



All Saints Church School

Ladies Walk, Montacute, Somerset, TA15 6XG

Tel: 01935 826626 Fax: 01935 825788

e-mail: office@allsaints.bwmat.org

www.allsaintsprimarieschoolmontacute.com

Head Teacher: Mrs S Bowditch BA QTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to a rather chilly end to the first half of our autumn term, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. We have had many parents and carers supporting walks in and around the local community and it has been wonderful to see volunteers supporting our young readers.



Open mornings

We have held two very successful open mornings for prospective EYFS parents and children. Our year 6 children took parents on tours around the school, supported by staff and governors. The response to our open days has been great, so much so, we will be holding a third on Thursday 2nd November at 1.15pm – 2.30pm. We have been extremely proud of our year 6 children who have immersed themselves in this responsibility. We have received some wonderful feedback from those who visited.

'We were shown around by Jo Fear as well as Daisy and Daniel who were all incredibly informative, a real credit to the school.'

Harvest

On Tuesday 3rd October the whole school took part in Experiencing Harvest. Similar in structure to Experiencing Easter, each class took turns to explore the rich harvest of our land and the spiritual harvest of our lives in an interactive learning environment. The concept behind the day was to help children gain a fuller understanding of the significance of nature's cycles of growth, and to explore Christian's beliefs about how the spirit of God produces growth in character.



Within the interactive day of exploring the rich harvest of land and the spiritual harvest of life, each class had a station display for the following topics:



1. **Harvest of the garden** – Patience
2. **Harvest of the ocean** – Peace
3. **Harvest of the flock** – Humility
4. **Harvest of the grain** – Generosity
5. **Harvest of the earth** – Joy
6. **Harvest Thanksgiving** – Faithfulness

Our Harvest Service at St Catherine's brought together all the learning from our Experiencing Harvest Day. Our School Council organised and led the service eloquently, showcasing learning from earlier in the week. Polly, Savannah and Elizabeth played their musical instruments beautifully, thank you. We were also very lucky to have had a splendid harvest loaf donated to us by our Chair of Governors, thank you.



I hope you all have a wonderful half term. We look forward to everyone coming back recharged, ready for an exciting second half of the autumn term.

Best wishes

Mrs Bowditch

Dates for your diaries

Monday 30th October – photographer in school (Mrs Sharp will send a separate SZapp with more details)

Thursday 2nd November – Open afternoon for prospective EYFS parents 2024 (1.15 – 2.30pm)

Friday 3rd November – Class 5 Praise and Share 2.40pm – 3.05pm

Monday 6th November – Remembrance service at St Catherine's Church 11.00am-11.30am

Friday 10th November – Class 1 Praise and Share 2.40pm – 3.05pm

Friday 17th November - Class 3 Praise and Share 2.40pm – 3.05pm

Friday 17th November – FOAS DISCO KS1 6.00pm - 6.30pm/ KS2 6.45 – 7.30pm - tickets available via classlist -

<https://classlist.page.link/8ux1r7vdqfeA5TSE6>

Friday 24th November – FOAS non-uniform day in exchange for Christmas hamper donations (more information to follow)

Friday 1st December – Acorn Class Nativity at St Catherine's Church 2.30pm

Friday 1st December – FOAS Christmas Fayre 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Tuesday 5th December – Year 5 and 6 Christmas performance in St Catherine's Church

Afternoon time 1.30pm and evening start time 6.00pm

Wednesday 6th December – Class 1 and 2 Christmas performance in the school hall

Afternoon time – 2.00pm start and evening time 6.00pm start.

Thursday 7th December – Class 3 and 4 Christmas performance in the school hall.

Afternoon time – 2.00pm start and evening time 6.00pm start.

Friday 8th December – Save the Children Christmas jumper day (children to wear a Christmas jumper/top to school if they wish to)

Friday 15th December – Last day of term



ACORNS

Acorns are thoroughly enjoying their learning! They have taken part in lots of hands-on activities and loved exploring the pumpkins this week!

The children loved investigating the feel and smell of the pumpkins before they opened them up. They predicted what would be inside and what it would feel like. All of the children have had a good feel of the insides before we took the pumpkins to the mud kitchen to create some marvellous recipes. We read recipes and wrote our own in order to make our masterpieces. Some of the seeds were planted, so we may end up with pumpkins of our own in the future!



