



All Saints Church School

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Head Teacher: Mrs S Bowditch BA QTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that the autumn half term holiday has been and gone. October was another busy month across our school with much to report on. Each classroom was buzzing with activity as pupils embraced topics and explored new learning. From World War II topics to artistic impressions of Stonehenge, the energy and curiosity in our school has been truly inspiring.

Harvest Festival Celebration

We celebrated Harvest by having an experiencing harvest day and a service at St Catherine's Church, where generous donations for the Lord's Larder were displayed. It was a heartwarming occasion, reminding us all of the importance of community and giving back. Rev Nick led our service, supported brilliantly by children from across the school, including a dramatisation of the Parable of the Sower by class 6 and harvest poems were read by our newly formed School Council.



Parent evenings

October also included our parent evenings, offering valuable time for teachers to connect with families and discuss each child's progress. It is always wonderful to strengthen the school-home partnership, ensuring that every child feels supported and encouraged.

FOAS updates

We are incredibly grateful for the hard work and commitment of our Friends of All Saints (FOAS) team, whose support makes a significant difference to our school community. This month, we extend a heartfelt thank you to Simon Staniland, who is stepping down as our FOAS Chair. Over the past two years, Simon's leadership, dedication, and passion have been invaluable in helping organise events, and driving fundraising efforts.

We are also saying a huge heartfelt thank you to Ali Mills, who is also stepping down having served as our FOAS treasurer for at least five years (perhaps even longer!). Ali's long term commitment and financial oversight have been a tremendous asset, ensuring FOAS continues to support our school in the best possible ways.

Thank you, Simon and Ali, for your outstanding service, and a big thanks to the entire FOAS team for their ongoing efforts and dedication to our school!

We are looking forward to welcoming Darren Crocker as our new FOAS Chair and Anouska Musson as our new treasurer. Let the fund raising commence!

Our All Saints Christian value focus for this half term will be LOVE and KINDNESS.

Best wishes

Mrs Bowditch



Date for diaries

Friday 8th November – Open Morning for EYFS 2025 intake

Friday 8th November – Class 2 Praise and Share 2:45pm

Monday 11th November – Class 3 trip to Carymoor Environmental Centre

Tuesday 12th November – Class 6 trip to Perrott Hill (am only) (Mock Trial)

Tuesday 12th November – School Choir Africa Concert Westlands

Friday 15th November – Children in Need (non-school uniform, yellow and/or spots if you have something already). A donation payment option has been set up by ParentPay via link below –

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=16815>

Friday 15th November – Class 1 Praise and Share 2:45pm

Friday 15th November – FOAS disco (details can be found on SZapp FOAS tile)

Friday 22nd November – Acorn Class Praise and Share 2:45pm

Friday 29th November – FOAS Christmas Fair (details can be found on SZapp FOAS tile)

Monday 2nd December – Christingle for school at St Catherines 9:30am

Wednesday 4th December – Class 6 trip to Nothe Fort

Friday 6th December – Acorn Class Nativity in St Catherine's Church 2:00pm

Tuesday 10th December – Class 5 and 6 Carol Concert, St Catherine's Church 6:00pm

Wednesday 11th December – Classes 3 and 4 Christmas performances, 2:00pm and 6:00pm

Thursday 12th December – Classes 1 and 2 Christmas performances, 2:00pm and 6:00pm

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day (Christmas jumper plus normal school trousers/skirt etc)

FOAS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Christmas Fair - Friday 29th November

Plans are starting to come together for the Christmas Fair, see the attached poster for full details. It's set to be a fun evening with food, drink, games and the opportunity to visit Father Christmas in his grotto. We are currently very low on volunteers to man the stalls/bar on the night. We can't run this event without a lot of parent support (your children can help on the stall with you too, excluding the bar and tombolas) so please do sign up as soon as possible within the event page on

Classlist: <https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1190721116>

Non-Uniform Day - Friday 22nd November

FOAS invites all children to wear non-uniform on Friday 22nd November in exchange for tombola donations. Acorns/KS1 please bring in an item for the chocolate tombola. KS2 please bring an item for the bottle tombola. Poster attached. Thank you!

Present Room Donations

At the Fair we will be running our much enjoyed 'Present Room'. For those new to the school, this is a room where children can go in and secretly choose a gift for their grown-ups and wrap it ready for Christmas, with a little help from some supervising parents. In order to run this, we are kindly asking for donations of new or unwanted gifts. Please see the attached poster for examples of donations. There will be a box in reception for you to leave these in from tomorrow.

