



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have worked super hard this half term, but have had lots of fun too. We had our new building, a Halloween disco and pumpkin decorating (thank you to Bryony for donating the pumpkins). I cannot wait to find out what the rest of the year has in store!

There are some staffing changes to be aware of: this week we welcomed Mrs Seward, an additional teaching assistant into Explorers class. From the second week after half term, Mrs McGuire will be teaching Adventurers Monday to Thursday and Miss Greveson will be teaching on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. This means that Mrs Vardy and Mrs Eliff will share the teaching in Explorers.

As you can see from the data below, we are currently falling short of our attendance target. Please do not book holidays during term time, as they cannot be authorised. Poor attendance and/or lateness can have a significant impact on your child's academic progress, but also on their mental health. If you are struggling at all with getting your child into school, please contact us, as we are happy to meet to discuss any issues and offer support where we can.

Finally thank you for making Mrs Thornhill and myself feel so welcome, as we step in during Ms Street's absence. We hope you all have a spooktacular half term break and come back refreshed ready for another exciting term!



ATTENDANCE

From September 2023

Explorers	~	90.98%
Adventurers	~	91.41%
Pioneers	~	92.43%
Total Attendance: 91.66%		

Attendance target is 96%.

Key Dates



Monday 6th November	Return to school
Tuesday 7th November	School Photographs
Week Beginning 13th November	Anti-bullying week
Friday 17th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 12th December	Christmas Dinner
Date to be confirmed	Panto at school
Date to be confirmed	Breakfast with the Elf
Wednesday 20th December	Christmas Nativity Performances—details to follow
Thursday 21st December	Christmas party lunch followed by party games
Friday 22nd December	Break up
Monday 8th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 9th January	Return to school



We are sincerely sorry for the confusion over the school photographer. We have arranged for Leading Imagery to retake photos on Tuesday 7th November. Sibling photographs starts at 8am.



A number of children have been losing items of clothing. We are usually able to reunite the children with their lost items, but this is made much more difficult when things are not named. Please help us by making sure all of your child's property is labelled. Many thanks.



Explorers

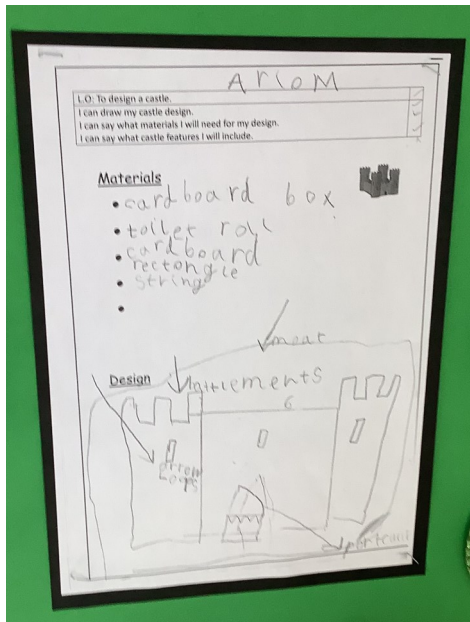


Explorers have been learning a Kenyan Kikuyu song called 'Kanyoni Gakwa Wihithahithe - My Little Bird Hides' to go alongside their literacy book: *Welcoming the Rain to Kapati Plain*.

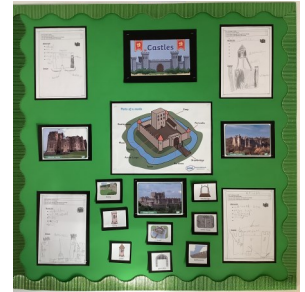


They have also been listening carefully and working hard to learn and blend sounds in Little Wandle phonics. A great start to the year — well done Explorers!

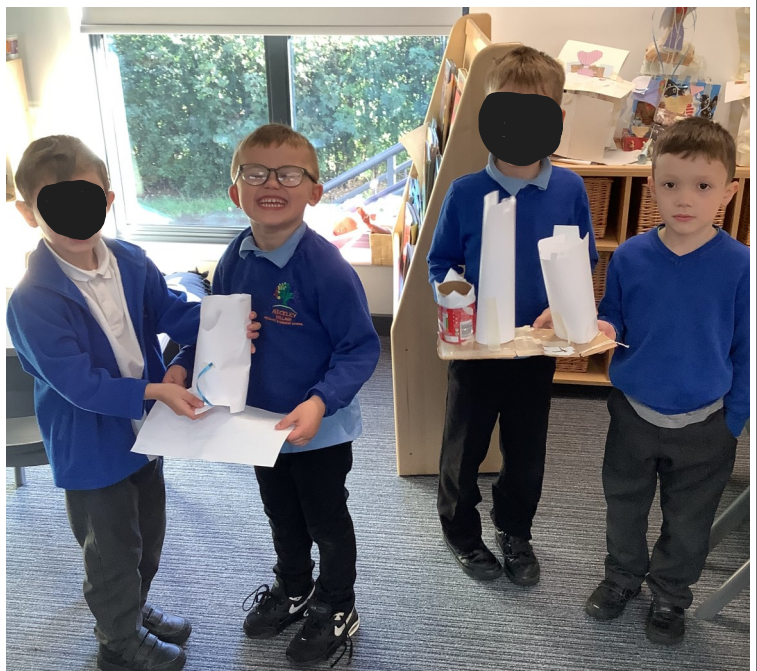
Adventurers



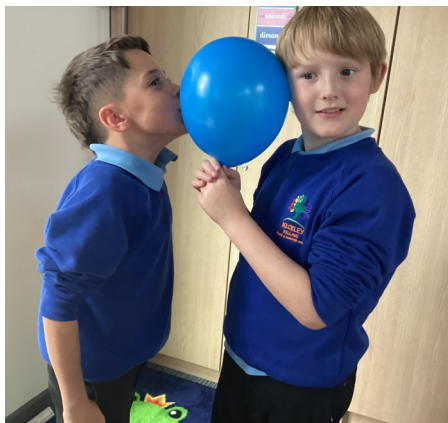
Adventurers have been learning about castles in history. They learned about their different parts and features then planned their own designs before constructing these wonderful castles.



They used a variety of materials to make them. "We really enjoyed working together to make these!"



Pioneers



Harry said: "In science we have been learning about sound and how it vibrates through the air. We have been exploring how sound gets louder and vibrates for



longer when we dropped a ball from higher onto a drum."

Isaac S commented, "It's harder for sound to travel through warm air than through cold air."

Grace told us that in D&T they have been exploring how to change a 2D shape into a 3D shape and how to make the shape or model stand up by itself. They made models and connected them together to make a whole class model.



Every School Day Counts: There is clear evidence to show that days off school impact on your child's attainment.

365 days in each year	175 non school days a year \longrightarrow				To spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments
	190 school days in each year	12 days ab- sence			
		178 days of education	19 days ab- sence		
			171 days of education	29 days ab- sence Half term missed	
		161 days of education	38 days ab- sence	152 days of education	
100% to 95%	94%	90%	85%	80%	
GOOD Best chance of success.	WORRYING Less chance of success		SERIOUS CONCERN Not fair on your child Possible legal action		