St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy
October - Newsletter

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School Website: https://www.saintmarysprimarygrimsby.co.uk/

DEAR PARENTS, CARERS AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Throughout this month, we have been celebrating the Month of the Holy Rosary**,** and it has been a joy to see our children taking part so reverently in this special devotion.

Each day, at the end of the school day, children across the school have come together in their classrooms to recite the Rosary. It has been wonderful to witness their prayerfulness and growing understanding of the importance of Mary in our Catholic faith.

As we come to the end of this special month, I would like to encourage families to continue this tradition of prayer at home. Spending even a few minutes together in prayer can be a powerful way to strengthen family bonds and deepen our relationship with God. Whether it is praying a decade of the Rosary, saying night prayers together, or taking a moment to thank God for the blessings of the day, these shared moments of faith can have a lasting impact on our children.

There is much in this month's newsletter – specifically dates around parents evening, the office staff will send out the invitation link via Arbor so please ensure you book your slot. Parents evening will be available to book from **Monday 2nd November at 9am**. Year 6 parents evening will take place over two afternoons so please be mindful of this.

I would also like to warmly invite all parents and carers to join us for Mass on 11th November**.** This will be a special celebration for our school community. After Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be installed in our school chapel, marking an important moment in the faith life of our school. We would be delighted if you could join us for this special occasion as we come together in prayer and thanksgiving. Your presence and support mean a great deal, and we look forward to celebrating with you and your family.

I would like to pay a special tribute to Mrs Steeper for organising this year's Harvest Festival. Her hard work and dedication helped make it such a wonderful celebration for our school community. I would also like to thank all of you, our families, for your incredible generosity. The donations received have been truly astounding and will make a real difference to those in need. Your kindness and willingness to support others perfectly reflect the values we seek to live out each day as a Catholic community. Thank you for helping our children to understand the importance of compassion, service and caring for those less fortunate than ourselves. We are very grateful for your continued support.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing your child's faith journey. Together, as a school and parish family, we can help our children grow in faith, hope and love.

Have a wonderful and restful half term break and see you all refreshed on Monday November 2.



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*Some sport competitions are for selected children only and you will be notified on dojo via Mrs Solomou or class teacher if your child is selected.

Dates	School Calendar
Friday 23rd October	Last Day for October Half Term
Monday 2nd November	Back to School
Wednesday 4th November	School Photo's (Sibling photos in the morning before school TBC)
Wednesday 11th November	School Mass @ 9.30am
Tuesday 17th November	Parents Evening from 3.45pm for Year 6
Wednesday 18th November	Parents Evening from 1pm for Year 6
Wednesday 18th November	Parents Evening from 3.45pm for Nursery to Year 3
Thursday 19th November	Parents Evening from 3.45pm for Year 4 to Year 5
Friday 20th November	Flu Vaccination
Thursday 26th November	KS1 and KS2 – Panathalon
Friday 27th November	Advent Wreath Making
Monday 30th November	Advent Wreath Blessing
Wednesday 2nd December	School Panto
Friday 4th December	Flu Vaccination (Catch up)
Monday 14th December	Year 1 Nativity
Tuesday 15th December	FS1 and FS2 Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 17th December	Carol Service Year 3 to Year 6
Thursday 17th December	Christmas Party Afternoon
Friday 18th December	Carols around the Crib
Friday 18th December	End of Term Christingle Mass
Tuesday 5th January	Back to School

SAFEGUARDING TEAM AT ST MARYS



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Parents' Evening - Working Together for Your Child's Success

Parents evening will be available to book from Monday 2nd November at 9am via Arbor

Parents' Evening is one of the most important opportunities for home and school to work together in supporting your child's education. At St Mary's, these meetings allow you to celebrate your child's successes, discuss their progress, and gain a clear understanding of the next steps in their learning.

When parents and teachers work in partnership, children benefit greatly. By attending Parents' Evening, you can learn how best to support learning at home, ask questions about your child's development, and ensure that together we are helping them to achieve their full potential.