Match Funding

Do you work for a company who provides Match Funding? Lots of medium to large companies support this scheme including banks and supermarkets. Securing Match Funding can boost event profits by up to £500 so please do ask your employers and let us know if this is something you can assist us with.

We know this is a busy time of year with lots of requests for support but it really does make a huge difference to the funds we can raise and put back into the school to benefit the children.

ACORN CLASS

What a busy month we have had in Acorns. We have explored harvest and the changing seasons. We worked out what food is grown above and below ground. The children have created art from nature with leaf rubbings and paint. Thank you to the kind grandparent who donated us such large pumpkins, we explored the insides as well as made some pumpkin soup! Which went down well with the children.



We've also made hedgehog bread learning words such as yeast and knead. The children were amazing with their kneading and listening to the hygiene rules.

We have been continuing to work on subitising and recognising the numbers within 5. Our focus for the last week was number formation with numbers being created in sand, playdough, chalk and pencil.

In our play it has been lovely to witness some of our school values, **perseverance** with a tricky puzzle and **friendship** with train set building



We have enjoyed mark marking to music, freedom to go with the music and develop our self expression.



It has been a long half term, and I am so proud of the children and how they have settled as a class. Their friendship and care for each other is a joy to see.

Kind regards

Mrs Sullivan and the Acorn Team

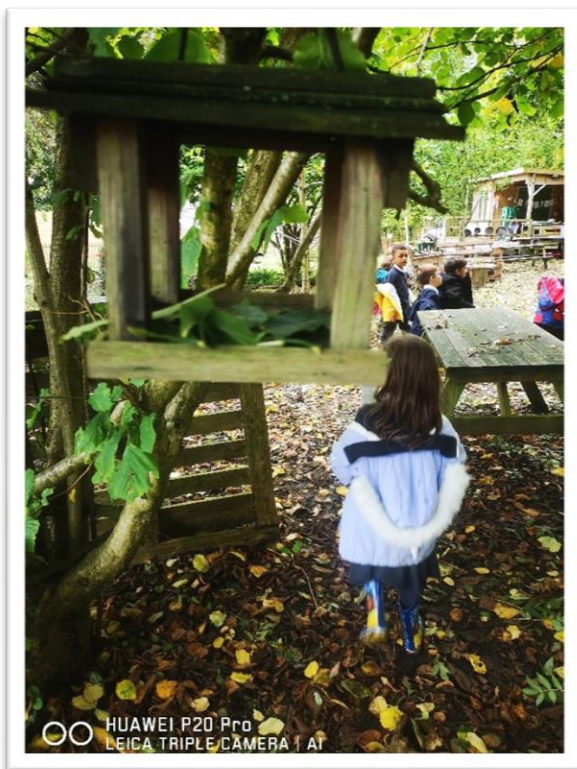
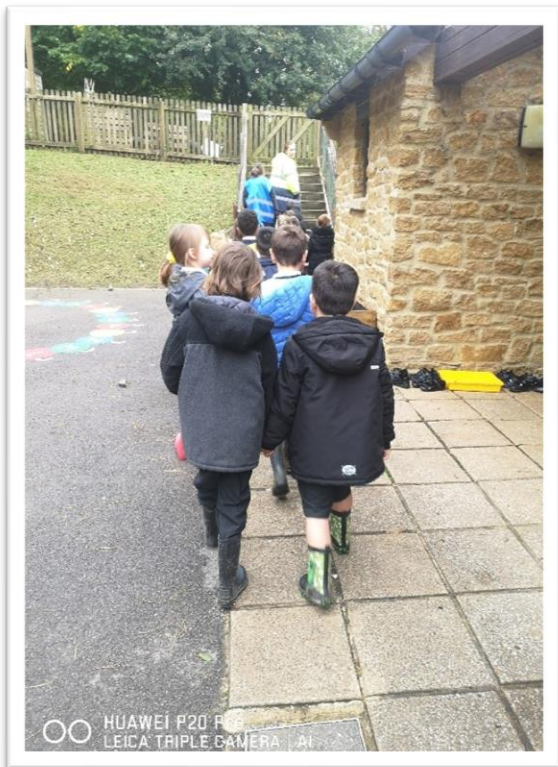
CLASS 1

Class 1 have enjoyed another exciting month of learning. In maths the children have been learning to add and subtract, using objects, drawings or pictures, various representations and finally number lines!

