



*Be the best you can be!*

## Half-termly Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although this has been quite a short half term, we seem to have been very busy and packed a lot of learning in! This half-term's bumper edition really demonstrates the fantastic learning opportunities and experiences that the children have had planned and delivered for them by the staff team. Happy reading!

I would also like to express my thanks to the recently established PTA. Their support for the school this half term is so very gratefully received and I really appreciate the committee's drive and commitment to creating more memorable experiences for the children and our school community.

I hope you have a lovely bank holiday weekend and half term together and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June!

Thank you,  
Mrs Cowell-Clark

### 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, school dinners and any other query should be directed to  
[office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)

Finance queries should be directed to: [finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)

### Booking in Lunches, Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club



Parentmail is now open for you to book your child's lunches, Breakfast club and Wraparound places for the Summer Term 2. Please note, these must be booked one week in advance to allow us to ensure correct staffing and meals etc.

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



## Year 6 SATS Exams

We would just like to say a massive well done to our Year 6 Pupils on completing their SATS exams this month. They all worked so incredibly hard in preparation for them.

Whatever the outcome, you have certainly been the best you can be. Time to relax and enjoy all the fun activities next term!

## Our New PTA

We are pleased to announce the introduction of our PTA. We ran a competition across the school for the children to create a logo and a name for the group. We had so many fabulous entries and it was a tough decision to pick a winner, but there was one which stood out for us along with a runner up, both of which won a VIP ticket to the school disco.



Our winning design and name were created by Chester with the runner up design created by Annabelle. Well done to you both!



## School Disco

The first event organised by Helping Hands PTA was the school disco. It was a huge success and we were lucky enough to receive a very generous donation which allowed us to be able to fund our purchase of food and disco items. We also kindly received food and drink donations from both Asda and Spar. With all of your support, we raised a huge £524.38 and the children had a fabulous time!



## Reception Class Trip to Taskers



On Thursday, the Reception children went to visit the Tasker Partnership soft fruit farm near North Wheatley. We had a fantastic time learning about how the strawberries and raspberries are grown, and seeing how they are

picked and then packed ready to send to the shops. We all tasted freshly picked strawberries (delicious!) and the children were able to bring home a punnet of strawberries each which they collected from the packing house before sticking their own labels on them. I would like to say a huge thank-you to Taskers Farm for inviting us, making us feel so welcome and for giving the children such an exciting day. A huge thank you too to those parents who came to help, and a very special mention for Emily's mum and dad, and Kiki's dad for helping to make sure our children had such a great day!



## A Visit from The Fire Brigade

The children in Early Years had a fantastic time when the firefighters from Orange Watch in Harworth came to visit us on Wednesday. We were shown all the tools carried on the fire engine then each child had a turn with the hose! Miss Speller was a willing volunteer to be dressed up as a firefighter and Gary explained all about the safety features of the uniform to us. It was BRILLIANT!







## Frozen Fridays – Helping Hands PTA



Our second venture by our PTA has been the start of 'Frozen Fridays', selling ice lollies after school. We're hoping to continue this throughout the summer term (weather dependent). We raised £116.30 on our first trial! All of the money raised this term is helping in purchasing some much-needed Maths resources for September to benefit Years 1-6.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

## Well Done #TeamClarborough

Back in March, our Clarborough Swimathon team raised an amazing amount of money for various charities. On Tuesday we had the great pleasure of passing over a cheque for £1,221.30 to Mrs Dunning, on behalf of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Charity – such an amazing and good cause. Well done everyone! We look forward to the Swimathon next year!



## A Big Thank you!



We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Bespoke Tiling Solutions, who donated a fully sponsored football kit for our school football team.

We will look forward to showcasing it in our upcoming matches!



## Intra House PE Competitions.



Our Intra house PE competitions took place again this term. Years 1 to 6 took part in a cricket tournament - There was certainly a lot of competition between teams!

The final scores were as follows...

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hawking (Yellow) with 29 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Pankhurst (Red) with 21 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Attenborough (Blue) with 19 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Wilberforce (Green) with 14 points

Well done to everyone!



