



INTRODUCTION



It has been a long and busy term despite the obvious restrictions, and we have been incredibly lucky not to have had too much disruption to the children's normal schooling. We have managed to continue with clubs, wraparound care and events, giving the children a sense of normality. I am truly sorry that we have not been able to see as much of parents as we would normally. We have missed you, but the children have continued to get stuck in and it has been heart-warming to see their happy faces as they skip or run into School in the mornings!

As we were unable to take our usual off-site team-building trip at the beginning of term, we brought 'Three Peaks' to us so that Years 3-6 could enjoy some team-building activities in the grounds of Glyn House. This is always hugely popular with the children and great fun! We also managed to celebrate Harvest, with a procession of food gifts to donate to Epsom and Ewell Food Bank and we thank you for your generosity.

Languages Day raised £302 for Macmillan Cancer Support and the children were able to enjoy a little sample of French or Spanish culture. We also raised £312 for the BBC

Children in Need Appeal during our 'spotty' themed mufti day. Again, thank you for your support and how lovely that we have been able to continue to think of others at a time when we might be forgiven for looking inwardly to our own families.

The children have also taken part in a Halloween themed day, our anti-bullying Odd Socks Day, Christmas Jumper Day (with an amazing Christmas lunch) and of course Christmas Party Day. We are grateful to the PTA for providing snacks for Party Day. Thankfully, Covid could not keep Santa away, and he managed to pay us a little visit much to the children's delight! The EYFS Nativity and Key Stage 1 Christmas performances were a joy to watch and we hope that you enjoy watching these virtually. The children's confidence has really grown this term!

As for Year 6, they have worked very hard in preparation for their Senior

School transition exams and I am proud of the effort and resilience that they have demonstrated. Well done Year 6!

The broadening of Forest School provision throughout the School has been welcomed by the children and they love their time in the freedom of the open air. It is around the firepit with a little mulled wine that staff will gather for a final farewell to the term once the children are safely home for the holidays!

Thank you to the staff, who have been tremendous in their own resilience and commitment to the children. We are a truly happy, lively school and we are grateful to you for your continued support and the kind words of encouragement that you send our way.

I wish you a very happy, safe, fun-filled Christmas holiday with hopes for a brighter 2021.

Ms Sian Bradshaw



NURSERY LEARNING

In our Nursery we provide a warm, calm and caring environment for our young children, where they feel happy, safe and secure and develop a sense of belonging. Our children have fun, and learn and develop in a well-planned and organised environment which offers stimulating and rich play opportunities. Our children love coming to Nursery!



NURSERY NATIVITY

The Nursery and Reception children took to the stage to perform 'Shine Star Shine'. The audience this year consisted of all our families 'miniaturised' and 'squeezed' into

the camera videoing us! We sang our hearts out and said our lines to perfection. We then gave ourselves a huge pat on the back in lieu of the huge audience applause. We hope

everything will get back to normal next year.

Mrs C Leeds



OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

We all really enjoyed Holiday Club over half-term.

Outdoor activities included scooting and cycling around the playground – we had to be careful to obey the traffic lights and to watch out for other child drivers!!! Making our leaf scarecrows and leaf mazes were great fun and we practised playing Bench Ball and Dodge Ball in teams.

We all loved our cooking activities – making pizzas, cookies and fruit skewers were all very popular. Waiting to eat them at home was hard work, requiring lots of patience as they all looked and smelt so delicious!

Everyone participated in lots of craft activities connected with Autumn and Halloween. We made Stick Men and used them to act out stories. We designed and decorated our plant pots, in which winter poppies were planted – fingers crossed the poppies will all bloom. We also enjoyed making our 'leaf' sun catchers and painting firework pictures.

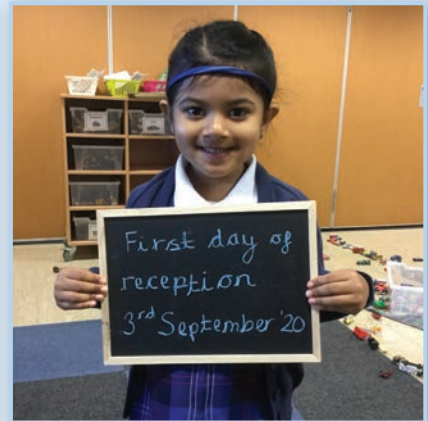
The Halloween party on the last day was great fun and we enjoyed having our faces painted. We played 'pass the parcel', 'musical statues', 'musical bumps' and 'musical chairs', amongst other games. The weeks were busy and great fun. Can we do it again please?