We understand that family life can be busy, but we strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend. Your interest and involvement send a powerful message to your child that their education is valued and important.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can ensure that every child is given the opportunity to thrive, grow in confidence, and attain the very best outcomes possible.

Please ensure that you book your slot to meet with the class teacher through Arbor.



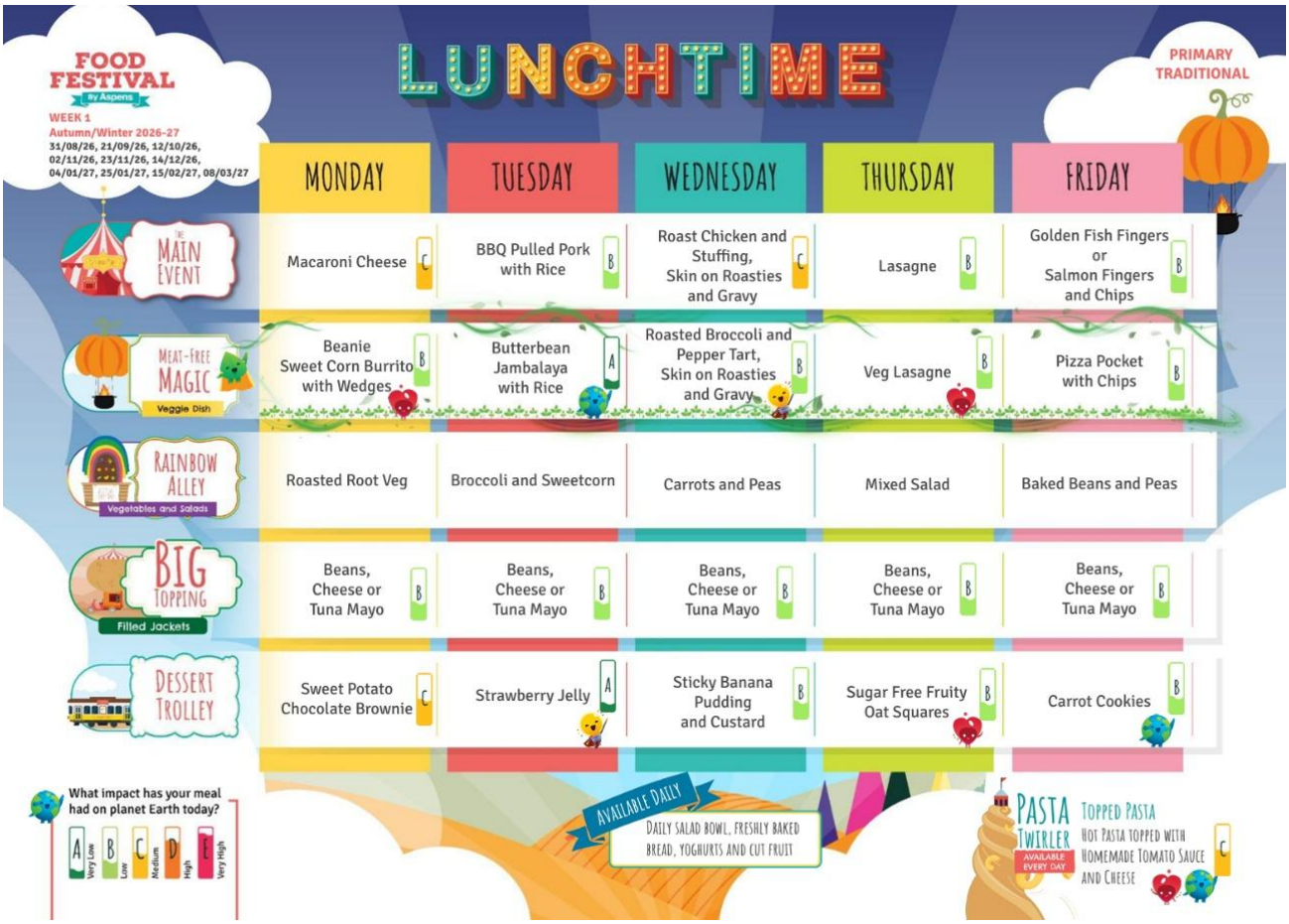
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ASPENS NEW AUMTN/WINTER MENU.