The children have almost learned all of the Set 1 sounds and are beginning to spot them in the environment. We practise them a lot, and will need to keep practising them, so please look out for the sounds videos uploaded onto Tapestry each Friday.

We are continuing our learning topic of 'Into the Woods', our literacy has focused on texts such as 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Percy the Parkkeeper' and 'Pumpkin Soup'. We have retold these stories, including on our Wellie Walk last week, where we went on a bear hunt and there was even a real bear! Acorns were challenged to create bridges using a variety of items. This was a difficult task, especially when it came to them standing up on their own! Lots of different designs were created.



Lots of mark making has been going on. We often have the chalks out, as well as the clipboards for writing lists of recipes.



We made yummy hedgehog bread, practicing our pinching fine-motor action and we think they tasted pretty good too!



We have also been den building in the garden. Lots of team building and problem-solving is required for this!



We have been enjoying our regular wellie walks and have visited some lovely places around Montacute. We have collected leaves, looked for numbers and listened for the different sounds in our environment. So much talk and language comes out as we talk and walk, it is always a highlight of the week.



The children loved sharing their learning in the sharing assembly. They were all so proud to show you what they have been up to, so thank you to everyone who came!

As always if there is anything you wish to discuss we us please feel free to catch us either on the door or email the school office.

CLASS 6

Greetings, Class 6 families! Can you believe we're knee-deep into Autumn Term 1 already? Here's your exclusive peek into the whirlwind of excitement happening in our fantastic Class 6!

Tour Guides Extraordinaire: A massive shout-out to our amazing Class 6 tour guides! They dazzled prospective parents during open days, showcasing their All Saints knowledge with pride.

Harvest Happenings: October kicked off with a bang during our 'Experiencing Harvest' day. Our classroom transformed into a carnival of creativity with origami, clay modelling, bread tasting, and even a bit of crocheting! Who knew harvest could be so hands-on and fun?

The Year 6 Mock Trial Buzz: Two magistrates swooped into our class, unravelling the mysteries of the British court system. Get ready for The Year 6 Mock Trial – details coming your way soon! We're all becoming legal eagles, one question at a time.

Meet the Wordsmith - Joffre White: On the 12th, the incredible Joffre White, author of *Aura Boy* and *Frog*, graced us with his presence. An assembly for classes 4, 5 and 6 followed by an intense hotseat session with Class 6! Our questions were tough, Joffre was left utterly impressed. Way to go, wordsmiths!

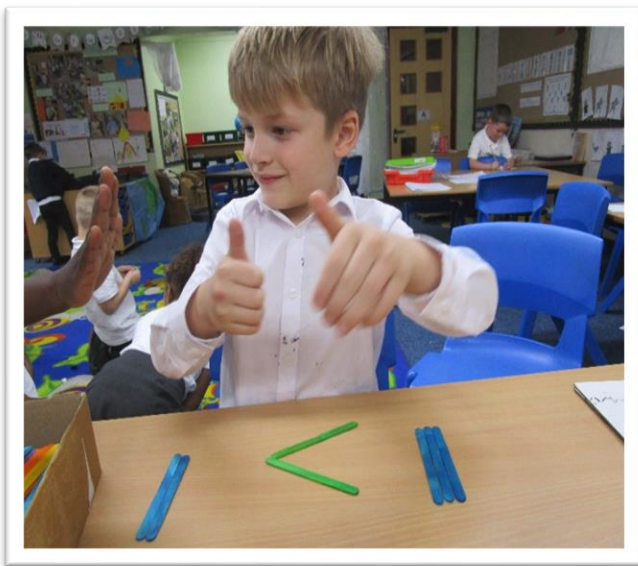


CLASS 1

We are really proud of how all the children have settled into Class 1 and are extending their learning through their learning challenges and taking pride in "earning their pegs" across the five different challenges - not to mention earning something from the "Sparkly Box" at the end of the week to positively reinforce their independent learning.

In maths, we have been comparing amounts using the language of less than, more than, equal to, fewer and greater. We have also met "Blockzilla" which has helped us to develop our understanding of inequalities. You could watch this at home and reinforce the idea that Blockzilla likes the number that is bigger or greater:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0blsqtz/numberblocks-series-3-blockzilla>



Our next topic is looking at addition and subtraction within 10.

