



Be the best you can be!

Half-termly Newsletter

17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a fun-filled and action-packed first half term, we'd like to thank all our families for their continued support. It's been a fantastic start to the school year!

A huge thank you for your generous Food Bank donations. We came together as a whole school to celebrate our Harvest Festival, where each year group from Reception to Year 6 contributed with their own presentation.

We've also enjoyed some exciting events across the school, including a Superheroes Day in EYFS, the Year 5 & 6 Residential to Kingswood, and our ever-popular Macmillan Coffee Morning; which raised £351.17!

We are incredibly grateful to our amazing PTA - Helping Hands, for their ongoing efforts to support the school – from organising a fantastic quiz night, to selling hot drinks on Friday mornings in the playground, and more recently, donating new play equipment for the children to enjoy outside; your work makes a real difference.

After the half-term break, Mrs Deakin will be starting her maternity leave. We all wish her the very best and look forward to hearing all about Baby Deakin!

Wishing you all a restful and well-deserved half-term break!

Many thanks,
Mrs Holmes

Contacting us:

Calls can be made to school Monday to Thursday from 8:30am – 4.30pm and Friday 8.30am - 4pm on **01777 708065**

Enquiries about admissions, Wrap Around Club, Breakfast Club and any other query should be directed to office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk

Finance queries should be directed to: finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk

Booking in Breakfast Club and Wrap Around Club

Parentmail is open for you to book Breakfast Club and Wrap Around places for Autumn Term 2. Please note, these must be booked one week in advance to allow us to ensure correct staffing and meals etc. Breakfast is served daily until 8:20 am.

Please also note that Breakfast club starts from 7.45am and children will not be allowed into school before this time. Thank you

Ordering Lunches through Ideal

A huge thank you to everyone for booking in school lunches for Autumn Term 1. It has been a huge success and we hope that you all remember to book in lunches, when they become available, on the Ideal Meals website in readiness for Autumn Term 2.



Macmillan Coffee Morning



A huge 'Thank You' to everyone who came into school to support our Macmillan Coffee Morning this year. Thank you to everyone who brought donations of cakes, bakes and raffle prizes. We hope you all enjoyed the morning as much as we did. We are extremely pleased to announce that the total amount raised for the morning was an amazing **£351.17!!**



KS2 Boys' Football Team

Our new KS2 Boys' Football team have had an amazing start to their season this term! The matches are the first matches they have played together as a newly formed team and we couldn't be more proud of them. This year's team is made up of boys across Years 4, 5 and 6.

Our first match was a home game against North Wheatley. Clarborough were on fire with goals coming every few minutes. An amazing hat-trick from Reiss sealed an 11-1 win to Team Clarborough and Player of the Match was Reiss.

Our second match was another home match against St Anne's. It was an extremely close match and we were just beaten with a last-minute goal from St Anne's. Final score 4-3 to St Anne's with our Player of the Match going to Edward.

Our final match this term was played on Monday, away and against Thrumpton Academy Primary School. This was another intense match. The boys had to dig deep to claim the 3 points and came away victorious with a 2-1 win! Player of the Match went to Cole

The whole team have been amazing in every match played. Well Done #TeamClarborough!



KS2 Girls' Football Team

We are super proud of our newly formed KS2 Girls' Football Team too! The new KS2 team is made up of girls across Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Their first match as a new team was an away match against Langold. It was a close match and our girls had plenty of goal attempts. They battled really hard throughout the game against a team full of Year 5 and 6s and definitely gave it their all. The match ended with a 3-1 win to Langold.



Their next game was another away match this time against St Luke's. This match was also a cup game match. It was a close end to end match and should have finished with a 0-0 draw and then into penalties. The girls certainly gave their all and again were up against a team of Year 5 and 6s. The game closed with a score of 1-0 to St Luke's. Our next KS2 Girls' match is due in November.

We are so proud of both our teams this term and can already see great things ahead for Clarbrough!