In English learning, Class 1 have been exploring adjectives and how to use them to add more detail to a sentence, which linked to our science topic all about common everyday materials and their properties. Children applied their understanding to design, plan, and build a model house. The children learnt about joining and fixing techniques, and they had a great time using the STEAM cycle to explore and show what they have learnt during their science lessons this month. Children also had a lot of fun going green with our 'Editing Lenses' which help us find and fix mistakes.

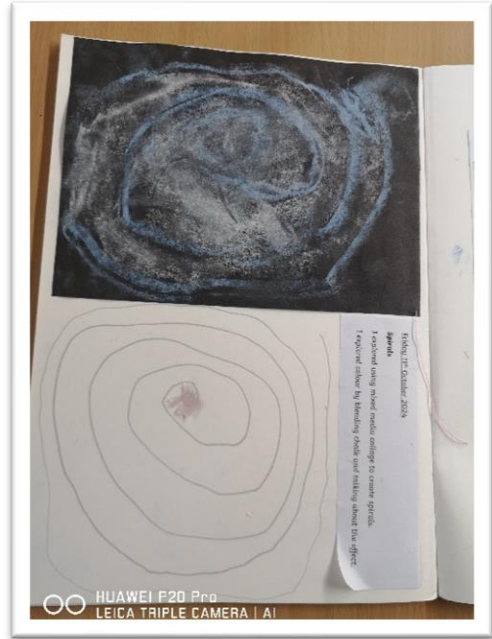


In geography, Class 1 have been learning about some features of our local landscape, including **human features** within the local area (starting with our school site), and **physical features** of the local landscape. Children used the forest area as a good vantage point to explore human and physical geographical features close by, outside of our environment. Some of us even spotted the monument on Ham Hill!



In PE we have finished our Yoga topic (jungle animal poses), though we will be continuing with our learning on Ball Skills after half term break!

In Art, Class 1 have been learning about spirals! Children explored different types of media and discussed the impact. They used chalk and oil pastels to blend colours, and pencils, crayons, and collage to create spiral shapes.



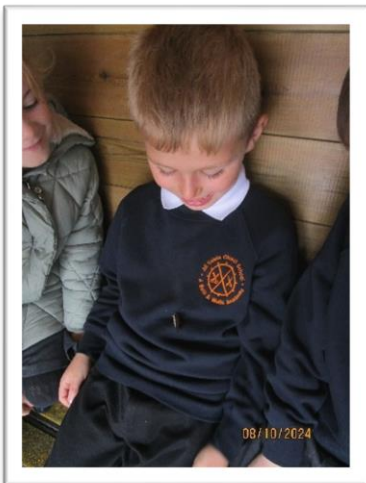
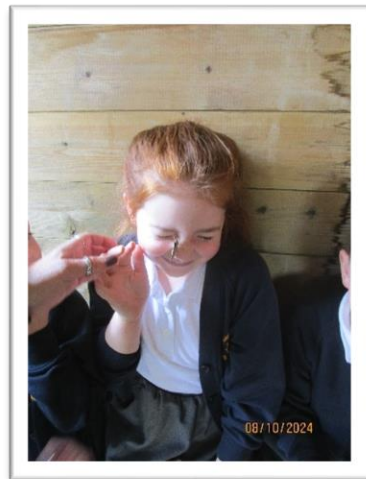
CLASS 2

What a busy month we have had in class 2!

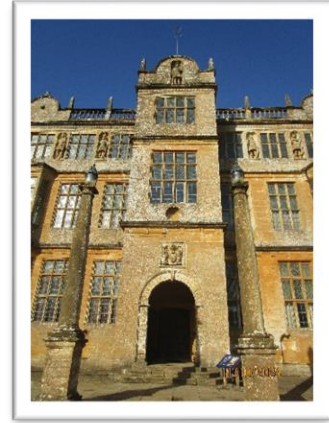
We were so excited when our butterflies emerged. We had been following them in their life cycles and were waiting patiently for them to emerge from their cocoons.

Fortunately, the butterflies allowed us all to have them on our bodies and we watched with awe and wonder as they landed on us and moved between us.

We have enjoyed observing the whole life cycle – learning about caterpillars, how they hold onto leaves with thin threads, leave their frass (their poo!) and then metamorphose within their cocoons into beautiful butterflies.



