



Burwell Village College Primary

Spring 1 2026

Upcoming dates:

- 24th February – Year 5B Maths Workshop
- 25th February – Year 5A Maths Workshop
- 5th March – World Book Day
- 9th March – Year 2A Maths Workshop
- 10th March – Year 1 Cultural Capital Performance
- 10th March – Year 2B Maths Workshop
- 11th March – Year 1B Maths Workshop
- 12th – 17th March – Book Fair
- 16th March – 3A Maths Workshop
- 17th March – 6B Maths Workshop
- 18th March – 6A Maths Workshop
- 18th March – Football Competition – Year 5/6 selected pupils only
- 20th March – iRock concert
- 23rd March – Rec B Maths Workshop
- 24th March – Rec A Maths Workshop
- 25th March – 1A Maths Workshop
- 23rd – 27th March – Year 6 Residential
- 30th Mar – 10th Apr – Easter Holidays
- 13th – 16th April – Year 5 Bikeability

This has been a really quick half term. As you will see through the newsletter the children have packed in a huge amount of learning and there is still a lot more to come.

As you can see from the list of events, the spring term is packed. We have maths workshops currently running, performances and end of unit showcases, another fabulous iRock concert, the year six residential to end the term and Year 5 Bikeability as soon as we return. The opportunities for learning inside the classroom and for extending learning outside the classroom are excellent and we want as many children to benefit from them as possible.

Reception



This term, our topic has been 'Fairy Tales'. We have really enjoyed retelling the stories in our role-play areas. We have even made our own puppets and masks to help us to re-enact them.



After reading the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, we made delicious porridge. We took turns mixing the oats and wrote our own recipes afterwards. Most of us agreed it was very tasty!



One morning, we found the baby bear's blanket covered in shape prints! We became detectives to figure out which 3D shape has faces that could have printed that shape.



We loved our Three Little Pigs construction site role-play. We have designed new houses for the Three Little Pigs and have been busy making models of them. We also built new bridges for the Billy Goats, carefully making sure they were stable.



We have continued to think about seasonal change and enjoyed exploring the snow and talking about signs of winter.



Year 1

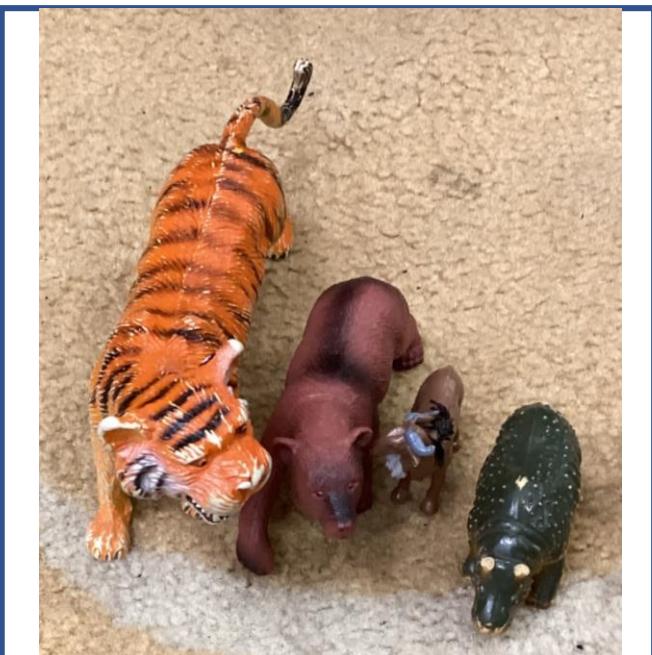


We were very excited to kick off the new year with some snow!

We decided to take our maths lesson outside and understand part whole models. This term we have also learnt how to use bar models, understand numbers to 50 and how to count in 2s.