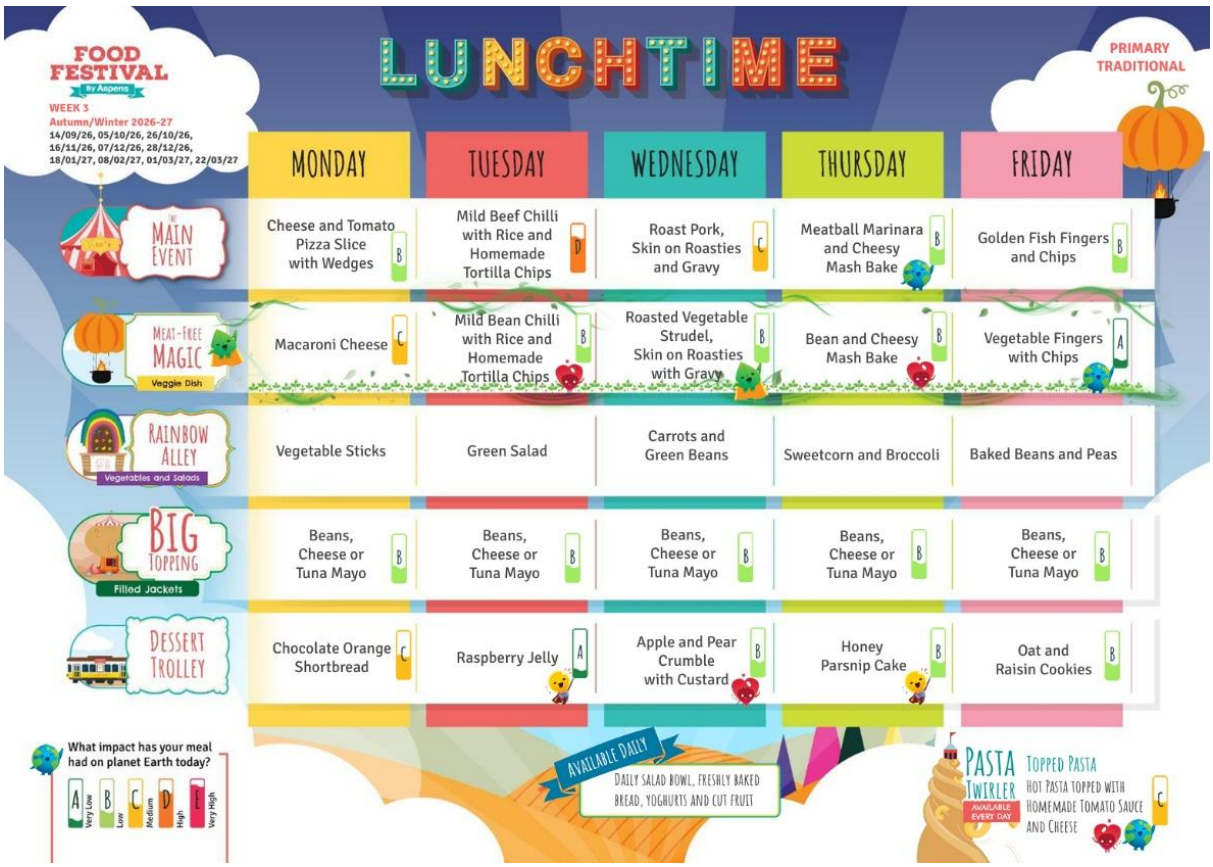
Polite reminder that the deadline to order school lunches is only **2 days** before.
All children in Reception to Year 2 are eligible for universal free school meals.
If you believe you are eligible for benefit free school meals, please pop to the office to fill out a form. Benefit free school meals can start from reception age to secondary school.
Meals cost £2.65 if you wish to order and pay for meals. Please order and pay via Arbor.