As part of our history work, we had a trip to Montacute House, being history detectives and looking for clues as to how we know that Montacute House is old. We enjoyed walking in the autumn sunshine and had fun observing all the clues we could find.



In class we have been working with the NSPCC as part of their Speak out and Stay safe campaign. We met Buddy and discussed how we can stay safe.



The children heard a story about Sam, the story demonstrated the importance of speaking out about any worries a child may have.



CLASS 3

October has been another busy month for Class 3 with so much exciting learning taking place. It was lovely to welcome so many of you to our Praise and Share assembly. We were so proud to share our achievements with you.

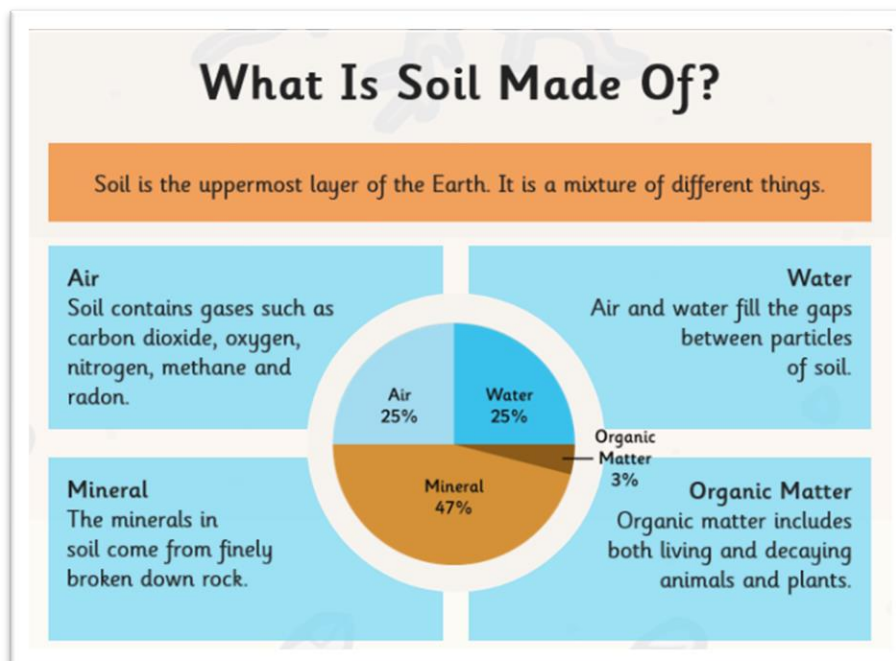
English

Over the last few weeks, the children have been learning how to write biographies, beginning with the interesting life of Mary Anning, the paleontologist. They used all the skills learnt to create their own biographies based on an imaginary person who discovered Scara Brae. We were so impressed with how well the children incorporated the key features; Writing in past tense, third person, including dates and interesting facts and even a reflection! Well done Class 3!

Science

We have explored and learnt so much in Science this term, such as the process of how rocks and fossils are formed and how to group them according to their properties. The children have enjoyed being scientist and investigating, asking questions and recording their findings.

Last week, we made a mini compost using worms, mini beasts and tiny micro-organisms from Mrs Roberts' Garden. We added layer upon layer of different materials that will help the worms and organisms to transpose into soil. We wonder how long it will take to transform into compost? We made up our own sign language to help us to remember all the different elements. Use the key below to check if the children can remember what they are!





Design and technology

Over the last few weeks, we have explored The Eatwell plate and what this teaches us about eating healthily. We have learnt about what couscous is and why this is a healthy food. We have tasted several different flavours. Next half term we will learn how to prepare food safely and then we are going to design and make our own healthy couscous dish with lots of added ingredients to enhance its flavour!



Art

The children have loved working with charcoal this half term and have learnt lots about light, dark and midtones. Our final piece of work is a Stonehenge drawing using charcoal where they have thought about where the light has shone off the stones and how they can use charcoal to represent this.