Mrs C Leeds



FIRST DAY OF RECEPTION

Here are a selection of gorgeous smiles from some of our pupils on Day 1 of Reception this year.



THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

We were still determined to enjoy celebrating the “European Day of Languages” at the Prep School despite the restrictions. To make sure we stayed safe, each bubble had their own “café” or “tapas bar” and this year the School kitchen provided individually wrapped brioche and a drink for the younger pupils, and a delicious magdalena for those learning Spanish.

Children at Chessington Lodge and in Years 3 and 4 dressed in the colours of the French flag or in their own national dress, whilst pupils in Years 5 and 6 dressed in the colours of the Spanish flag.

Pupils from different countries celebrated their heritage and shared a few words and phrases of the language they speak at home, with their classmates.

Year 6 pupils brushed up on language needed at the “tapas bar” so that they could speak to their customers in Spanish and encourage them to join in and practise their Spanish too. There were various activities to enjoy for all year groups at Glyn House, such as: snap, word matching/ordering games

and reading books, menus and leaflets in their target language.

Proceeds from our Mufti Day were donated to MacMillan Cancer Support. This year we raised £302. Thank you for your support.

Mrs B Grierson



YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2 CHRISTMAS PLAY

When I embarked on writing a Christmas show for the children in Key Stage One, I kept my fingers well and truly crossed.....and the optimism paid off! The children may not have had their parents in the audience but they imagined you all on the other side of the camera lens. They worked hard to learn their lines and delivered a super performance with some enthusiastic singing. We hope you enjoy their efforts which will be streamed through to you on Teams.

Mrs S Fowler



HALLOWEEN

Because of Coronavirus, 2020 was a difficult year. So, this year the Year 4s were really looking forward to Halloween. The teachers had arranged a Halloween day, everyone was very excited as there was going to be dressing up! I had dressed up as a spider queen and one of my friends dressed up as a cat. In 4S and 4F, we had fun games in English comprehension as it was based on Halloween. There was also a costume and pumpkin carving competition. I didn't win but it was still fun! It was really amazing; my favourite part was the dressing up! I hope next year will be better than this year, and I really hope that we'll have another Halloween day!

Alexa Edmunds (4S)

PUMPKIN COMPETITION



FOREST SCHOOL

Every week, Year 4 have been very lucky to have Forest School with Mrs Sanderson. We go to Forest School in the field at the back of Glyn House every Tuesday for an hour and ten minutes.

Our lessons in Forest School so far this year have seen us make tree widgets, poppies, stars and den building as well as lots of other team building activities. Mrs Sanderson is the best Forest School teacher I have ever had because of all the fun lessons she has given us. The activities have been just right for everyone and we have all learned so much about the outdoors as Mrs Sanderson is a very kind and helpful teacher and always offers to help anyone – even Mr Short!

My highlight was the paper helicopter seed activity. We made paper helicopter seeds and then threw them into the air and then wherever they landed. Using a measuring tape, we measured the distance between the seed and ourselves, to see how far different strength throws would scatter the seeds. We used the results to make a diagram of all the throws.

Forest School is great fun as it teaches us about nature and wildlife, and we get to learn outside.

I LOVE FOREST SCHOOL!

Matthew Gabric (4S)