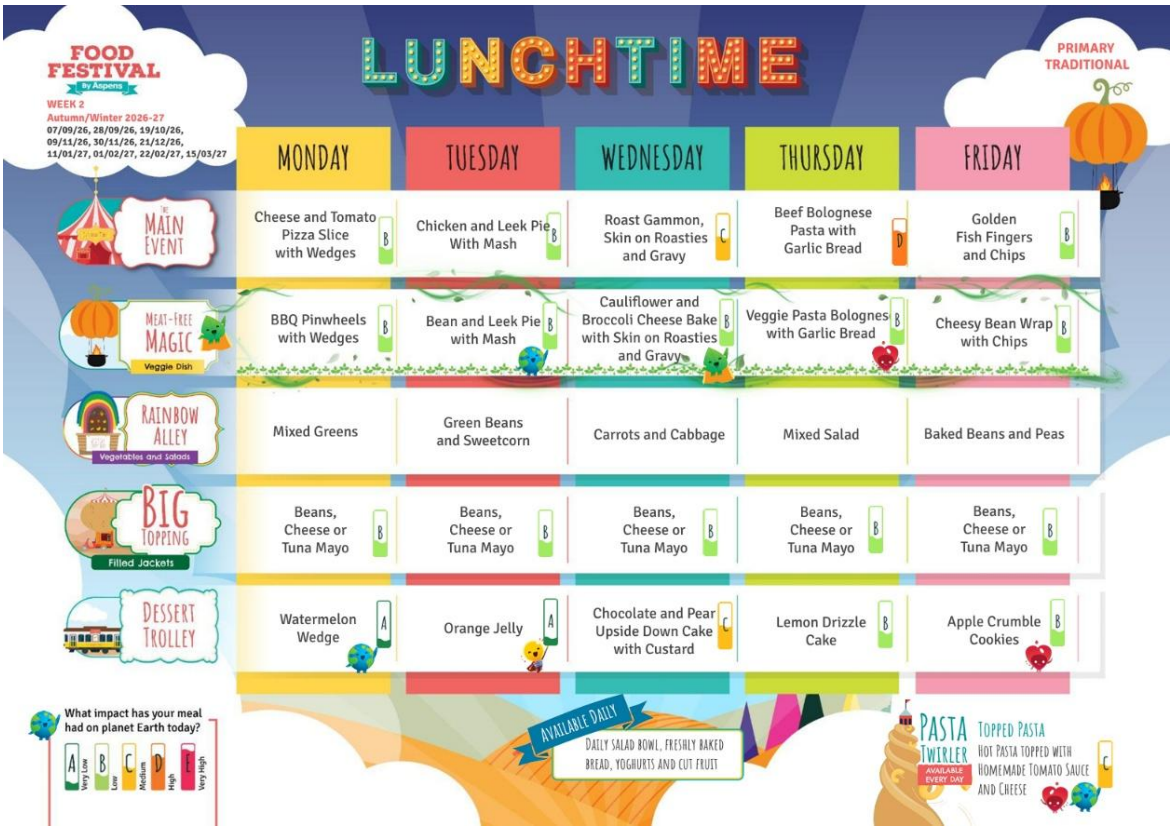
Autumn/Winter Menu



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MEET MRS HAXBY FROM ASPENS

Mrs Haxby joined us mid-September through Aspens. We are all blown away with her cooking especially the fresh bread made every day.

Lunches are cooked fresh on site every morning with the help of Mrs Morgan.

We warmly welcome Mrs Haxby to St Mary's and can't wait to try more of her beautiful food!









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CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Our Chaplaincy Team has made a fantastic start to the year, planning two whole-school assemblies focused on our Words of the Week: **Respect** and **Justice**. We are excited to help our school community explore how we can live out these important values each day. We have also begun planning for **11th November, when the Blessed Sacrament will visit our school**—what a special and exciting opportunity for our school family! Meanwhile, our chapel has had a bit of a tidy, creating a more welcoming space for prayer and reflection. We look forward to seeing individual classes make more regular use of this special space as we continue to grow together in faith.