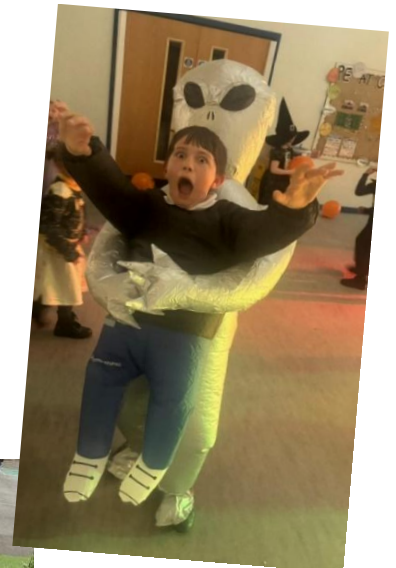
Food Bank Donations

Thank you so much to everyone who brought in donations for the Bassetlaw Food Bank. You have all been very generous in supporting this local cause. We have taken the donations over to the BFB base in Worksop.



Spooky Disco

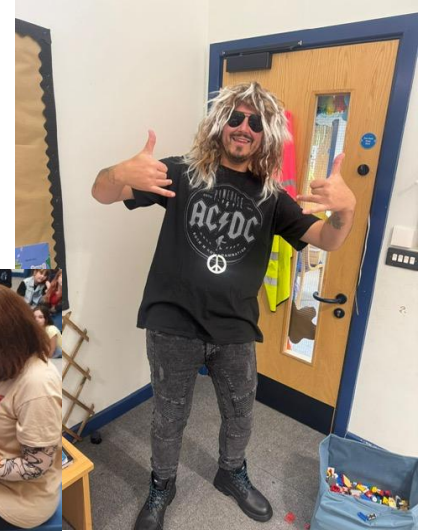
Our wonderful PTA organized a Halloween disco for the children before the end of term. Children in Nursery and Reception had their disco before the end of school. The rest of the school then got into their Halloween costumes and outfits and had a great time with lots of dancing, snacks and ghoulish games. Everyone looked fabulous and had a fantastic time. It was certainly a great way to end the term. The disco managed to raise an amazing £488! The PTA will use this money towards new equipment for the children to use in school.





TT Rockstars Day

Friday 3rd October saw the return of TT Rockstars Day. Last year was a huge success, we just couldn't wait to do it all again! The children and staff looked amazing in their outfits and fully immersed themselves into the rock and roll energy. The day ended with times tables battles. The children in each class played head to head in front of the whole school. It was a great day of fun!



Year 6 Cake Sale Fundraiser

On Wednesday 1st October and Thursday 2nd October, Year 6 held a bake sale during morning break to raise money towards their Year 6 leavers Hoodies. We were overwhelmed with how generous everyone had been with their donations. The Year 6 pupils helped out during break time selling cakes for 50p and £1 and everyone had a great morning!

We are so pleased to announce that the money raised from the sale came to a fantastic total of £252.10!

This will mean that each pupil in Year 6 now have a donation towards their Hoodies. Thank you so much again for all your donations and support, it really means a lot to the Year 6 pupils and the school.

Nursery & 30hrs

What a great term we have had thinking about our very own superpowers of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch. The children have loved it all - especially Smelly Day when everyone brought in something smelly (Miss Holden's cat food was memorable) and of course our Superhero Day!

It's always a big change starting Nursery but all our newbies have taken it in their stride and we are very proud of them. Hearing 3-year olds negotiate sharing the toys with the phrase "How long will you be?" never fails to amaze us. They are wonderful.

Can I also say a massive thank you to the PTA who have bought some wonderful things for us. The mirrored blocks are a huge hit!

Enjoy the holidays everyone. Missing you already!



Reception

What a fantastic start the children have made to their Reception year: We are so proud of how quickly they have got used to the new routines, how grown-up and sensible they have been and how much they are trying with their work - well done all of you!

Our topic this half-term has been about the super powers we all have and how we are all special in our own way. We have learnt about the amazing things our bodies can do and how we can look after them. We have discovered that we have five senses which help us to find out about the world and keep us safe.



The children used their senses of smell and taste to try to decide if foods were salty, sweet or sour and everyone was brave enough to have a little lick of each type of food, even if they hadn't tried it before: Not surprisingly everyone liked the sweet jelly tots, but some children really loved the sour lemon!

We used our ears for a listening walk around school and our eyes to look for signs of autumn, linking this to our ongoing work about the seasons and seasonal changes.

We used our sense of touch to feel different textures and learnt lots of new words to describe how things felt.

