunter-gatherers, discovering how they found and prepared food, made clothes and tools, kept warm, communicated, traded and what they believed. The children used stone tools, made stone-headed arrow, practiced 'spear' throwing, and cleaned animal skins. They used berries and foliage to create dyes from which they painted pictures, and made clay pots.

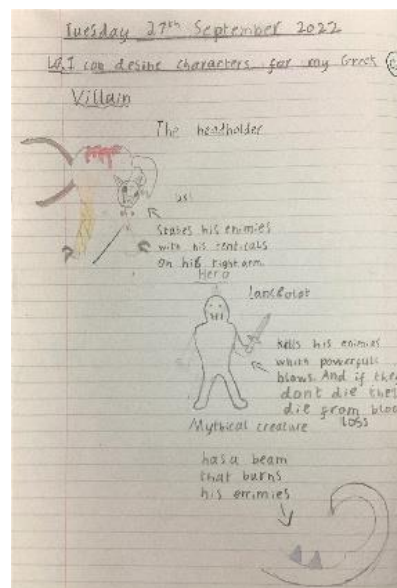
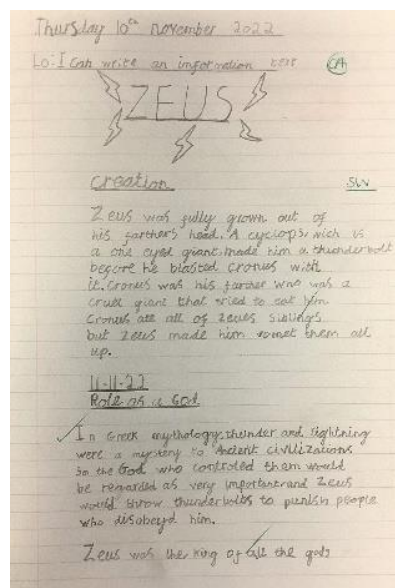
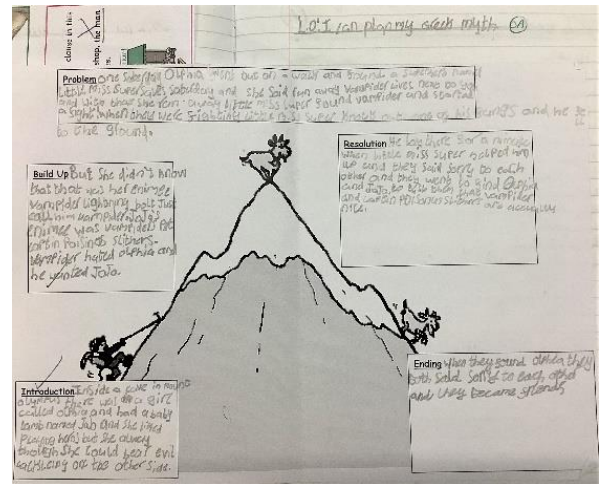
This topic continues in the Spring term, finishing the Stone Age then moving onto the Bronze Age and Iron Age. They will be making weapons from willow, seeing how good they are at foraging and then using the weapons to go on a woolly mammoth hunt! They will then look carefully at the changes metals made to the ancient peoples lives.



Year 4

History was about the Ancient Greeks, including learning about the life of a Greek soldier, battles, and their Gods. The children enjoyed designing and building model Greek buildings. They learned about the Greek alphabet and wrote invitations to their friends in Greek. Investigating the battle of Marathon, they learnt all about Pheidippides (a trained runner) who ran from Athens to Sparta! They held their own mini Olympics.

The topic changes to the Romans in the Spring term.