Meet Mrs Clark St Mary's new Lay Chaplin

Hello! My name is Aimee, and I'm originally from St. Louis, Missouri, in the United States. I've been living and working in the UK for just over two years now, and I live here with my husband and our one-year-old daughter. In my spare time, I love singing, riding roller coasters, and watching Ted Lasso—and I proudly identify as a member of Hufflepuff House! I'm loving my work with the students and staff of St. Mary's, Grimsby, and feel very lucky to be part of such a wonderful community. I'm looking forward to getting more involved in school life, supporting our school family, and helping everyone grow in faith together.

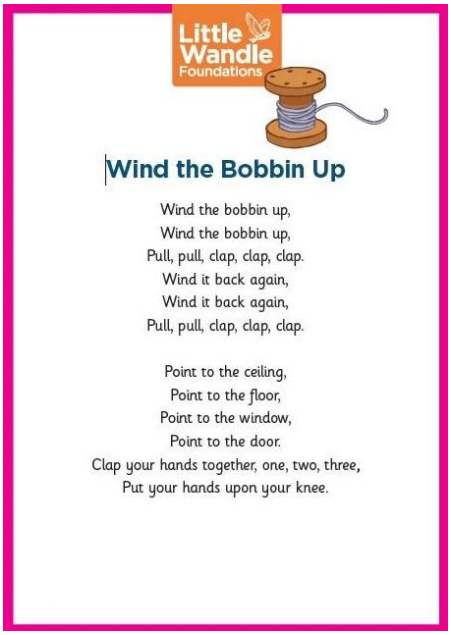


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WHAT THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN UP TO IN CLASS

Our nursery rhyme this week in **Nursery** is **Wind The Bobbin Up!** Please spend some time at home singing with your child. The children will be singing this every day at school. We have also been learning how things work.





In reception we have been carrying out some fabulous work in our phonics lesson. Children are listening to words and hearing the initial and end sounds. Some of the reception children have been enjoying painting and crafting pumpkins





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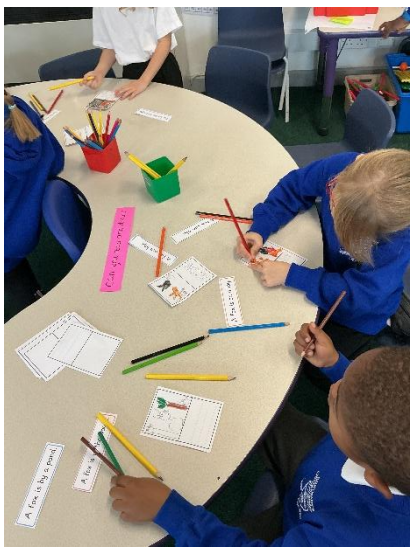
In **Year 1** this October, we have continued our learning about woodlands, focusing on writing fact files about woodland animals. The children have been fantastic at recalling interesting facts about foxes, owls and hedgehogs! We have explored and developed our vocabulary, practised saying sentences aloud before writing them, and created some wonderful pieces of artwork to bring our fact files to life. We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm, creativity and growing confidence in their writing! We also had an online visit from the author and illustrator of the new children's book 'the line'.









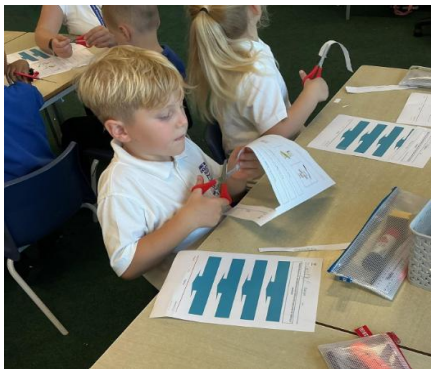
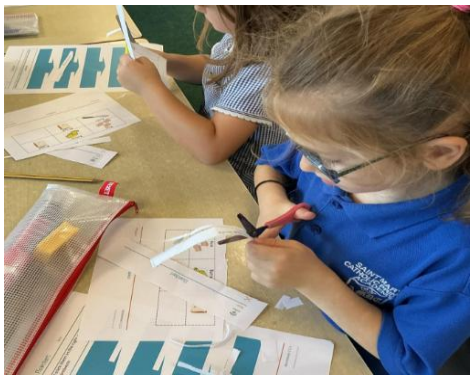
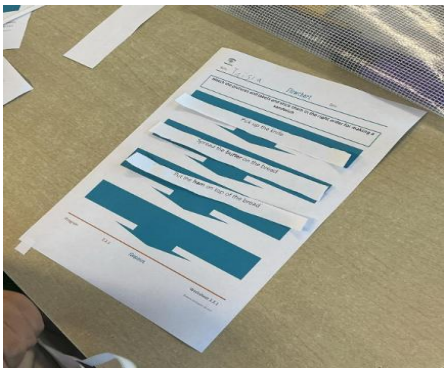