*Hawking*



*Pankhurst*



*Attenborough*



*Wilberforce*

## Always, Always Tea Party



Mrs Cowell-Clark was joined by this half-term's 'Always, Always' pupils for a treat or two and a chat. Congratulations to Bertie, Alfie G, Emily S, Edith, Elsie and Emily M!

## Nursery and 30hrs



We have all really enjoyed our topic entitled "Everybody Works!". The children have been so interested in the different jobs around us, and have realised that even children are involved in the world of work whether it's through helping at home, taking care of their own bodies through proper hydration, washing, cleaning etc as well as the usual fun of talking about jobs they might like to do as they get older.

The role play area has been busy. It has been set up as a Farmers Market, Police Station, Hairdressers, Vets and Opticians.







Our seven new starters have also settled in brilliantly and are quickly making new friends.

The year is zooming by and our final topic of the academic year will be focusing on different places in our world. Watch this space!

## Reception

This half-term in Reception our topic has been 'Everybody Works!', and we have focused on the many different jobs that people can do. We began by learning about people who keep us safe, such as firefighters, police officers, lifeguards and crossing patrol people, and also thought about the ways in which we can keep ourselves safe.

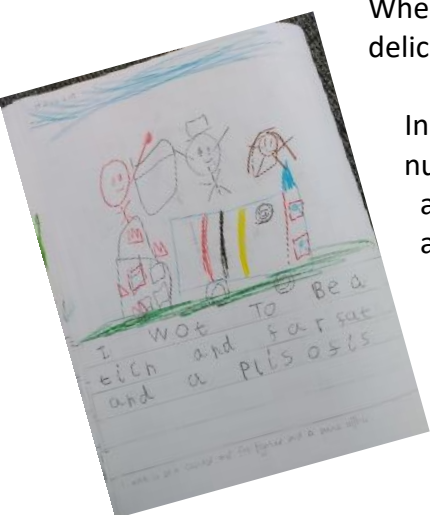


We then learnt about people who look after our bodies and help us to stay healthy, such as nurses, doctors, paramedics, opticians and dentists. We looked at the different equipment that they use and what it's used for.

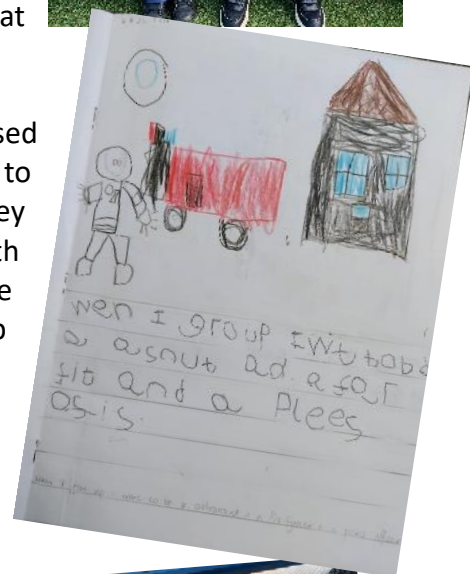
The children had great fun coming dressed up for our 'Jolly Jobs' day and were able to talk in great detail about the job they

would like to do, before we then went on to learn about people who work with animals, and found out that some animals are becoming endangered because their homes are being destroyed. We talked about the sorts of jobs that help to build or repair things and the children had great fun designing their dream home.

Finally, we learnt about people who produce our food, and the children had a wonderful time when we were invited to visit Taskers Farm, near North Wheatley, to see how they grow their delicious strawberries!



In Maths, we have been making numbers to 10 in lots of different ways and making numbers to 20 using a ten and some ones. The children have also been combining shapes to make new shapes, and have been looking at symmetrical shapes.





## Year 1

### Maths:

In Maths, the children have been learning to count in 2's, 5's and 10's. We have also been focusing on fractions. We have spent a long time recognising a whole, half and a quarter of a shape or object. We have also enjoyed our learning on position and direction. The children have been describing positions left and right, forwards and backwards.