Planning a Newspaper Report

Name of newspaper: News on News Price: £1.00 Date: 10th Nov 2022

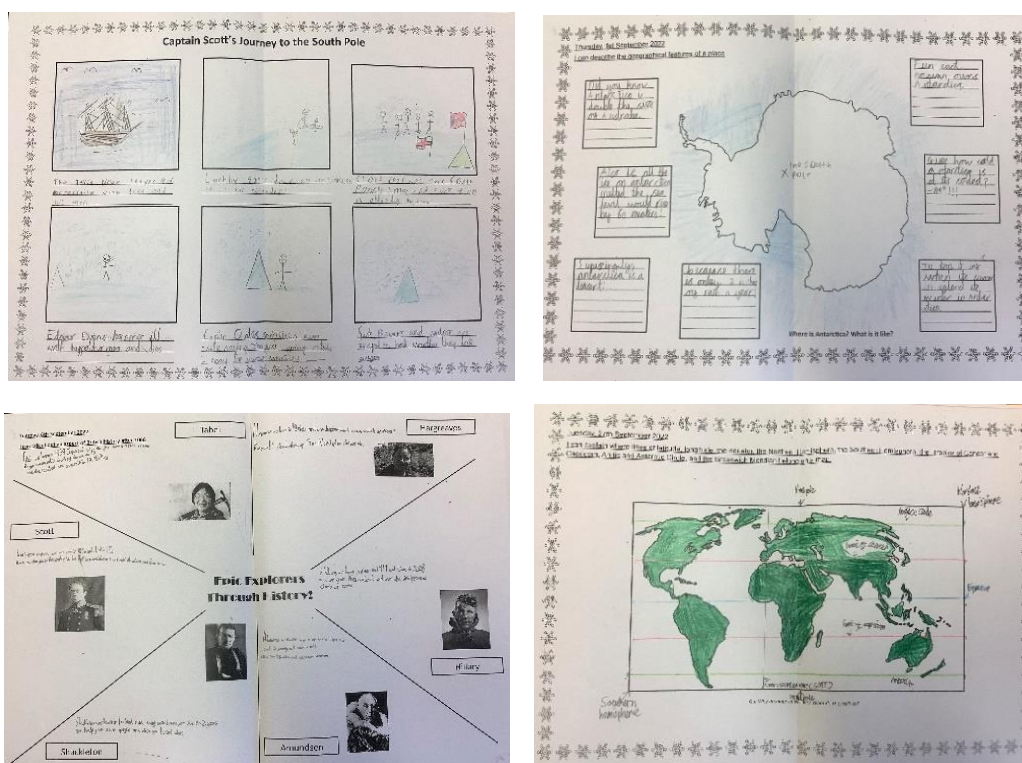
Story Headline: Rescuing Sir Richard Norton

Introduction		Break up the story in time order.	
Who was involved?	<u>Sir Richard Norton, Sir Richard Norton's wife, Sir Richard Norton's children, Sir Richard Norton's friends, Sir Richard Norton's enemies.</u>	Paragraph 1	<u>Paragraph 1: Sir Richard Norton is kidnapped by the villain.</u>
What happened?	<u>Sir Richard Norton is kidnapped by the villain.</u>	Paragraph 2	<u>Paragraph 2: Sir Richard Norton is rescued by his friends.</u>
Where did it happen?	<u>The Sea.</u>	Paragraph 3	<u>Paragraph 3: Sir Richard Norton is rescued by his friends.</u>
When did it happen?	<u>10th November 2022.</u>	Final paragraph	<u>Final paragraph: Sir Richard Norton is rescued by his friends.</u>
Interviews		Final paragraph	
Who did I talk to?	<u>Charley.</u>	What are the characters doing now?	<u>Charley is now a hero.</u>
How did I feel about it?	<u>He is a hero.</u>	What might happen in the future?	<u>Charley is now a hero.</u>
What did I say?	<u>Charley is a hero.</u>		
What did I see or hear?	<u>Charley is a hero.</u>		

Year 5

'Epic Explorers and Antarctica' included the accounts of Ernest Shackleton and Captain Scott's journeys, showing great bravery and resilience. They charted the achievements of Edmund Hillary and Tensing Norgay. The children produced wonderful artwork, and wrote in several genres including diaries, letters, newspaper articles as they studied the explorers.

In Spring, Y5 are studying the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.