In RE, the children have discovered the Christian Story of Creation and been learning about this through Godly Play - enabling the children to develop a sense of awe and wonder by physically exploring the story both alongside an adult and independently. They have also used watercolours to paint their favourite part of the Creation Story and applied their phonics to write a caption about it.



Class 1 have loved being artists and learning about Lowry - they created a Lowry-inspired piece of artwork which they are looking forward to sharing with you as part of the showcase after half term.

Miss Daniel was also incredibly impressed by the amazing geographers Class 1 are becoming - including an aerial view map of Montacute being constructed up in the Forest Area as well as in the outdoor area. Well done, children!

We hope that you enjoy engaging in your first creative homework, have a fantastic break and look forward to welcoming you back after half term.



CLASS 5

Over the past few weeks, we have continued our Space themed topic. In English, we have begun to look at how to write an advertisement for a new holiday destination - Earth. Using Adobe Express, the children learnt how to create a persuasive video using images, music and a voice over. Over the next few weeks, they will continue to learn and practice many techniques ready for our final writing project....

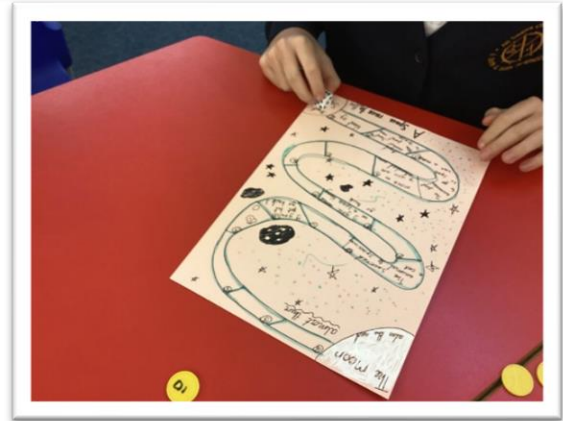
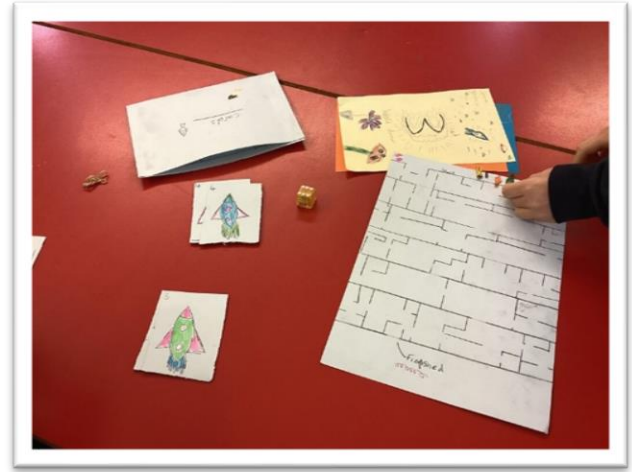
In Science, we have been learning about the orbits of the moon and Earth. The children were challenged to make a working STEAM model that demonstrated this. They were limited with the choice of materials to enable them to practice 'thinking outside of the box' and our value of perseverance.



During Art, we have been learning about the artist Peter Thorpe. Using oil pastels, the children have practiced making different tones and learning how to blend colours together. Their final piece of art focused on a Space style piece of art using only a limited palette of three colours, plus black, grey and white.



Using the book, 'Balloon to the Moon', we have continued to learn much about the history of Space travel. Using what the children had learnt about the Space Race, they had to design and make a board game that would teach the players about the battle between the Soviet Union and the USA to reach the moon.



As a last-minute surprise, we were very lucky to have the author Joffre White visit the school. He came into class to teach a workshop on creative writing, which really inspired the children. They came up with some fantastic story maps to get them started with story writing. In the afternoon, the children joined Joffre to hear about his life – he kept the children entertained with his stories and jokes.