Homework

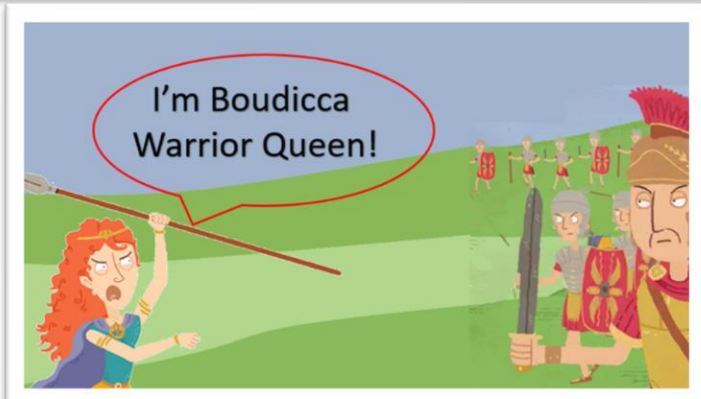
The children loved sharing the research they did on their inspirational person. Thank you so much for supporting your children with this. It really was an absolute pleasure to see them talking about their chosen person and we all learnt things we didn't know before!

Mae Jemison

She is famous for doing something that no other black woman had done before

Because of her other black ladies and people are inspired because of what she did

They even created a lego character of her!!!!



SHE LIVED HOW SHE
WANTED TO LIVE -
ON HER OWN TERMS

CLASS 4

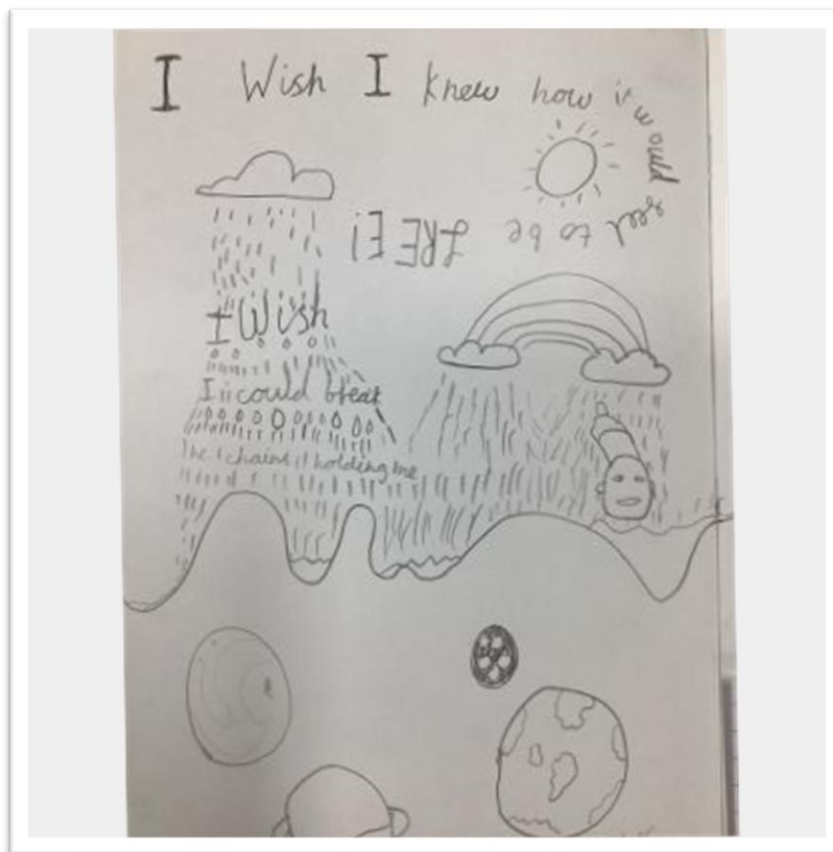
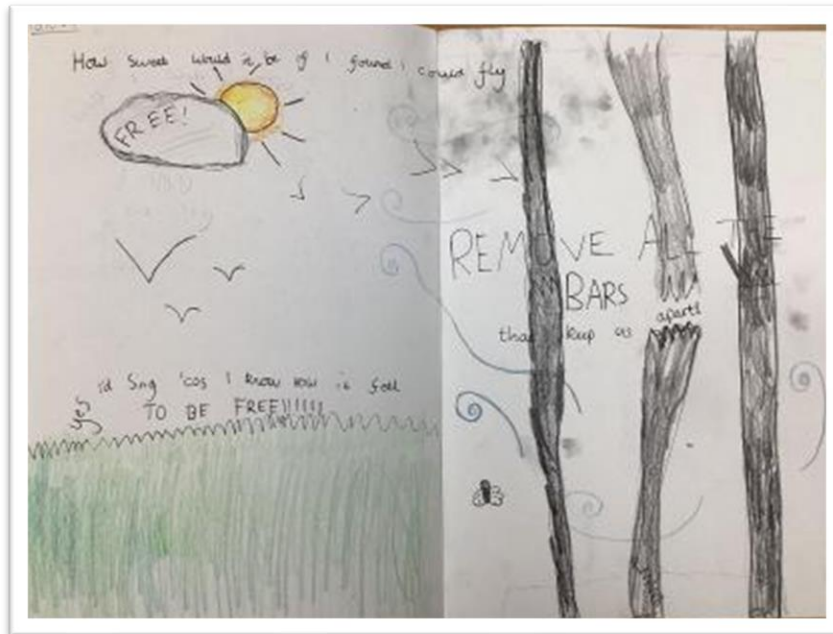
Although the weather has been very dismal at times over the month, this hasn't dampened class 4's spirit!