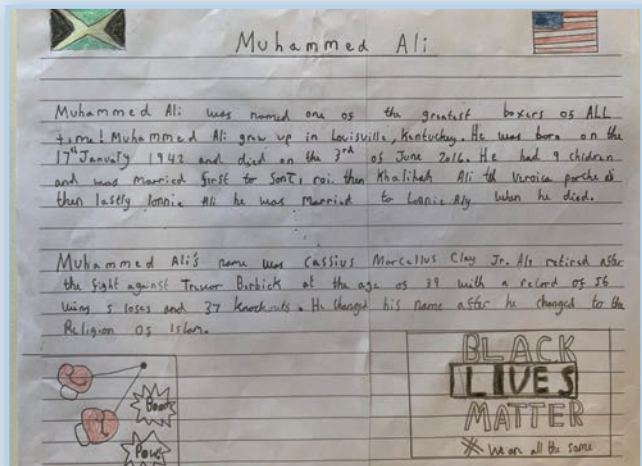
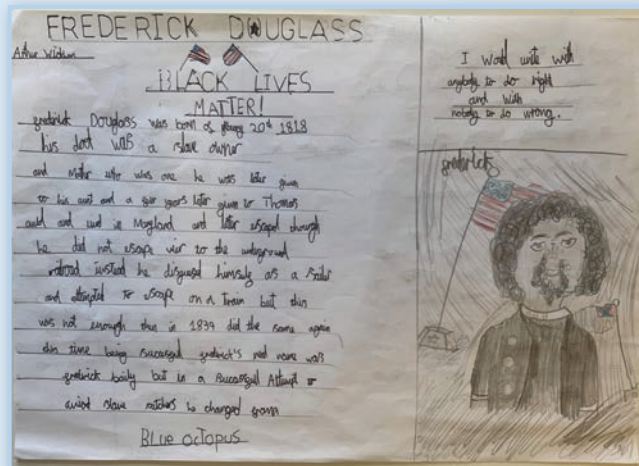
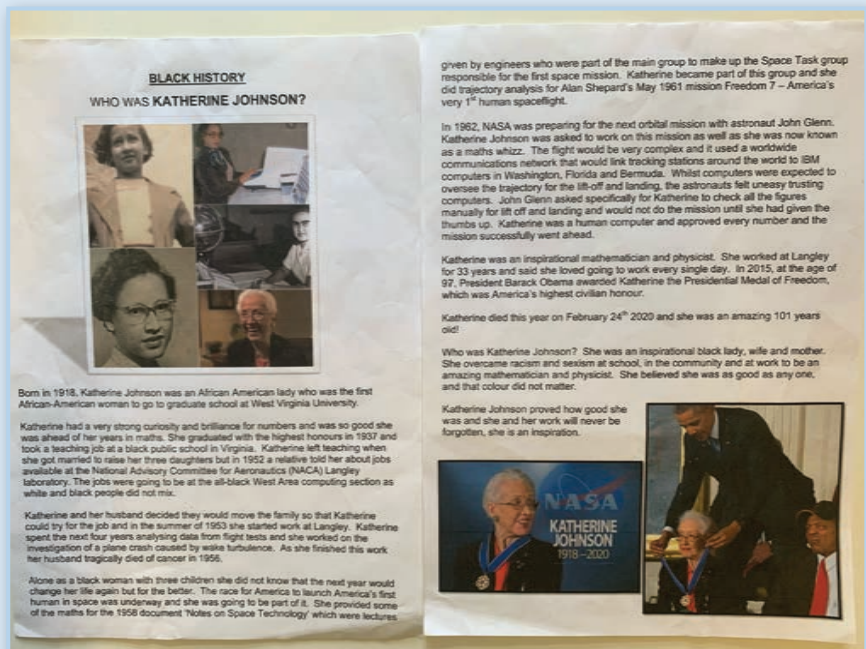


BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN PREP

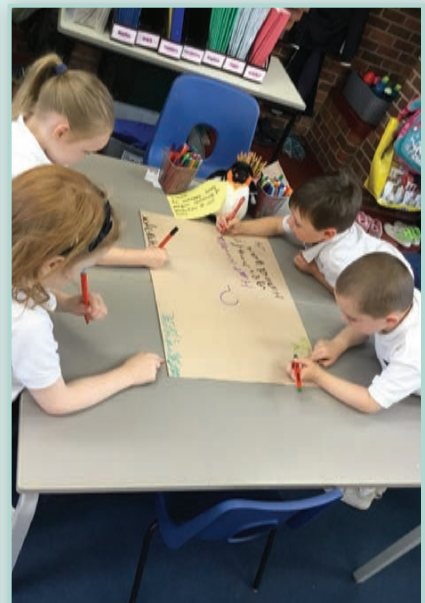
As part of Black History Month, Prep pupils were asked to research a project over the half-term holiday. They answered important questions such as:

- Why do we celebrate Black history month in October?
- How is looking at Black History relevant today?
- Why is it important to learn from the mistakes of the past?
- Has your opinion of historical events changed, after learning more about Black History?

Here are some examples of the fantastic research projects the pupils produced.



YEAR 1 COLLABORATIVE LEARNING



PREP BLP - MEERCATS

At Ewell Castle Prep School, we are on a journey to grow our 'Learning Power'. We are all learning to be better learners.

We follow Professor Guy Claxton's work closely on Building Learning Power (BLP). Guy Claxton's work suggests that there are four key learning dispositions - Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness and Reciprocity. The four Rs of learning. Each of the four Rs are relates to learning muscles.

We teach the children about these skills and the learning muscles. They learn that just as we can build our physical muscles with the right kinds of exercise, we can also exercise our learning muscles to develop their strength and stamina.