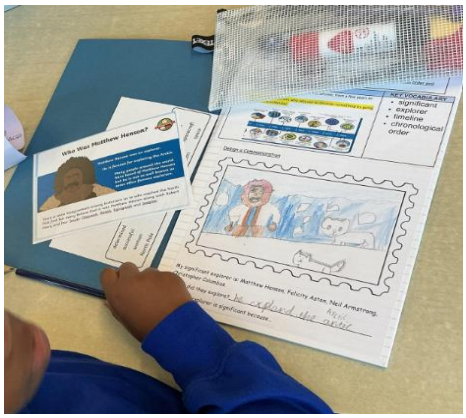
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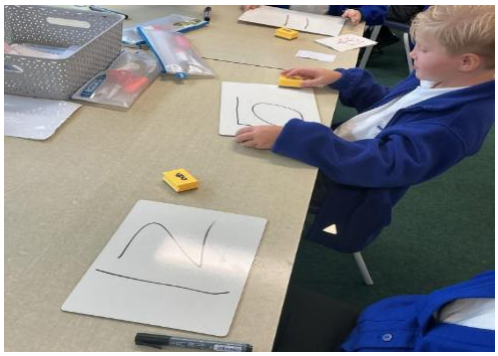
Year 2 computing our unit is iprogram. Children are learning how important it is to use specific instructions when we use programming technology. To begin with they were tasked with putting instructions for making a sandwich in the correct order.

In history we have been learning about significant people. To start the unit of work we learnt about exploration and a variety of explorers. The rest of the term we have looked at one explorer in more depth, Christopher Columbus, and what made his expeditions so significant.

In maths our unit of learning has been Place Value. One lesson saw children ordering numbers. We asked them to all write a number and then asked them to get themselves in order from smallest to largest, and then largest to smallest.

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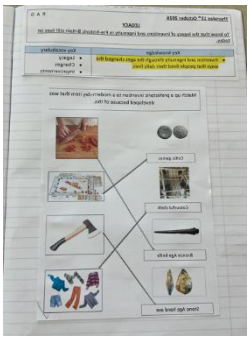
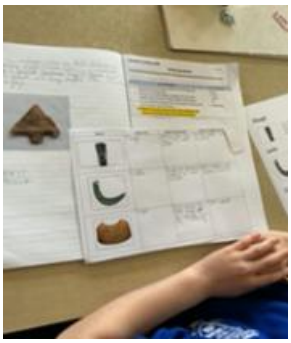
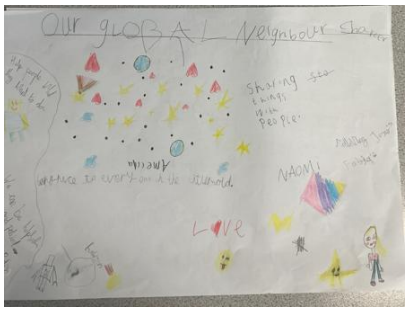
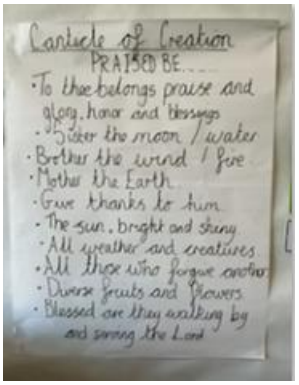
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In Science **Year 3**, we concluded our Physics topic, *Forces and Magnets*, by carrying out a range of practical investigations. The children explored the magnetic properties of different materials and everyday classroom objects, making predictions and testing their ideas. We also investigated the strength of different magnets, comparing their effectiveness and developing our scientific enquiry skills through hands-on experiments.