The children have enjoyed listening to lots of lovely stories and naming the different parts of a book, such as the title, spine and cover. They have begun using their first writing books and are working hard to hold their pencils correctly. In Phonics, they have been learning new sounds and practising blending and segmenting to read and write simple words.

In Maths we have been sorting, matching and comparing different items, following and making repeating patterns and focusing on the numbers 1, 2, 3.

Next half-term our topic is 'Stories we Love'.

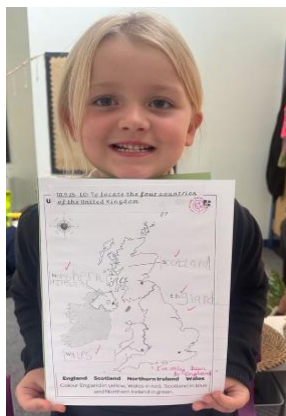


Year 1

In Maths this half term, we have been sorting objects, counting objects, representing objects, recognising numbers as words, counting on from any number, 1 more, counting backwards within 10, 1 less, comparing groups by matching, less than, greater than, equal to, comparing numbers and ordering objects.

We have just started learning about the part whole model and beginning to write number sentences. We will continue this after half term.

In English, each week, we have focused on a different text including: 'You Choose', 'Oi Frog', 'Not a stick', 'Not a box' and 'Simon Sock'. Activities around these texts focused on writing simple sentences including beginning with a capital letter, leaving spaces between words and using a full stop. We also began to use adjectives to describe size and colour as well as using capital letters for names. The children have really enjoyed this selection of books. They have also learnt how to use purple pen after verbal feedback to improve their writing as well as self-assessing their work using pink and green.



The children have responded really well to daily Phonics and shared reader sessions. The weekly shared reader book can be found on our class Seesaw page.

In Clarborough Curriculum, the children have explored the United Kingdom and located the four countries of the United Kingdom, identified the four capital cities and surrounding seas. They have also explained the differences between human and physical features and described the human and physical features of one of the UK's capital cities.

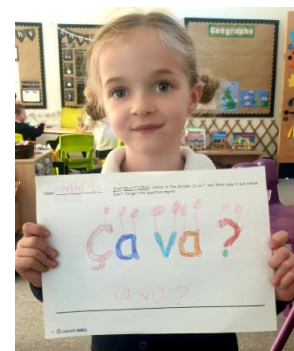


In Science we have been exploring everyday materials: The children were able to identify and name a variety of everyday materials, distinguish between an object and the material it is made from, describe the properties of everyday materials, identify objects that are natural and those that are manmade.

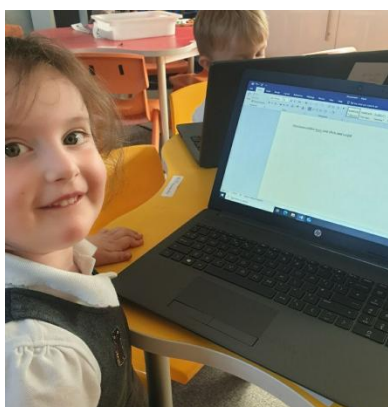
In DT we have been looking at Structures: Constructing a windmill. The children followed a design criteria to meet the needs of a user, making a stable structure, making functioning sails/blades that attach to the supporting structure and discussed how they would improve their windmill. The children realised their original plan didn't work as they intended and could suggest ways of how this could be improved.



In French we have been practising 'Greetings'. The children do French with Mrs Gulsever on a Monday afternoon, they have learnt how to say 'hi' and 'hello' in French. They also learnt how to say 'my name is...' and ask somebody in French how they are feeling and give a reply. They also learnt how to say 'goodbye' and 'see you later' in French. The children have really enjoyed this!



The children have loved taking part in Forest School every Tuesday. They focused on the Gruffalo book and made different houses for the characters as well as playing lots of games and exploring our forest school area. They ended the sessions by toasting marshmallows around the campfire.



Next Term:

English: Books we look forward to reading:

- The Book of Names (names starting with capital letters)
- Snowball (plurals)
- Dear Santa
- We're going on an Elf Hunt

- The Nativity

Maths: Addition and subtraction, Geometry - shape

PE: Team building/ ball skills

French: Colours

Science: Seasonal changes

Computing: Text and images/ E-Safety

Music: Singing/ Nativity songs

RE: What do some people believe God looks like?