### English:

This half term we watched a short film clip called 'Zahra'. The children have been very interested in our learning around it. We have been writing questions to ask a character in the story. We have described Zahra's appearance using expanded noun phrases.



### Clarbrough Curriculum:

In Geography, we have looked at the seasonal patterns. The children have been ordering the months of the year and recognising the different seasons. We also went on a spring hunt around the school grounds and spotted different signs of spring.



### Science/Art/Computing/French:

The children's Science topic this half term has been about Materials. We enjoyed building structures that were strong enough to withstand wind. We explored a variety of fabrics and talked about their different properties.



**Design and Technology**, the children have absolutely loved designing and preparing foods by cutting and juicing different fruit and vegetables to create a smoothie.

**Computing**, our topic has taught the children how to change the colour of individual pixels and how to make changes when needed. They enjoyed changing colours of individual pixels to custom colours to make digital art.

**Music**, the children have been finding the pulse as they listen to the music and used their imagination as they move.



### **Next Term in Year 1:**

French: Children will learn 7 modes of transport.

Clarborough Curriculum: Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II

Maths: Time and Money

## **Year 2**

### **Maths: Mrs Williams**

In Maths, Year 2 have been learning to tell the time. We have learnt to tell the time to o' clock, quarter past, half past and quarter to the hour. We then moved on to understanding 5-minute intervals on a clock and telling the time to different times within 5 minutes. Children have been recalling that there are 60 seconds in a minute, 60 minutes in an hour and 24 hours in a day. It would be really useful for the children if you could practise telling the time as much as possible at home to secure this learning.

**Maths: Mrs Green** The children have been learning about mass, capacity and temperature with Mrs Green this half term. They have learnt to measure in millilitres, litres, grams, kilograms and degrees Celsius. The children have learnt to read scales in ones, twos, fives and tens to measure different amounts. They have also answered questions about mass and capacity using the four operations (+ - x ÷).

### **English:**

This half term we have been looking at a short video clip called 'Caterpillar Shoes'. The children really enjoyed this. Throughout the video the caterpillar meets different minibeasts and as he does he begins to give away his shoes because they have become too tight. We looked in detail at the characters and wrote character descriptions using lots of adjectives and expanded noun phrases. We then recalled the story and wrote it in our own words, trying to show case all we have been learning in English during Year 2. We then moved on to looking at non-chronological reports and their features. We researched some of the minibeasts from the story in order to write our own non-chronological reports on our chosen minibeast.

### **Clarborough Curriculum: Mrs Williams**

We have begun looking at two famous explorers this half term. Christopher Columbus and Captain James Cook. The children have been introduced to who they are and why they are famous.

Next half term, we will continue to look into their lives and compare the two explorers' journeys and lives.

### **Clarborough Curriculum: Mrs Green**

In Geography, the children have started their topic of comparing and contrasting their locality to a non-European country. They have located the country of Zambia using an atlas, identified which continent it is in, found its capital city and drawn its flag. The children then looked at some photos of the village of Mugurameno in Zambia and identified the human and physical features in the photos.

### **Science/Art/Computing/French: Mrs Williams**

In Art, we have begun exploring clay with the intention of making a clay house. We started this unit of learning by exploring how we can manipulate and shape the clay using our hands as tools, for example rolling and flattening.



The children then explored making different marks in the clay using different tools and objects as well as scoring the clay.





In Computing, the children have been learning to make short animation videos on various programs. They have enjoyed learning how to make frames by creating various still images of an object, then slightly moving it before taking a new photo which in turn creates a short animation. More recently we have used an app called Puppet Pals where the children have chosen different characters and put their own voices to the clip to create a short story animation.

### **Science/Art/Computing/French: Mrs Green**

In Science, the children have been learning about living things and their habitats. They have learnt to identify if objects are living, dead or have never been alive. The children enjoyed working outside to find microhabitats and then designed their own microhabitat. We then learnt about food chains and the journey food makes from farm to the supermarket.