In History, Year 3 have enjoyed travelling back in time to explore the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age! We have discovered how people lived during these fascinating periods and how tools and inventions gradually developed to make everyday life easier. The children have also explored how these early discoveries and inventions have influenced the way we live today, helping us appreciate just how much life has changed over time!

In RE, Year 3 have learnt so much through our Branch 1 topic, *Creation and Covenant*. We have explored the importance of caring for God's creation and reflected on our big question: **"How could caring for the world change the world for the better?"** We studied *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*, both written by Pope Francis, and discussed how we can put his teachings into practice. The children also created their own thoughtful pledges, sharing the small but meaningful actions they can take in their everyday lives to protect our planet and care for others.

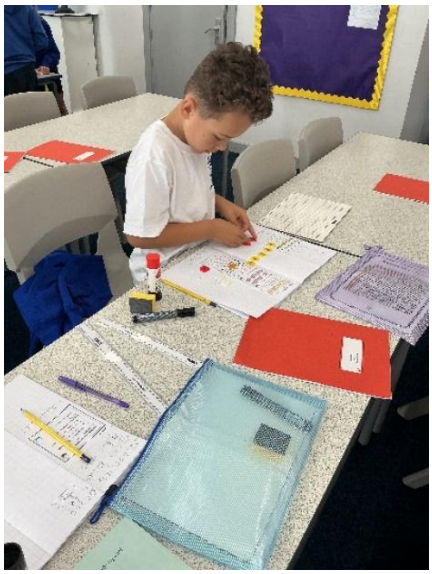
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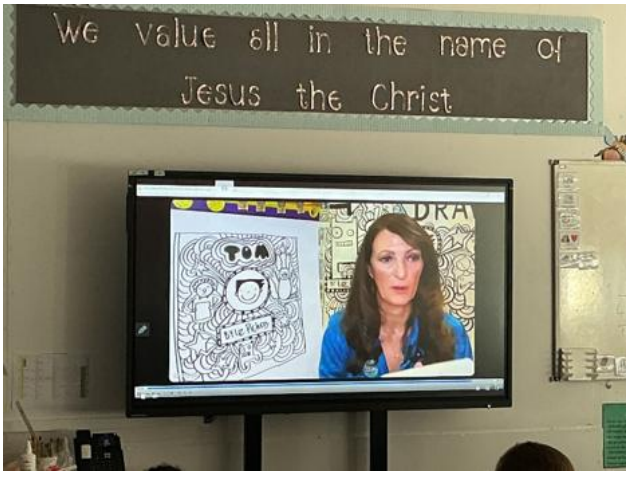
In **Year 4** Maths, the children have been using place value counters and grids to support their learning of flexible partitioning up to 10,000. Using the practical equipment has helped them to work together to reason and solve some tricky problems.







In History, the class looked at primary and secondary sources of evidence to learn about the Anglo-Saxon way of life. They asked questions about the different images. The children have been learning about the lives of the different aspects of Anglo-Saxon society. The class took part in an online live lesson with Liz Pichon, the author of Tom Gates. Year 4 listened to part of the new book, read by the author. The children then took part in an illustration workshop led by Liz. The children were very proud of their Tom Gates illustrations that they all completed in real time with the author.





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This term for **Year 5** in Computing, we have been learning how to use Scratch to create a game. We have learned about Boolean variables (true or false) and practised using this to create a score system. We have really enjoyed learning how to create a game, it has been so much fun to play around with creating our own sprites and sounds to make it really professional!







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Here are some examples of surrealist images from our **Year 6** class, that are Coloured and brought to life in our Art lessons. This week (the last week) before October half term Year 6 have been with the IntoUniversity visiting Hull and learning about World War 2 and what It means to study at university. They have developed their communication skills while thinking about their future.