PSHE: Health and wellbeing

Art: Drawing – make your mark

History: The Gunpowder Plot

Year 2

In Year 2 the children started their new Maths learning with place value. The children learnt about numbers and the number system to 100 and then learnt how to partition numbers into tens and ones. We also revisited counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and introduced counting in 3's. We then moved onto adding and subtracting numbers. We started by recapping number bonds to 10 and then moved onto 20 and 100. The children practised adding and subtracting ones, then tens from a number up to 100.

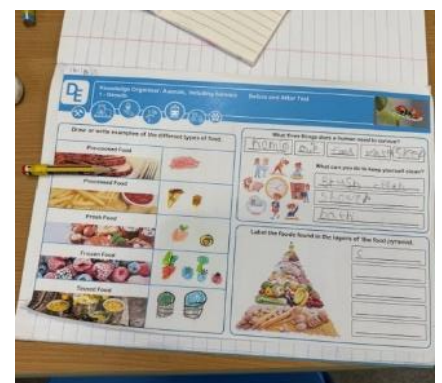
Our English subject this term has been about 'Toby and the Great Fire of London'. The children really enjoyed reading this story and finding out about some of the aspects of the Great Fire. We gathered lots of ideas around what people may have heard and seen during the Great Fire and wrote some wonderful haiku poems based on this. The children also wrote a recount, as if they were Toby, and thought about the experience Toby would have had.



During our English lesson we have also been watching a clip based around London and Pudding Lane, thinking about what it would have been like before the fire as well as during. We have introduced the children to using commas in a list, prepositions, adjectives and verbs in their writing to describe what it may have been like in London at that time. The children have then thought about Thomas Farriner, the baker, and have written a diary of his day from before the fire started to during the fire and finally the aftermath of the fire.

Through our History lessons we have found out about what London was like in the 17th Century, the street and houses, the jobs people had and also what the fire system used to be like. Within this we found out about how much has changed for the fire service since then. The children enjoyed linking what they had learnt in English to their History lesson and found out about the events of the fire. They then created a timeline of these events. We went on to learn how London was re-built after the fire and what changed to help keep people safer and avoid such a catastrophe happening again.

Our topic in Science this half term has been 'Animals including Humans.' The children have learnt about the basic needs for survival (water, air, food and shelter). They have thought about what we need to eat as part of a healthy balanced diet and considered the importance of exercise and the impact this has on our bodies. We finished the topic by thinking about the importance of hygiene and how important it is to wash our hands well to keep germs away.



Art has been based around maps and using them as a stimulus for our art work. The children have thoroughly enjoyed designing their own maps in their sketch books. We have then used these designs to create a 3D version of our map. This was very fun, although the classroom did suffer a little and was rather messy for a little while!



In Computing we have been learning about how to stay safe online by watching a few different scenario videos, for example, not sharing personal information to people online as well as speaking to a trusted adult if we see anything online we are worried about. We then moved on to look at recognising the use of IT, recognising common uses of IT in and out of school and understanding that computers store and follow instructions.

The children have been learning how to greet someone in French. They have learnt *bonjour*, *salut*, *au revoir*, *cava?*, and how to respond in French to 'how are you feeling?'

In Music, we have been chanting different call and response sound patterns and then progressed to creating our own call and response patterns using untuned percussion instruments. We have learnt about and practised rhythm and pulse as we echoed and responded to each other's chants.

Next Term:

We will continue to work on addition and subtraction, learning how to add two, two-digit numbers. We will then move on to Geometry and learn about shapes.

Our new Science topic will be about materials. The children will identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. They will also learn that the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

The children will be learning to count in French to 10. They will also learn 10 common colour names.

Next half term in English, we will be completing another film unit called 'snack attack' which will focus on recounting a story, as well as learning to use the possessive apostrophe, writing expanded noun phrases and the use of questions. Later in the term we are going to be writing winter shape poems.

In Music we will be exploring longer pieces of music, looking at how music can tell a story through the use of different instruments. And of course, starting to practise the songs for our KS1 Nativity performance!