The children have finished learning the names of seven jungle animals in French. Snake, hippopotamus, lion, leopard, elephant, giraffe and monkey. They have been joining in with a French song about the animals.

### **Next Term (Brief overview):**

In Maths, we will be problem solving linked to the four operations, money, fractions, time and measurements. We will then move onto learning about length, height, position and direction.

In Science, we will continue to learn about living things and their habitats but also include habitats around the world. The children will identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.

In Geography, we will continue to compare and contrast our locality to the village of Mugurameno in Zambia. We will be thinking about what daily life is like, including going to school, food and how we use rivers.

In our next French unit, children will learn the vocabulary for 7 key places in a town. Children will have the opportunity to also learn a key phrase for each location in French. In every lesson we will be listening to a song that pupils will be encouraged to join in with.



## **Year 3**

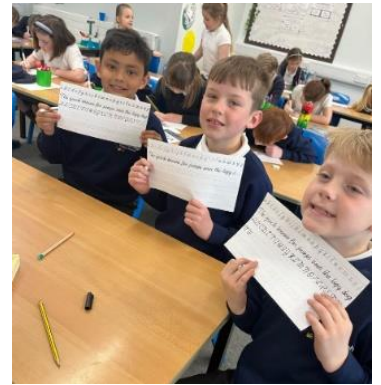
### **Maths:**

We began the term by recapping coin recognition before learning how to convert pounds to pence, how to add and subtract money and working out how to give change.

Children really enjoyed learning about Roman Numerals as we started our unit on 'telling the time'. We recapped how to tell the time to the hour, half past and quarter past/ quarter to, before learning how to tell the time to the minute. The children completed different tasks to support their reading of analogue and digital clocks. We learnt about how many days each month has as well as how many hours in a day etc. The children also learnt about am and pm and ordered different events throughout the day.

### **English:**

The children loved using a short animation about a lighthouse as a base for their learning. They wrote a range of expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials and possessive apostrophes within their writing. They completed this unit by writing a diary entry as if they were the lighthouse, making sure this was in the past tense and the first person was used throughout.



Towards the end of the half term, the children read the poem 'I have..' by Joshua Seigal. They began by playing 'Would I lie to you?' and had great fun making up exciting things they could have done in their life. After reading the poem, they were able to identify the verb forms and tenses used as well as investigating the features of the present perfect poem before planning and writing their own. The children were great at thinking of a range of rhyming words!

### **Clarborough Curriculum:**

The children fully immersed themselves into 'The Victorians' as they found out about this time period. They began by learning about Queen Victoria herself as they looked at our timeline of events to see where this time period fits into history. The children learnt about what life was like for a Victorian child and how different schools were. This came to life as they all took part in Victorian day and experienced a full day of activities and experiences of what a school day would be like. Our class story 'The street child' also gave children an insight into what life was like during this time. The children also learnt about the workhouses as well as the number of things that were invented during this time.

A huge thank you for your support with costumes and props for Victorian day this week, it was brilliant!



### **Science/Art/Computing/French:**

As part of Design and Technology, children planned and constructed a castle. It was great to see how the children worked together and applied the skills to join elements of their castle as well as adding extra details to the final design.



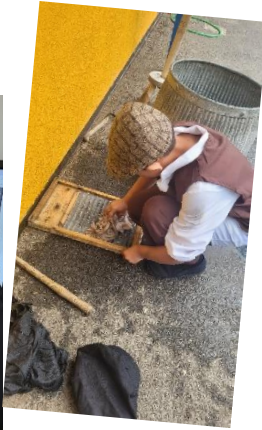
Linked to our Clarborough Curriculum, children also learnt about William Morris and enjoyed looking at the different patterns in his prints before designing and creating their own.



In Computing, there was a change in planning as we will be learning about programming after half term. The children learnt how to use a keyboard and type using Word. It has been amazing to see how much the



children have improved when speaking French, they have enjoyed learning how to say a range of fruits and have just started learning how to ask for different flavoured ice-creams. We will continue this after half term.