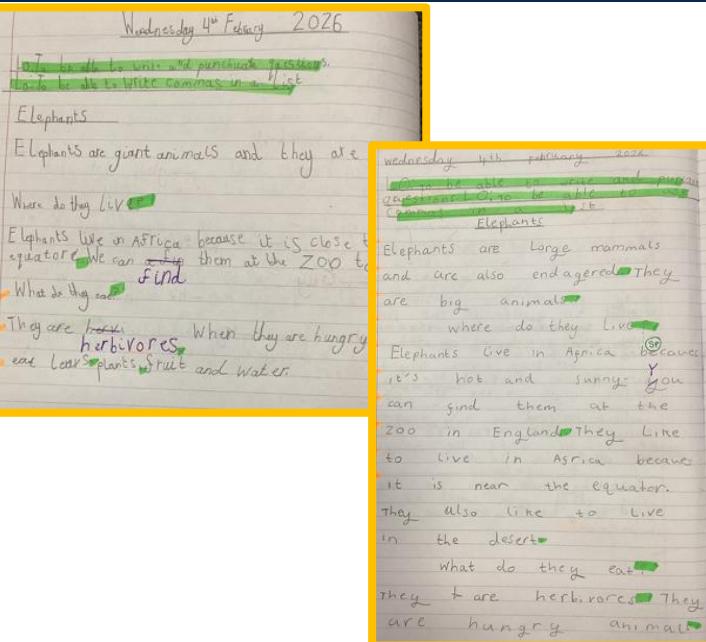


In English, we have been looking at how to write instructions. We know about using time adverbials, commands and even adjectives to add more detail. We enjoyed writing instructions for how to bake a cake and how to make a potion.



In Science, we have been understanding the different categories of animals. We have sorted animals into mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. We enjoyed our visit from The Animal Experience on Monday 9th February and got to see lots of different animals up close.

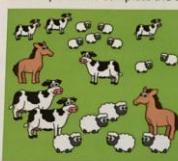
Year 2



In English this half term, we have been working hard on non-chronological reports. The children have been given a chance to plan and write their own non-chronological reports about a topic of their choice. We have also been looking at putting commas in a list and using subordinating conjunctions.

In Maths this half term, we have explored a wide range of topics. We began by completing our addition and subtraction unit, where they solved a variety of word problems to apply their learning. We then enjoyed a whistle-stop tour of statistics, learning about tally charts, block diagrams and tables. Most recently, the children have been developing their understanding of multiplication and division by practising different written methods and applying these to solve word problems.

Use the picture to complete the table.



3 The table shows the favourite ice cream flavours of children in Class 2

Flavour	strawberry	chocolate	vanilla	mint choc
Total	9	13	7	5

a) Which flavour is most popular?

✓ chocolate

b) How many children are there in Class 2?

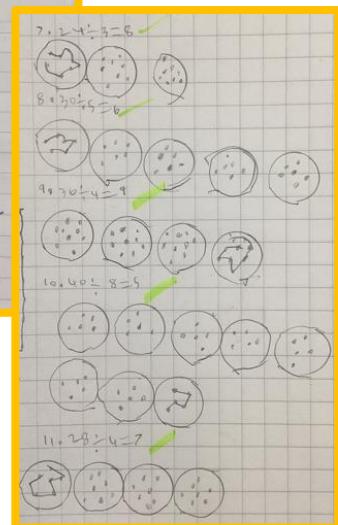
$$13+5+16 = 34$$

10+16 = 26

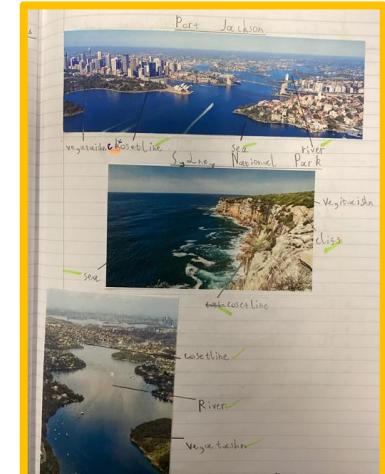
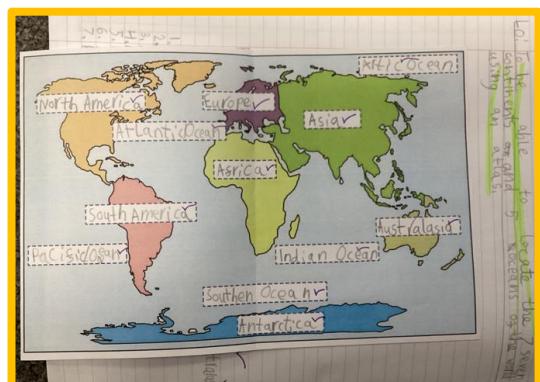
c) How many more children like chocolate best than like vanilla best?

$$13-7=6$$

✓ 6 ✓



In Geography this half term, the children have been building on their Year 1 learning by taking a closer look at Australia. They revised their knowledge of human and physical features and learned the names and locations of the seven continents and five oceans using an atlas. We then focused on Sydney, exploring its human and physical features, before comparing them with those of Cambridge. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout this topic and it has been wonderful to see how much the children can remember from last year!