Year 3

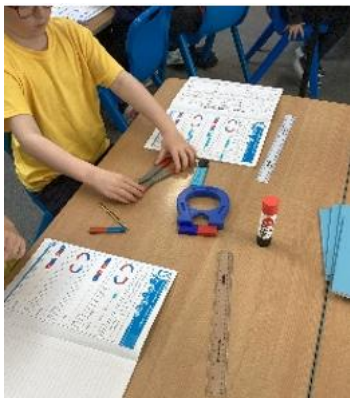
In Maths this half term, Year 3 have been developing their understanding of Place Value. We have used a range of tools to help us, such as Dienes and place value counters. We then applied this knowledge to calculate things such as 1/10/100 more and less as well as estimate on number lines. We have recently moved on to Addition and Subtraction, using our Place Value knowledge to help us.

Our English text this half term has been *Stone Age Boy*, which we really enjoyed reading. We actually realised that after a couple of weeks, we could recite most of the text by heart! We applied our reading skills to develop our understanding and make predictions. We developed our descriptive writing and practised expanded noun phrases so that the reader can better picture characters and settings when reading. We then wrote our own version of the story, choosing a different period of time that the main character might travel to.

In History we have studied the Stone Age to Iron Age. At first, we identified where this period of time fits into World History and placed it on a timeline, developing our understanding of chronology. Our learning so far has been about people from the Stone Age. We have pretended to be hunter gatherers, searching the school environment for anything that would have been useful. We then explored cave art and tried to recreate some of our own. We have developed our knowledge of historical sources and how we can use them to deduce and infer information about the Stone Age.



Our Science work this half term has been on forces and magnets, where we have had lots of fun experimenting. We know that as scientists we need to make predictions and then test these out, identifying how we can make it a fair test. An example of this is when we experimented with different ramps and how changing the surface of the ramp would affect a car travelling down it. We have also learnt about magnets, testing out things that are magnetic and not magnetic.



In DT we have learnt about seasonal foods with the aim to then design and make tarts. We planned what we wanted to include in our tarts and really enjoyed making them – and eating them of course!

Our Computing work has been about staying safe online. We understand how important this is and have discussed a range of ways to keep ourselves and others safe. We have also looked at creating music using technology.



In Music we have been learning about ballads. Year 3 have loved singing ballads, identifying what makes a song a ballad and then creating their own ballad together as a class.

Our French work this half term has been looking at certain sounds and how to pronounce them. We have learnt the French alphabet and some general classroom instructions as well.

We have really enjoyed our RE work this half term as it has allowed us to be curious about what it means to be human. This has included consideration as to what some people believe a soul is. Recently we have looked into meditation and how some people believe it helps to improve their lives.

In PSHE we have looked at relationships including friendships. We have practised some strategies for when there is conflict in friendships, knowing how trusted adults can support us. Finally, we have really enjoyed learning about lacrosse in PE as well as developing our football skills.

Next Term:

In Maths we will be continuing our work on Addition and Subtraction and will then move on to Multiplication and Division. In English we will be writing non-fiction texts about magnets as well as looking at instructions. We will also be writing some fiction about 'The Ride of Passage.' We will be continuing our History work started this half term, moving on to the Bronze Age and Iron Age. In Geography we will be looking at Settlements and Land Use. Our Science next half term is based on Rocks. In RE we will be exploring where our morals come from and in PSHE we are focusing on health and wellbeing. Our music is creating compositions for an animation and in Art we will be developing our drawing skills. In Computing we are editing documents and looking at 3D design and in PE we will be playing volleyball and developing our teamwork skills.

Year 4

In Maths this half term we have covered place value, addition and subtraction. The children have represented and partitioned numbers to 10,000 as well as developing their rounding skills too. More recently we have been using the column method to both add and subtract 4-digit numbers.



In English, we have used the story of Frankenstein as a stimulus for our writing this half term. We used repetition, onomatopoeia and rhyme to create our own poetry. More recently, we have been using a text about cowboys to plan and write our own narrative.

Within Clarbrough Curriculum lessons, we have been learning about North America. We used atlases to identify the countries in North America and the states of the USA. Since then we have investigated the Rockies and the Mount St Helens volcanic eruptions.



Within Science, Year 4 have learned about the digestive system, the effects of different liquids on teeth as well as food webs.



In Art we have been investigating tone, texture and proportion and have since created our own compositions and during French lessons, we have been learning the 'ch', 'on', 'ou' and 'oi' phonemes.