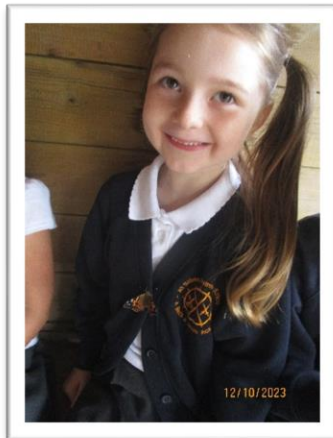
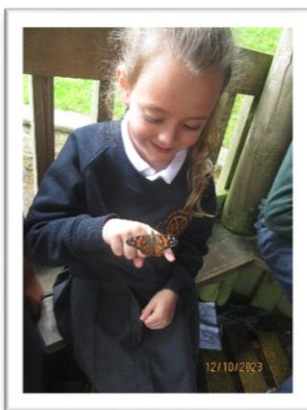
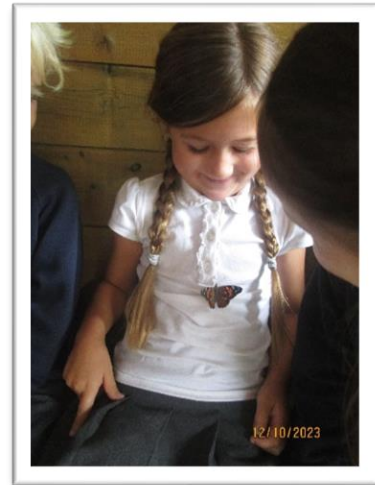
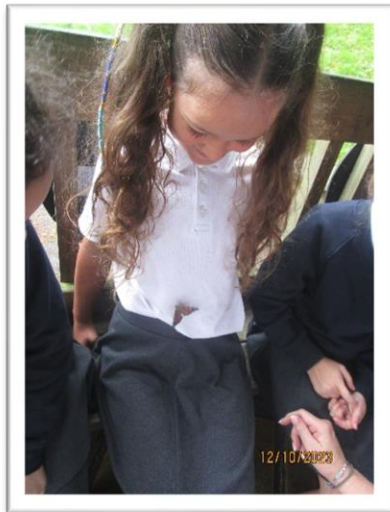


Finally, the last two PE lessons in our leadership topic, have been working with Year Two. The children have used their leadership skills to teach the Year Twos a range of different games. They have also designed and run obstacle races for the younger children to take part in too. The Year 5s have shown that many of our school values through these lessons and it has been lovely to watch the older children teaching and supporting the younger children to play a range of games.



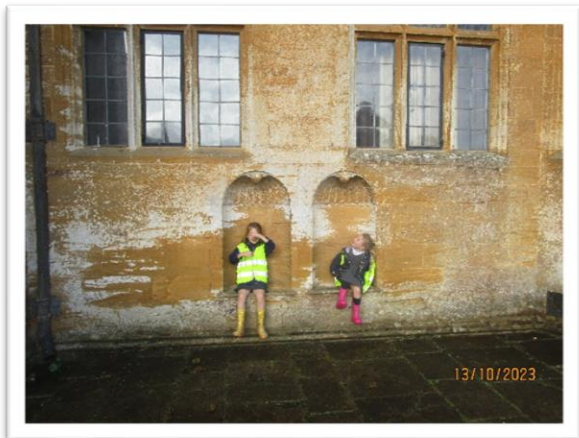
CLASS 2

Class 2 has been very busy so far this month. We have watched with awe and wonder as the caterpillars completed their metamorphosis and changed into butterflies. We were so excited when they were able to be released and that the sun shone for them as they were allowed free.

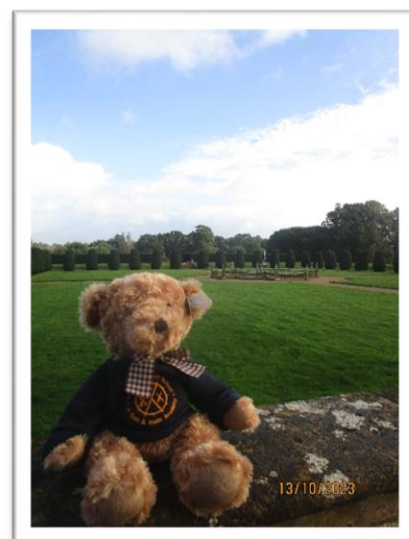
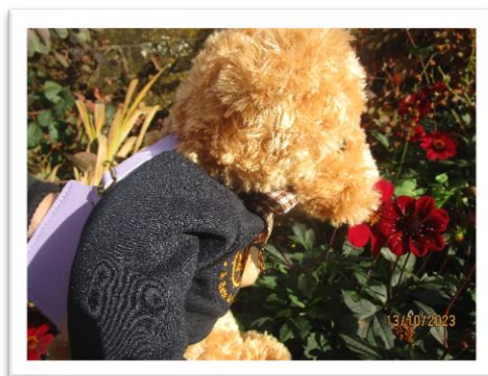
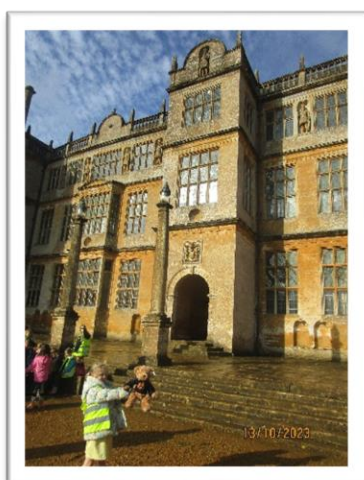