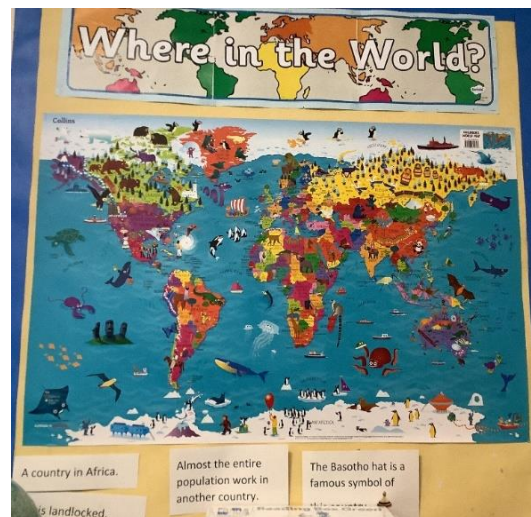
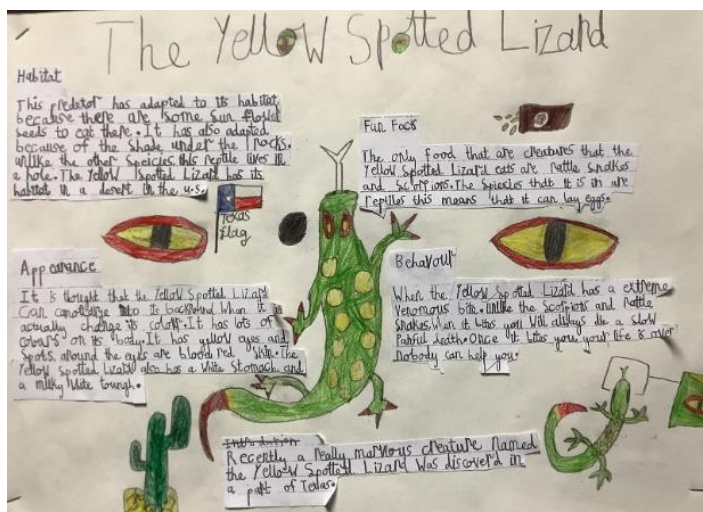
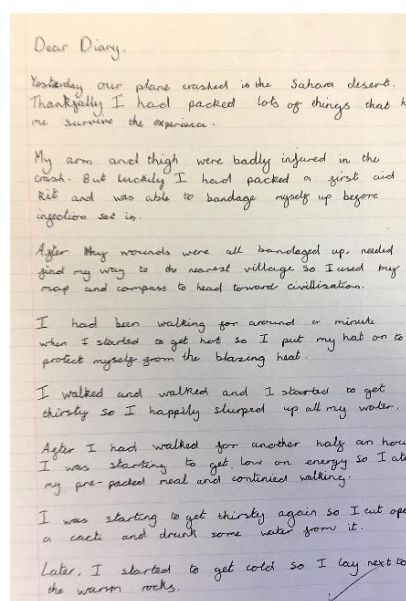
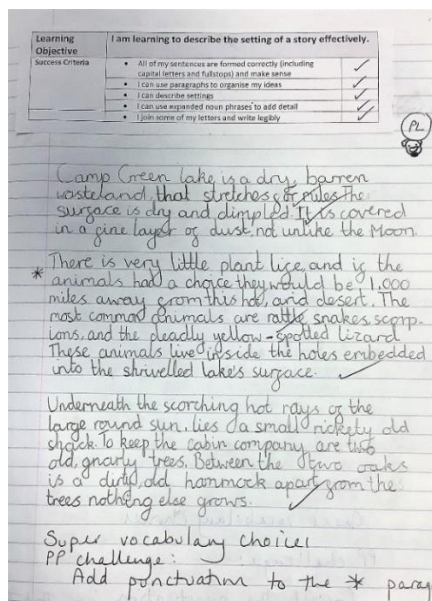
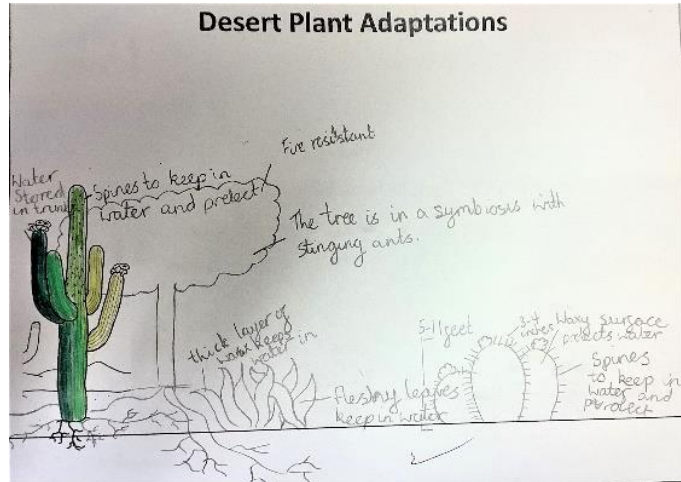
Year 6

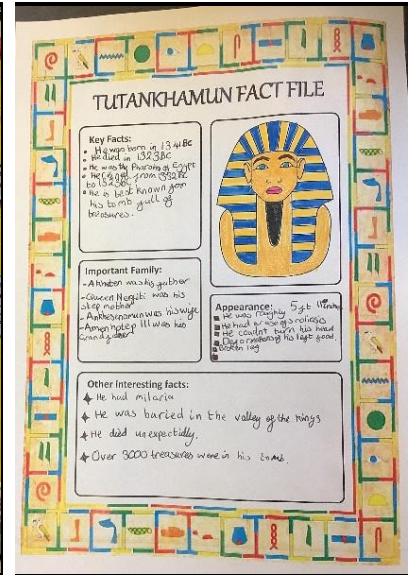
The study of 'Deserts' was inspired by the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar, with the children learning about the location of deserts in the world, the weather and climate, desert formations, how they are used by

humans and about the causes and effects of desertification. They enjoyed learning about animal and plant adaptation, and considered survival techniques. A very relevant topic in the face of climate change.

In the study of Ancient Egypt, the children had fun learning about aspects of life and death rituals (gruesome and otherwise), how pyramids were made, and the significance of the River Nile. They enjoyed a visit to Sheffield Museum to discover more.

Their next topic is World War Two.





ECO Committee

In addition, the ECO committee, made up of a couple of members of each class from Y1-6, considers ways to reduce our carbon footprint, and enhance the community at school.



As always, everyone has worked very hard throughout the Autumn and have thoroughly enjoyed the topics studied. We look forward to learning and discussing new insights in 2023.