In Computing we have looked at e-safety before developing our internet research skills.

Next Term:

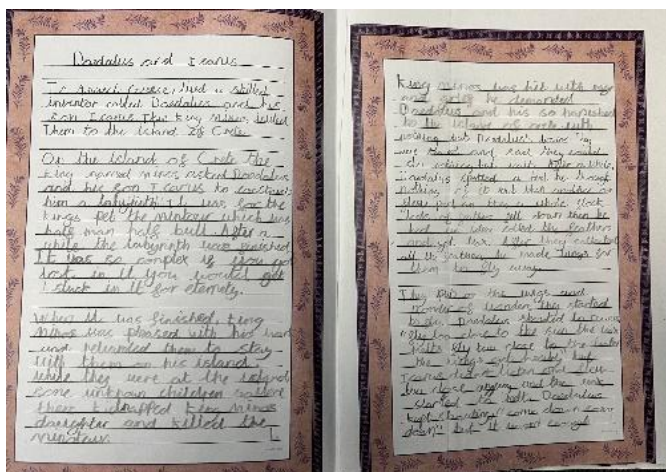
English - Planning and creating our own narrative and creating a set of instructions linked to our Romans topic.

Maths - Area, Multiplication and Division.

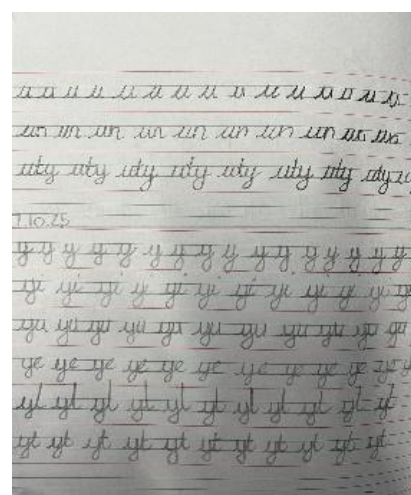
Year 5

In Maths, a huge emphasis has been placed on the importance of a secure understanding of place value; the value a digit has depending on its position in a number. Pupils have explored numbers up to 1,000,000: finding 10, 100 or 1000 more and less than certain numbers, comparing and ordering numbers and rounding. The current unit is addition and subtraction and pupils are learning to: add and subtract whole numbers with more than four-digits, solve multi-step problems and find missing numbers.

Our first unit of writing was based on Greek myths. Pupils listened to a variety of Greek myths and explored their structure and language. They then planned, drafted, edited and published their recount of *Daedalus and Icarus*. We then moved on to exploring biographical writing, specifically the biography of Katherine Johnson, a prominent black, female mathematician involved in NASA's early space missions. Pupils explored the features of biographical writing before writing their own biography based on another prominent figure in space exploration. In September, we launched a new whole school handwriting scheme and pupils have been working hard to practise and apply their cursive writing skills.



	Athens	Sparta
Location	South East Greece	North and mountainous
Government	a democracy	two Kings
Purpose of school	to teach boys to write with	learning to fight
Life for boys	went to school to learn	strength and fighting
Life for girls	stayed at home to work	combat and fighting
Buildings and features	Acropolis hill Parthenon temple for the goddess Athena	gymnasium or training ground



In History the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks: who they were, the differences in city states, Alexander the Great, the Battle of Marathon, Gods & Goddesses and the Olympic Games. They made links to our learning about space in Science and the influence of the Ancient Greek gods and goddesses.



In Science, the pupils have learned the names and order of the planets in our solar system. They have explored features of these planets and designed and made their own model planets. They learned about different theories about the solar system as well as how the Earth and Moon move in space. They learned about the Earth's rotation and, night and day.



In DT, pupils have familiarised themselves with Microbits - pocket-sized, programmable computers developed by the BBC and the Micro:bit Educational Foundation to introduce children and beginners to coding, software and hardware.



In Computing, pupils have learned about E-Safety and Computer Networks. The E-Safety module highlighted the need to keep personal information private, the consequences of sharing photos and videos online, knowing how, where and who we can report concerns to and understanding how clones, trojans and hackers can steal your identity. Pupils also learned about Computer Networks: how they help us and how we can use them safely.



In French, Year 5 have learned to read, write and pronounce the phonemes.

