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Hello everyone

Well done to **Year 4 who were excellent ambassadors for Thornton** during their visit to **Blakesley Hall** this week! They had a lot of fun learning about our local wildlife as they studied 'urban nature pollinators'. Please read more about this in the Year 4 section of this newsletter, and check out our school Twitter!



Next week, we are looking forward to **Year 5 visiting Ward End Library (5BA & 5TR on Tuesday and 5ZY & 5ST on Wednesday)**. The local library is a fantastic resource which we value highly. There is an online consultation meeting next week to discuss the **future of Ward End Library**—we have emailed you a link to the meeting which will be held online next **Wednesday 24th April from 10am to 11am** and everyone is welcome to join and share their thoughts. We encourage you to join the meeting!

On **Monday 29th April**, we are holding a **SEND Speech and Language Coffee Morning** in school from **9am until 10.30am**. If your child has speech and language needs, please come along and discuss what support your child is receiving in school and get the chance to speak with the professionals who are working with your child. We look forward to welcoming you!



Also, a reminder that **Thursday 2nd May is a Teacher Training Day** and the school will be closed to all pupils on that day. Pupils are expected to return to school on Friday 3rd May for a normal school day. Thank you.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher



## Article of the week—Care and Adoption

**Article 9 (separation from parents)** Children must not be separated from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interests (for example, if a parent is hurting or neglecting a child). Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents, unless this could cause them harm.

**Article 20 (children unable to live with their family)** If a child cannot be looked after by their immediate family, the government must give them special protection and assistance. This includes making sure the child is provided with alternative care that is continuous and respects the child's culture, language and religion.

**Article 21 (adoption)** Governments must oversee the process of adoption to make sure it is safe, lawful and that it prioritises children's best interests. Children should only be adopted outside of their country if they cannot be placed with a family in their own country.

**Article 25 (review of treatment in care)** If a child has been placed away from home for the purpose of care or protection (for example, with a foster family or in hospital), they have the right to a regular review of their treatment, the way they are cared for and their wider circumstances.



Illustration by Mahnoor 6ZB



Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace  
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason  
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone and Mrs Mazar  
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali

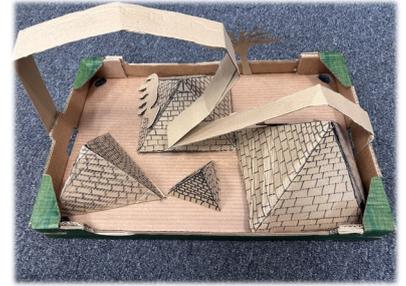


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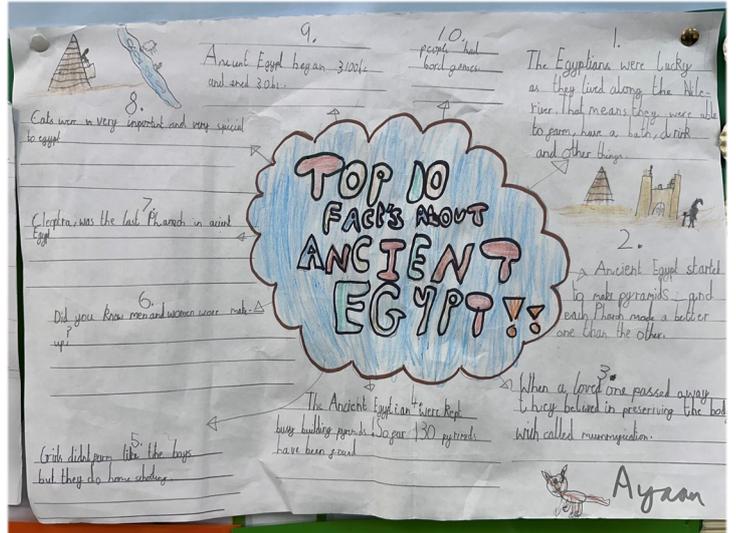
## Year 3



This half term, the children have been focusing on **'Ancient Egypt'** for their History topic. They have produced some amazing homework! Some children used their creative side and created Pyramids, whereas, some children used the internet to research facts about Ancient Egypt.



The teachers have been really impressed with those children who have completed their creative homework – well done from the Year 3 team!



## Year 4

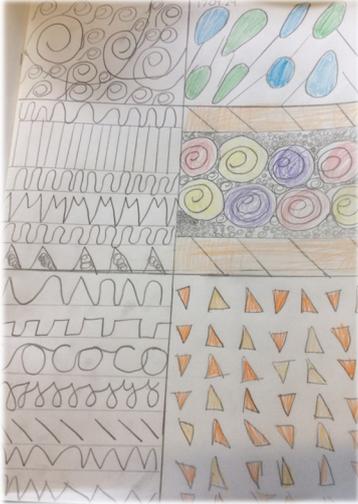
This week, Year 4 visited Blakesley Hall to learn about the importance of **pollinators in urban gardens**, specifically bees and birds, while exploring their new science topic **'Living things and their habitats'**.

The children participated in an Urban Nature Pollinators workshop delivered by a nature specialist. They delved into the life of bees, discovering how vital they are to the ecosystem and the threats to their survival. They took part in an educational game to visualise how damaging pesticides can be to bees. The children discussed the best ways to help bees survive and create their own Bee Hotel kit to take away.

Throughout the day, the children explored the garden of Blakesley Hall, where they discovered different animals, bugs and insects that thrive in Blakesley's own ecosystem.