### **Next Term (Brief overview):**

Maths: Shape/ Statistics

Clarbrough Curriculum: The Water Cycle

Science: Scientific enquiry

RE: Why is fire ceremonially?

PE: Orienteering/ Tennis

Computing: Scratch programming

French: Ice-creams/ Shapes

PSHE: Aiming High (Living in the wider world)

Music: African drumming including a special performance at the end of the year

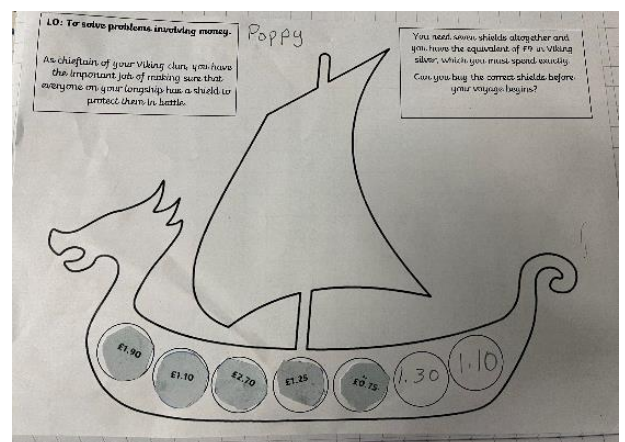
Art/DT: Sculpture and 3D: Abstract shape and space

## **Year 4**

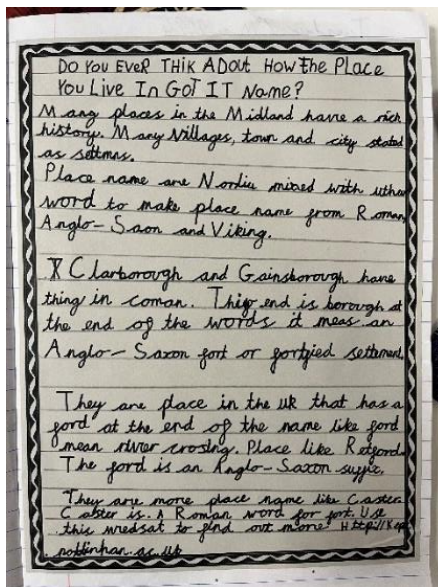
### **Maths:**

In Maths this half term, we have been learning to understand and use decimals. We began our learning by exploring tenths and hundredths and making a whole using tenths and hundredths. We then learned how to partition decimals in different ways, compare and order decimals.

Using our knowledge and understanding of decimals, we moved on to learning about money: writing money using decimals, converting between pounds and pence, comparing amounts of money, calculating and problem-solving with money.



## English:

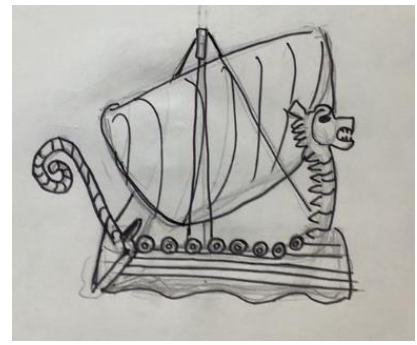
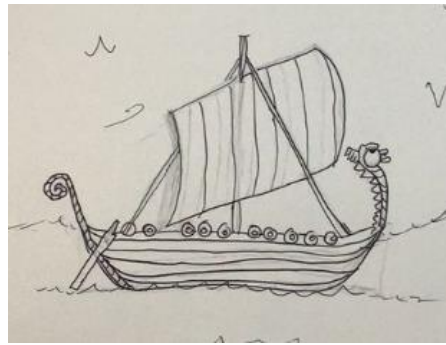


In English, we have focussed on a non-fiction and a fiction piece. Our non-fiction piece was a report based on the etymology of place names in our local area. Pupils were fascinated to learn the Anglo-Saxon, Roman or Viking history of places names and the meaning of their suffixes. For example, 'borough' is an Anglo-Saxon word for a fort or fortified place. Place names ending in 'caster' suggest they would originally be Roman settlements. Using this knowledge and more, they were able to identify the history of places such as Claborough, Gainsborough, Doncaster and Welham and write their own reports.