Next half-term, our focus shifts to Volcanoes & Earthquakes in Geography, and Animals including Humans in Science. In English, pupils will write a narrative and a poem. In Maths, the focus will be on multiplication & division and fractions

Year 6

In Maths, Year 6 have been practising their arithmetic skills every morning when they enter the classroom. They initially began with answering 10 questions in 20 minutes and have so far built it up to 20 questions in 20 minutes already! A huge well done so far Year 6!

They have also been exploring place value beyond 10,000,000 and have moved swiftly on to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills. They have looked at squared and cubed numbers; which numbers are prime numbers and how to tackle long multiplication. Fridays are our 'space, shape and measure' day where they have been finding out about different types of triangles and how to measure their angles.

On Friday 3rd October, the children participated in TTRS day! Everyone had such a great time testing out their multiplication recall skills.



In English, we originally stripped it back to make simple sentences using their grammar and punctuation skills. The children worked really hard to ensure they had their basic nouns, verbs and adjectives in a sentence before manipulating them to up-level their sentences. The letters they have written from the perspective of a war time soldier on the battlefield have been wonderful to read; their sentence structures, the atmosphere they've created and the 'show not tell' emotions made it feel like you were really on that battlefield with them. A huge well done Year 6!

In History, they have been learning about the Second World War and the impact it had on Britain. All the children have been thoroughly engaged throughout so far and are really enjoying this relatable topic. They also created double page spreads about: The Battle of Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain and The Blitz.

In Geography, they have been researching a country of interest and have been creating tourist information leaflets to persuade people to visit their chosen country.

In Science, the children have carried out numerous experiments linked to Living things and their habitats. They have learnt how to conduct a fair test ensuring they only change one variable, how to make sensible predictions and how these can be used to inform the experiment, as well as how to write up their results and conclusion. Their first experiment involved growing mould spores on slices of bread; one of which was wet and one of which was dry. They measured the progress over the course of a week. They also explored asexual reproduction through spore dispersal of mushrooms.



In Art, the children have been creating images using the iPads based on their topic of digit art. They have explored macro photography, how to use filters and brightness to manipulate photos and how to recreate images based on the works of Edvard Munch and the Getty Museum Challenge from 2020.



Next term, the children will be continuing with their World War II topic across English and History, and will be participating in an experience dress up day (more information to follow). In Maths, they will be applying their four operations knowledge to everything fractions. It is essential that they know their times tables to be able to successfully access the learning.

Dates for Your Diary
Autumn Term 2
Monday 3rd November – Friday 19th December 2025

Monday 3rd November – Children Return to School – Start of Autumn Term 2



Wednesday 5th November – KS2 Girls' Football Match Clarborough vs Bracken Lane
Away Match Kick Off at 4.00pm

Friday 7th November – Pop Up Uniform Shop

Monday 10th November – Odd Socks Day for Anti Bullying Week (Details to Follow)

Tuesday 11th November – Remembrance Day



Wednesday 12th November – Flu Vaccinations for children in Reception to Year 6

Thursday 13th November – KS2 Boys' Football Match Clarborough vs Gateford Park
Home Match Kick off 4.00pm

Thursday 13th November – Crazy Hair Day and World Kindness Day (Details to Follow)

Monday 24th November to Friday 28th November – Parent Consultations (Details to Follow)

Thursday 4th December – A.M Year 6 Christingle at Church. (Details to Follow)



Friday 5th December – Christmas Fair (Details to Follow)

Tuesday 9th December – Nursery and Reception Nativity (Details to Follow)

Wednesday 10th December – Nursery Welcome Meeting for New Starters

Thursday 11th December – A.M Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity at Church (Details to Follow)

Friday 12th December – P.M Year 1 and 2 Nativity in school (Details to Follow)



Tuesday 16th December – KS2 Carols Around the Tree (Details to Follow)

Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner (Details to Follow)

Thursday 18th December – Christmas Party Day (Details to Follow)

Friday 19th December – Christmas Jumper Day



Friday 19th December – Last Day of Term – Break up For Christmas Holidays

Monday 22nd December to Monday 5th January – Christmas Holidays

Monday 5th January 2026 – INSET DAY – School Closed to all Pupils

Tuesday 6th January 2026 – Children return to School. Start of Spring Term 1

Friday 9th January – Pop Up Uniform Shop