As part of our history work we visited Montacute House. Whilst we were there we were history detectives. We used our skills of observation, enquiry and perseverance to look at the old house and what it is made from and why.

Over the next few weeks we will learn how and why things have changed over time.



Monty, the school bear who joined us after the Academy Trusts 10th birthday in the summer, enjoyed his day at the house too!



CLASS 4

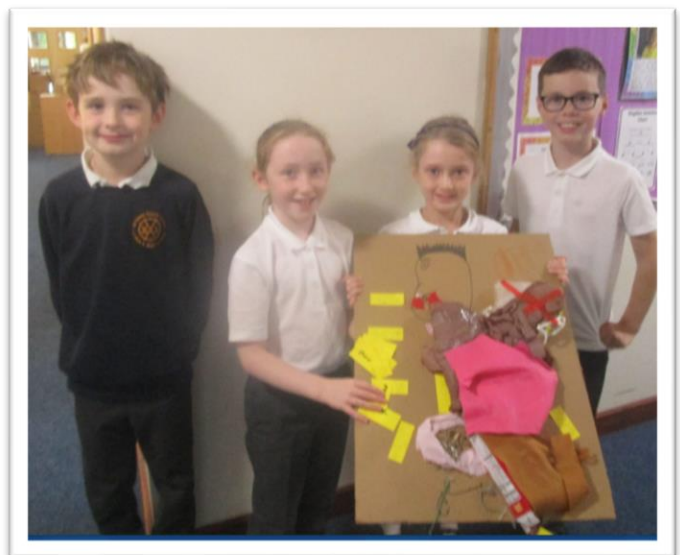
We have continued our work around The Green Book, enjoying finding out how the people on Shine adapted to life there and discovering ways to survive.

Our science focus on the digestive system and teeth has inspired our explanation writing about human and animal teeth.

When writing an explanation text, we need to lay out our work clearly and neatly with headings and subheading so that it is easy to read.

STEAM

Mrs Roberts set the children the challenge to design and create a model to represent the digestive system using junk materials. In small groups, they had to work together to create the best design and be able to explain all the different parts to help them understand and remember the process. Mrs Roberts awarded children house points for working well together, listening and sharing ideas, being resourceful and creative with the materials and resilient when faced with challenges. Class 4 really impressed us, and proved they have great STEAM Skills.



We have made some great learning links between the digestive system, healthy eating with sustainable and seasonal food which linked well with our Harvest celebrations.

Science and DT.

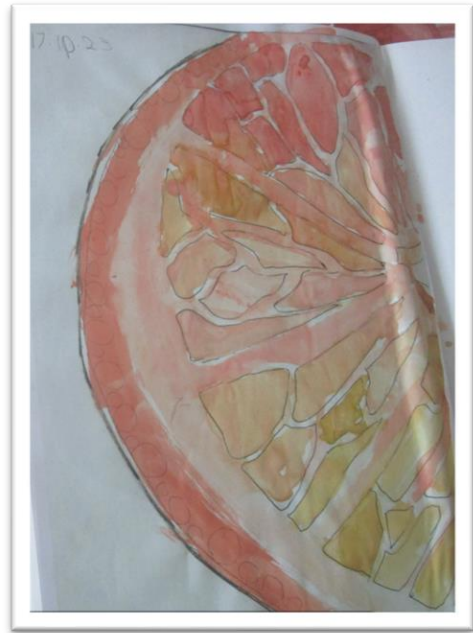
Mrs Roberts bought in some apples from her garden

In small groups, the children worked really well together; taking turns to chop, peel, measure, mix and combine all the ingredients to make some apple crumbles



In Art, the children explored how to make different tones of orange using the two primary colours red and yellow.

We thought it was a really effective way of painting these orange segments.



CLASS 3