Our fiction piece was based on *Arthur and the Golden Rope* and pupils generated ideas for a mythical creature that the main character would help and what the creature gave them in return. They practised using verbs to start their sentences and wrote their own versions of the story.

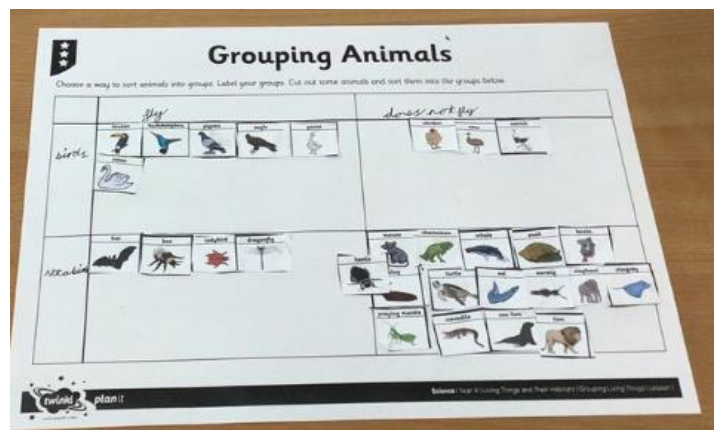
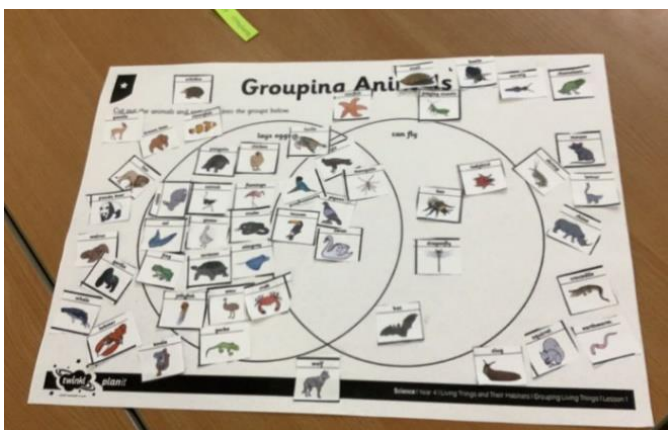
## Claborough Curriculum:

Vikings has been the focus for our Claborough Curriculum, following on chronologically from learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Romans. Pupils have learned when the Vikings began to invade Britain, where they settled and what we know about them. They learned that the Vikings came from Scandinavia and were fierce warriors. They learned about what made their invasions so successful and learned about their weaponry and long ships.



## Science/Art/Computing/French:

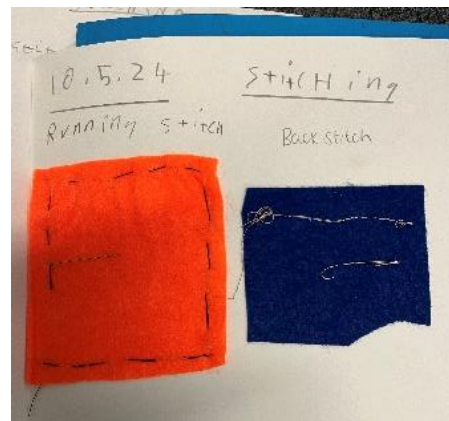
Our Science topic, *Living Things and their habitats* taught the children how to: recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways; explore and use classification keys to help group them and to identify and name a variety of living things in the local and wider environment.





In DT, we linked our learning about the Vikings into the designing and making of Viking pouches.

We have explored different types of Viking pouch, what they were made of, what they were used for and about the design features. We then practised different types of stitching and will complete our pouches next term.



Our Computing focus was on animation and using PowerPoint to create simple animations. We have also used search engines to support our learning in History.