We use BLP to develop our 'Language for Learning' in School and this enables us to engage all pupils in a conversation of how we learn. It is our intention that the children use the language for learning to explain ways in which they achieved or approached tasks and how they can move on to the next chapter in their learning. To engage all of our learners, particularly in the younger years, we have introduced 'learning experts', in the form of cuddly toy mascots, to reflect each of the four Rs of learning.

Resilience

The key elements of this disposition are Perseverance, Noticing, Managing



Distractions and Absorption. The children learn how to stay locked onto their learning, the importance of never giving up and the benefits of learning when getting un-stuck. Our Learning Expert for this area is Incy Spider.

Resourcefulness

The key elements of this disposition are Questioning, Capitalising, Making Links, Reasoning and Imagining. The children develop their ability to ask and answer questions, use resources around them to help them with their learning, make links between the different areas of their learning and of course, use their imaginations! Our learning expert for this area is Resourceful Ratty.

Reflectiveness

The key elements of this disposition are Planning, Meta-learning, Distilling

and Revising. The children will learn how and why they learn and will be encouraged to regularly look back on their learning to see whether they have met their targets and objectives. They will be asked to think about future targets and areas for improvement. Our learning expert for this area is Reflective Parrot.

Reciprocity

The key elements of this disposition are Imitation, Interdependence, Listening and Collaboration. The children will learn how, why and when it is best to learn on their own, with a partner or within a group and develop the skills they need to be a valued member of a team and a learning community. Our learning experts for this area are two meerkats named Give and Take.



KEEP MUSIC GOING WITH FITZNELLS

You can keep your love of music going after School – or learn a new instrument – with Fitznells Music & Drama Centre.

Throughout lock down, Fitznells' teachers have been operating online but we will be back in full swing next term, after school and on Saturdays at Ewell Castle School. Beginners can learn the basics and build their love for music with our percussion classes, starting at age 3. The School also offers group singing opportunities for youngsters in our Starlets Choir and adults in our Divas Ladies' Choir.

For those looking to take up a new instrument, or take their learning to the next level, we offer lessons in brass, woodwind, percussion, piano, guitar and singing. Next term, as a special offer, our brass teacher will be offering four free trial lessons to anyone wanting to try out the trumpet or trombone.

Finally, for those looking for more performance opportunities, Fitznells runs an annual summer Musical Theatre Workshop, Grade 5 Theory Crash Course and at least two concerts for pupils and teachers.

For more information email fitznellsmusic@gmail.com.



ANTI BULLYING DAY - ODD SOCKS DAY



REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Prep School remember the Fallen.



YEAR 1 ART AND DT



This is a beautiful blanket that the Year 1 children wove as part of their topic 'Pole to Pole'. They wanted to make something to keep the penguins warm on really cold days!



All ready for Santa to arrive down the chimney in Year One.



Year 1 have been learning about primary colours and how they can be mixed to make secondary colours.

PREP SCHOOL ART

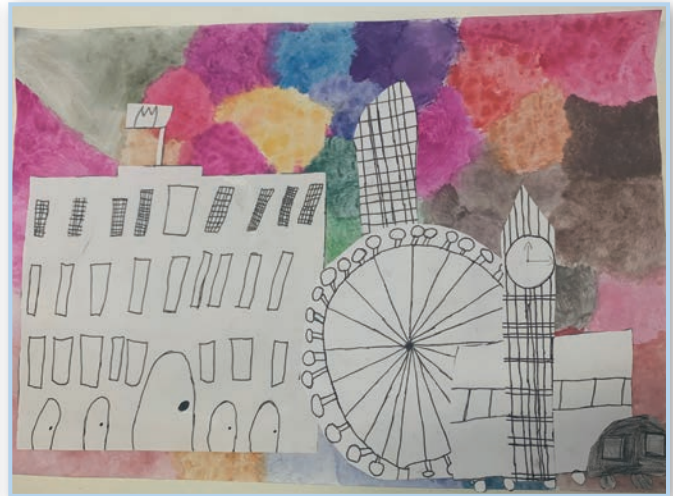
YEAR 3: WILLOW PATTERNS



YEAR 3: EGYPTIAN SELF PORTRAITS



YEAR 4: CITY SKYLINES AND WATERCOLOUR PROJECT



YEAR 6: TEXTURE AND PATTERN



SPORT

Even though our external fixtures may have been unable to go ahead this term, sport is still a strong feature in our School week.