We have continued to learn about the digestive system in science. Using a pair of tights, orange juice, some biscuits and a few other resources, we recreated the digestive system in the classroom. It was lots of fun – but very messy. Using our learning from this, we made a working model using STEAM and wrote an explanation text. We have also been investigating the effect different liquids have on our teeth using boiled eggs – we think cola will be the worst!



As part of our work on Black History Month, we studied Nina Simone. We looked at how she used singing to show her anger about the discrimination that she saw in America. Using our new singing website, we learnt the song, 'I wish I knew how it felt to be free' which we thoroughly enjoyed singing.

In art, we chose several of the lyrics from the song, to create an illustration showing how Nina felt about how the black community were being treated at the time.





In PE, we have been working on two areas of sport: fitness and Netball. For our fitness lessons, we have learnt the importance of keeping fit and raising our heart rate. We have had several hit sessions focusing on balance, strength and cardio where each activity is 30secs each. Netball has been a lot of fun, we have learnt about different ways to catch the ball, the footwork rule, dodging and shooting.

CLASS 5

And just like that, we're arriving at half term already—8 weeks in! Below is a brief overview of what we have been up to in our learning:

English

We have been exploring persuasive writing in our English topic. Initially, we focused on persuading beings from beyond our planet to come to Earth. To round off the unit, we took a turn and decided to persuade them why they shouldn't come to this planet. This really got the children thinking about some grown-up issues we face today and how Earth may look from a neighboring world.

Science

In our recent science efforts, we have continued the "Infinity and Beyond" topic, examining the heliocentric and geocentric models of our solar system, as well as the distances between planetary bodies.

PE

We've been working on various leadership skills to become effective playground leaders. This challenged us to listen to one another and give constructive feedback politely. In fitness, we've been learning how to push one another mentally, compete against ourselves and peers, and understand the positive effects of encouragement.

Music

In music, we've begun to explore musical theatre and the roles of the creatives who put incredible shows together.

NSPCC

We had the NSPCC in to run a workshop in class that taught us to speak out and stay safe. The children discussed how this is a sensitive but important issue.

CLASS 6

October had been another busy month with Year 6 children rising to the challenge of being school leaders. They led parts of the harvest service in a mature, considerate way, bringing to life key messages for the younger children. During the recent open mornings, our fabulous children led tours around the school, leaving nothing for the staff to contribute! They really shone and many adults have commented on the outstanding contribution they made to the mornings.

Our works of art have developed across the term, from learning about Lubaina Himid and her life-sized pieces, to using the grid method to enlarge silhouettes of animals used in WW2. This was quite a challenge but we persevered and are very proud of our finished products.



It was lovely to welcome so many of you to our Praise and Share assembly. We were so proud to share our singing and other achievements with you.

Continuing our theme of WW2, we have been working on war poetry. Reading various poems from the world wars, we have developed our use of figurative language, employing devices such as metaphors, alliteration and onomatopoeia. As writers, we have been honing the skills of selecting the best language and playing with the order of words and phrases to invoke the desired response from our readers. We have published a book of our war poems, which can be viewed in the library.

Recent homework tasks- RE and Black History Month- have been of a very high standard and have enabled us to all embed understanding of our learning.

Maths lessons have focused on the four calculations and embedding the fluency of solving these, as well as developing reasoning and problem-solving skills. We will move on to area, angles, shape, fractions and statistics in the lead-up to Christmas.

Best wishes,

Mrs Walmsley, Mr Wood, Mrs Coleman, Mrs Brindley and Mrs Hatch.