*Les Legumes* has been our French theme for this term and we have learned the names of a variety of different vegetables in French, completing various speaking, listening and reading activities.

### **Next Term (Brief overview):**

Next term, Year 4 will continue learning about Vikings and explore trade links. Supplementing our Science learning, we will explore conservation. In French we will learn how to present information about ourselves and will explore data handling in Computing. In Maths, we will explore Shape, Statistics and Position and direction. In English, we will use a short film as a stimulus for our fiction writing based on diaries and newspaper reports. We will write a non-fiction piece based around Viking villages and explore poetry using the text, *From Apes to Zebras*.

## **Year 5:**

### **Maths:**

This half term we have looked at shape, position, direction and decimals. The children have learned to draw angles accurately and use a protractor. They are now more confident when translating, reflecting and finding the symmetry for shapes and coordinates. Within our decimals unit, we have been looking at adding and subtracting decimals across one and with a varying number of decimal places.

### **English:**

Within English this half-term, after looking at the features of an explanation text, the children have learned to write in an impersonal writing style. Through the use of a giraffe diving video, the children became experts in giraffe diving and wrote their own explanation texts. We then moved on to writing our own sports commentary. Class 5 thoroughly enjoyed taking on the role of a sports commentator and created some great pieces of writing.

### **Clarbrough Curriculum:**

**History-** Over the last half-term we have been learning about Ancient Egypt.

A highlight for pupils was learning about the mummification process using tomatoes. We also learned about hieroglyphics, the importance of the river Nile and the artefacts that were found by Howard Carter.



### **Science/Art/Computing/French:**

**Science** This half-term the children have learned about living things and their habitats. Within this topic we looked at the life cycles of insects and amphibians, dissected eggs when looking at the life cycle of birds and reptiles. In addition, the children researched the work of Jane Goodall and David Attenborough and presented their findings in creative ways.



**Computing-** The children have learned how to use Excel this half term. We looked at changing the colour of cells and inputting equations linked to the Tour De France.



**French-** We learned the names of things around the classroom and how to say what they have or do not have in their pencil case.

**DT-** The children researched ingredients for a bolognaise recipe. Then they chose the ingredients that they would like to include in relation to the eat-well plate. In addition, Year 5 tasted off the shelf sauces to evaluate current products before creating a label and making their own bolognaise sauce.

#### **Next Term (Brief overview):**

Maths- We will be learning about negative numbers, converting units and volume.

#### **Year 6:**

Our main focus this term has been preparing for our SATS exams.

#### **Maths:**

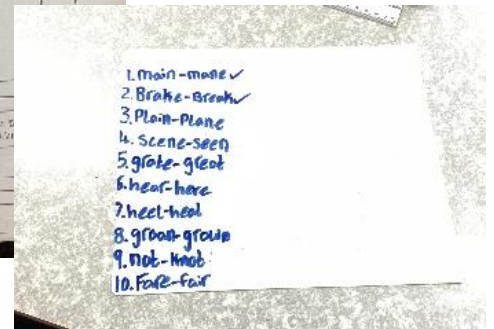
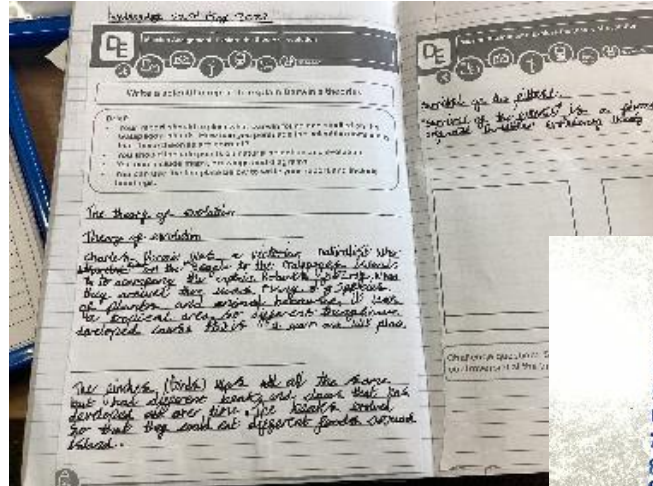
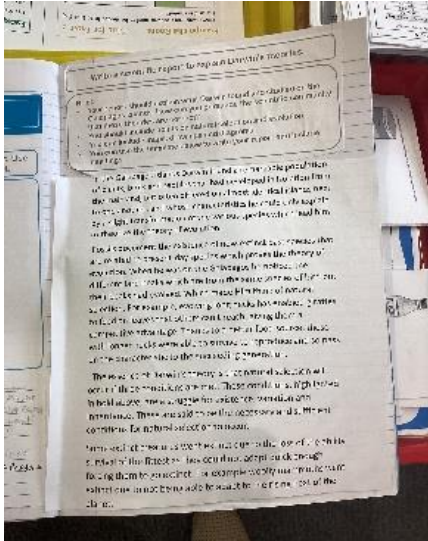
In Maths, we have revisited each area of mathematics. We have looked at past SATS questions and looked carefully at how the questions are worded and how they need to be answered. We have worked on a range of reasoning and problem-solving questions as well as working on our speed and stamina in answering arithmetic questions.