Year 3



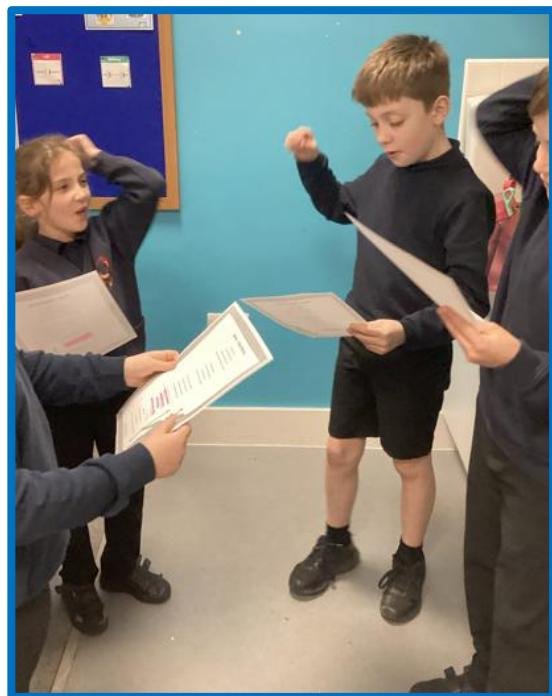
• In Spring term, the Year 3 children became young geologists as they explored the fascinating world beneath our feet. This hands-on topic focuses on identifying and classifying three main types of rocks: **sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic**, based on their appearance and physical properties. The children **investigated** how fossils are formed over millions of years, **experimented** with soil to understand how it is made from rocks and organic matter and **tested** rock durability and permeability through exciting classroom practical learning.

In English Reading Fluency, Year 3 have been enjoying learning some classic poetry by heart to perform aloud. They have used a variety of reading and oracy strategies to learn. They have enjoyed this greatly. It has been a delight to listen to!



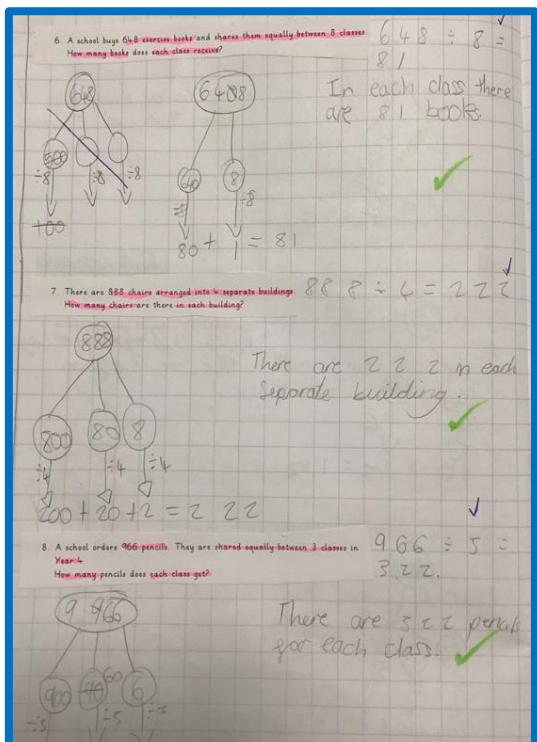
In DT, they have designed a balanced school lunch using the Eatwell Guide. The children used bread as a vital starchy carbohydrate for all-day energy. By picking wholegrain or wholemeal varieties of bread for extra fibre, they created a healthy sandwich. They then "balanced the plate" by adding: Protein (like ham), Dairy (like a yoghurt) and plenty of vegetables. The units continues with the children designing, baking and evaluating a variety of different breads to find which is the most suitable for the brief.

Year 4



This half term we have been focusing on our fluency in reading. We have explored a number of different text types, and learnt how to use intonation, enthusiasm and speed to improve our reading. Our favourite text was The Egyptian gods. This is also linked back to our unit on Ancient civilisations.

In Science we have had a lot of fun investigating electricity. We created simple electrical circuits, and investigated a variety of effective conductors and insulators. We were amazed at making the lamp glow brightly! As a year group, we discovered what happens when we change some of the components.



In maths, we have finished our multiplication and division unit focusing on three digit by one digit calculations. We secured our knowledge of using place value, times table recall, and part: whole models to support our mathematical thinking. We recently started our unit of work on fractions. We have learnt what a proper and improper fraction is, as well as using mixed numbers.

Year 5



In Science this half term, we have learned about space and how our understanding of the Universe has changed over time. As well as identifying the planets and other celestial bodies in our solar system, we have learned about the phases and topography of the Moon, why we experience day and night, and why the Sun appears to move across the sky.

This has tied in with our Theme work about Katherine Johnson's work at NASA, and how the Space Race played a key role in the Civil Rights Movement during the 1960s, helping to bring about an end to segregation in the United States of America. Our learning about space will feed directly into a new unit about Forces after the half-term break.