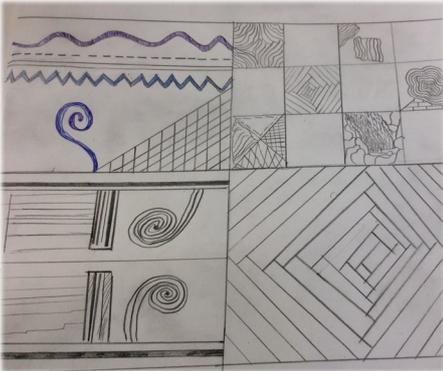
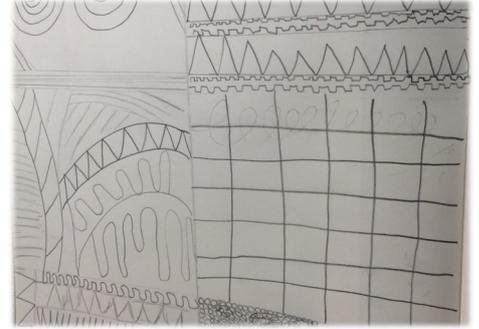
## Year 5



In Year 5's topic on **Benin**, the children have been exploring the wealth and creativity of the designs used by West Africans to decorate their fabrics.

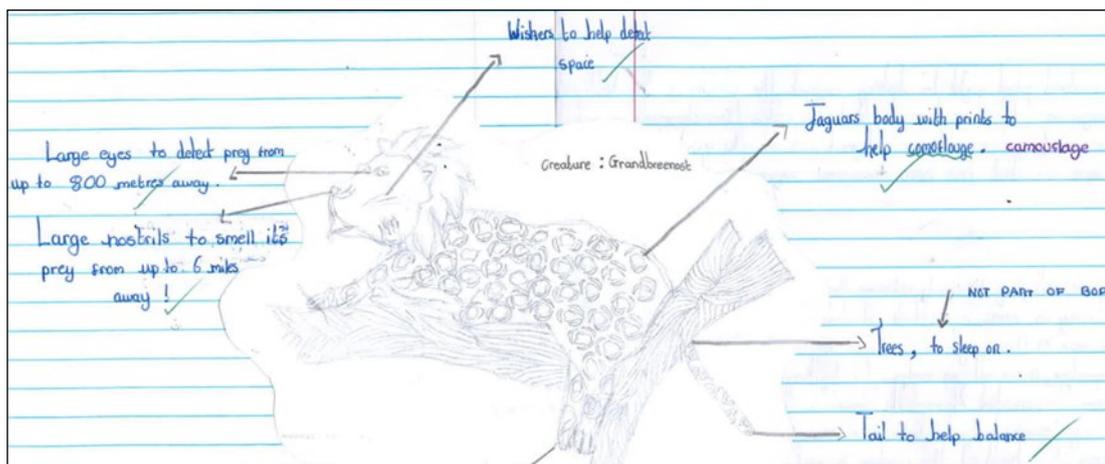
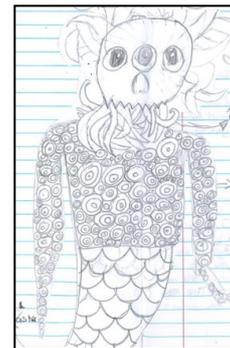
The children will be making printing blocks to create colourful patterns of their own. As a start, the children have looked at line and form, both geometric and organic and have made visual notes to support the design process.

Here some examples of their initial ideas from across the year group...



## Year 6

This week the Year 6 students have been busy writing their own **factions**. A faction is writing about something made up in the style of a non-fiction text. The children began by analysing a faction about a swamp monster and this inspired them to create their own creature. They had to choose a suitable habitat and use the vocabulary they had learnt during their Science lessons. Here are some wonderful examples.



## School Attendance Celebration Assembly

Today we celebrated our Spring term attendance. A huge congratulations to the **173 pupils** who won the Golden ticket 'Silver Award'. The pupils in year 3,4 and 5 were invited to a special celebration assembly and were awarded a prize and a certificate. Year 6 will be invited to a attendance celebration assembly after their SATs test week! Thank you to all the parents and carers for your support in ensuring that your child comes to school every day and on time.



## PE TIMETABLE

Monday 22nd April

Year 5

Tuesday 23rd April

Year 3

Wednesday 24th April

Year 4

Thursday 25th April

Year 6

Swimming for class 4TW

Friday 26th April

Swimming for class 4NG

## Ready, Respectful, Safe.

Each week we introduce a different word associated with our school's expectations to reinforce our school's ethos, which is to be ready, respectful and safe.

This week's word of the week is:

**'prepared'** - it is a word linked to one of our expectations, to be ready, but what does it mean?

"To be prepared means that you are ready for what is about to happen, especially your learning," Hammad 6MF.

I would agree with Hammad. By having the equipment you need, and perhaps having rehearsed how you will approach something in your mind, you can be prepared for whatever lies ahead.

Mr Mason

Deputy Headteacher

Ready  
Respectful  
Safe

You're invited to the  
**FINAL HOME GAME OF 2023/24**

**BIRMINGHAM CITY FOOTBALL CLUB** - 1875

**SHEFFIELD UNITED F.C.** 1899

SUNDAY 21 APRIL | KICK-OFF 2PM

ST. ANDREW'S  
WINDLESHAW PARK

**NEED TICKETS?**

SCAN HERE TO REDEEM A MAXIMUM OF FOUR FREE TICKETS PER PERSON.

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