## English:

In English we have focused heavily on grammar, punctuation and spelling strategies. We have revised sentence structures and sentence types, word classes, and their purposes in sentences.

In Reading, we have continued to read a variety of texts and answered a range of question types. We have also focused on our fluency and speed in reading to ensure we have the stamina when completing the reading paper in SATS.



## Clarborough Curriculum:

In Clarborough Curriculum, we have begun studying the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age.

### Science/Art/Computing:

**Science:** In Science we are learning about evolution and inheritance. We have looked closely at animal characteristics and their inherited traits. We also looked at a variety of plants and researched how they have adapted to their environment. We then applied this knowledge to creating our own species of plants and stated how it would survive in a given habitat.

**Art:** In Art, we designed and created a personal memory box using a collection of found objects and hand-sculptured forms, reflecting primary school life with symbolic and personal meaning.



**Computing:** We have been learning to code using Python. It is a type of programming language (different from Java, HTML etc). It is a text-based language and we used it to program short commands quickly. We are now using this to develop a 'Trivia Chat Bot Challenge'.

### Next Term (Brief overview):

Next term, we will be developing our writing to create a portfolio of independent writing to be assessed. We will be focusing heavily on editing and improving our own writing.

We will be extending the writing throughout other subjects - Clarborough Curriculum and Science.

### **Dates for your Diary....**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – First day of Summer Term 2 - Children return back to school

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 6 Sailing Trip



**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June A.M** – Dental assessment for all 5 years olds

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June** – African Dance Session for all Classes



**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June** – Pop Up Uniform Table

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June** – Sports Day – Years 1 – 6 (Details to Follow)

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Clarborough Team v Langold Football Match** at Home KO 3.45pm.  
(No KS2 Mixed Football Club Afterschool)



**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1 & 2 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June** – Reserve Sports day for Years 1 – 6

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Clarborough Team v Misterton Football Match** at Home KO 3.45pm.  
(No KS2 Mixed Football Club Afterschool)



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June A.M** – Nursery & Reception Sports Day (Details to Follow)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 6 Transition week

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – ELS Mobile Library



**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – Class Swap Day - Whole School

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July** – Pop Up Uniform Table



**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July** – Summer Fayre (Details to Follow)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July** – Clarborough's Got Talent!



**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July A.M** – Year 6 Leavers Service at Church (Details to Follow)



**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July** – C-FEST! Reception to Year 6 (Details to Follow)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 6 Leavers Production



**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July** - Last day of term

---

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (INSET DAY) School Summer Holidays**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – Children return to School





Breakfast club, wraparound care, 30hours and lunches need to be booked in and paid for at least one week in advance on Parentmail. Breakfast is served daily until 8:20 am. If you have any questions or queries relating to Breakfast club, Wraparound and lunches please email Mrs Hardie on [office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)