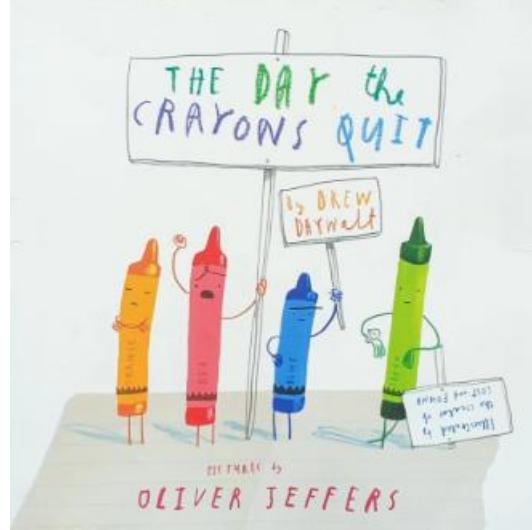
In Maths this half term, we have finished our unit on Shape and Perimeter, then moved on to Multiplication and Division. The children have learned how to multiply and divide any number - including decimals - by multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000. We have introduced long multiplication (multiplying up to 4-digit numbers by a 2-digit number using the column method). We have also learned about factors and multiples, and introduced prime, square and cube numbers. We will continue with multiplication and division after the half term break, linking our new learning back to previous units on fractions and perimeter, before introducing short division and the concept of area.



English this term has all been about newspaper reports. Year 5 have compared and contrasted many different reports whilst identifying the structure and layout. The children have worked hard to write short, snappy orientation paragraphs; write engaging sentences using relative embedded clauses, and adding extra information using parenthesis.

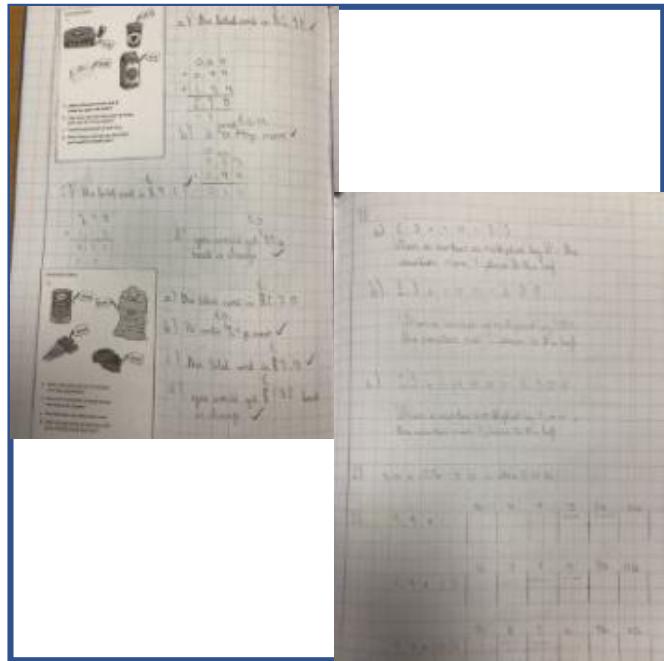
The children have enjoyed thinking of engaging stories that they could use to write their independent newspaper report.

Year 6



It has been lovely to welcome the children back; they have made a fantastic start to the year, demonstrating a focused and enthusiastic attitude toward their learning. In English, we have been exploring the art of persuasion and perspective by writing formal and informal letters based on the book, 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. The quality of writing has been wonderful, with pupils successfully extending their vocabulary choices to capture the unique voices of the disgruntled objects. From professional grievances to heartfelt pleas, their ability to adapt their writing style for different audiences has been a highlight of the term so far.

In Mathematics, we have hit the ground running with a deep dive into mastering fractions, where the children have shown great resilience in learning to multiply and divide fractions. We have also explored the world of Ratio, tackling complex word problems to calculate scale and proportion with accuracy. To sharpen our mental fluency, we have been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, and 1000, ensuring we are confident with place value shifts. Most recently, the class has been applying their calculation skills to decimals, perfecting the four operations—adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing—to solve multi-step problems.



In Science, our theme of Evolution and Inheritance has allowed the children to explore how living things have changed over millions of years. We began by identifying that offspring vary from their parents and that this variation is key to survival. The class has been fascinated by adaptation in plants and animals, investigating how specific traits—like a camel's hump or a cactus's spines—help them thrive in their environments. To organise this vast diversity of life, we have also mastered classification learning to group organisms into kingdoms and use classification keys to identify vertebrates, invertebrates, and microorganisms based on their unique characteristics.