

Hello everyone



Thank you to everyone for helping make some special, fun memories today on our **Platinum Jubilee party day** today!

Everyone had a fantastic time sharing in our whole school picnic outdoors as we were blessed with dry, sunny weather. A special thank you to our school chef, Darren, for providing everyone with a celebratory Platinum Jubilee cup cake, as well as jelly and ice cream.

The children have loved having their photo taken in the **royal selfie photo booth** this week, and we were delighted that many of you seized the opportunity to get your photo

taken today too! **We will share some more photos of our special party with you in the next newsletter...and watch out for those Royal Guards!**

Good luck to Year 4 who will be busy practising their times tables this holiday as they get ready to show everyone how hard they have worked when they take part in the statutory **multiplication tables check** in the first few weeks after the holiday. We hope the loan of a device from school helps get that little bit of extra practice in to boost their confidence!

We are looking forward to seeing the **creative homework** that the children will be working on over the holidays as they prepare for their final topic of this academic year. We are always blown away by their talents!

And finally, just to give you some advance notice that we will be holding our final **parents' evenings** of the year at school next half term, face to face. We will send out more details about this, including how to book your appointment, after the holiday.

Don't forget, we break up for ONE week's holiday today (Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June). The **children will return to school on Monday 6th June from 8.30am** for the usual daily catch up sessions. ALL children MUST be in school by 8.45am - punctuality is important in helping your child settle quickly into the start of each school day!

Have a great holiday everyone and an extra BIG thank you to our **#thorntonfamily** for all your hard work and care this term. Enjoy the sunshine!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher



Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone,
Mrs Mazar, Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali

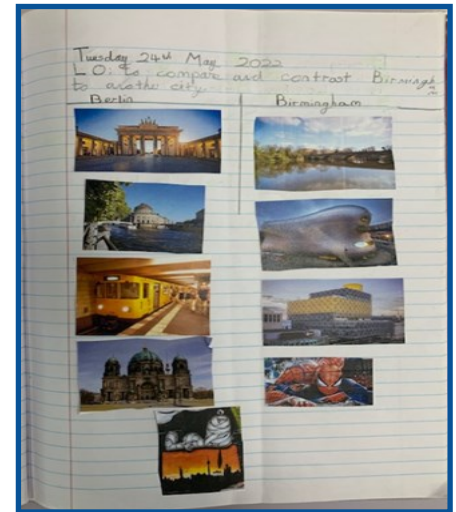
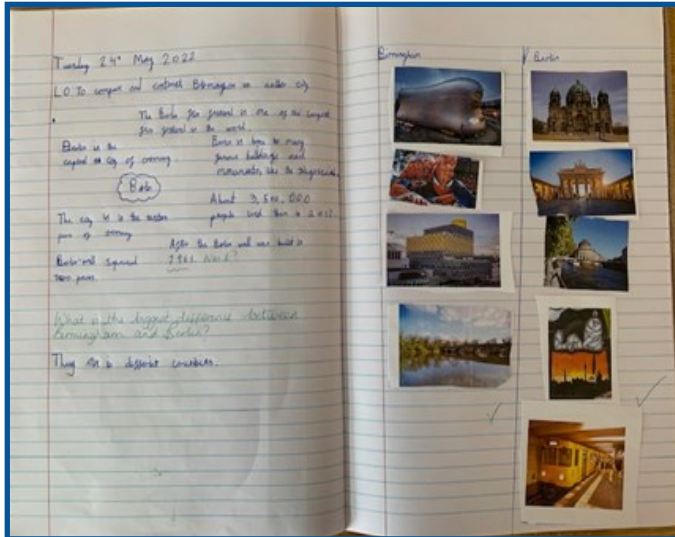


Thornton Road
Ward End,
Birmingham B8 2LQ
0121 327 0824

enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk
Twitter— @Thornton0wls

Year 3

During our **Urban Pioneers** topic lesson this week, Year 3 have been comparing Birmingham with Berlin. We looked at the similarities and differences between the two cities. We compared landmarks in Birmingham, such as The Library of Birmingham, Bullring and St Martin's Church to famous landmarks in Berlin such as Brandenburg Gate, The Berlin Wall and the Reichstag Building. We also compared transport systems, street art and famous rivers between the two cities.

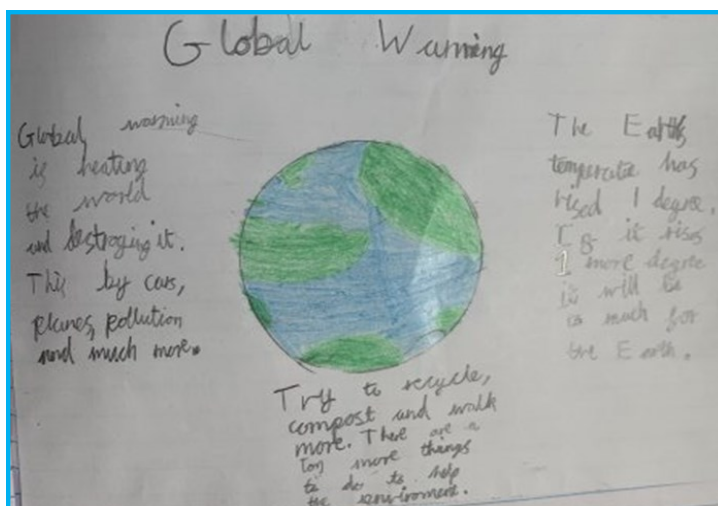


Year 4

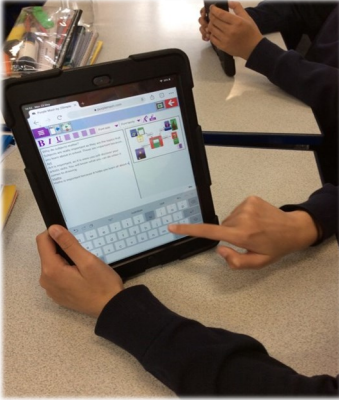


Across our Science and Topic lessons this week, we have been finding out about the causes of **global warming and climate change** as well as coming up with solutions and changes (both big and small) that we can make to lessen the damage.

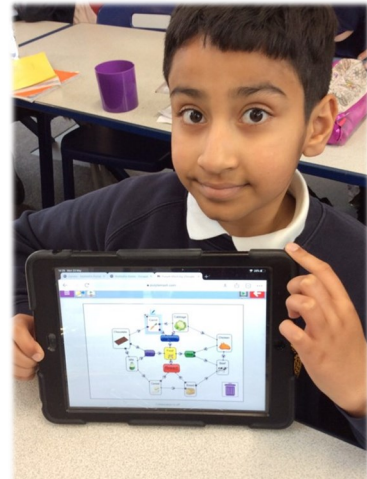
Did you know that if we don't act now, up to 30% of the Earth's wildlife could become extinct? After we defined key vocabulary, we made persuasive posters to help spread our message. **Let's all aim to do our part to protect the planet.**



Year 5

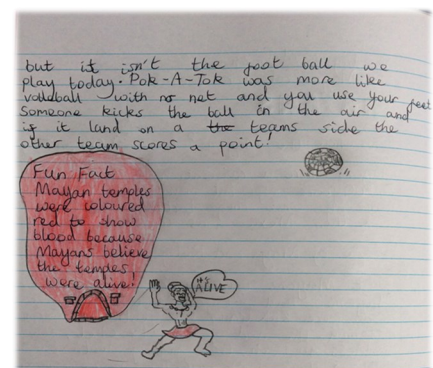
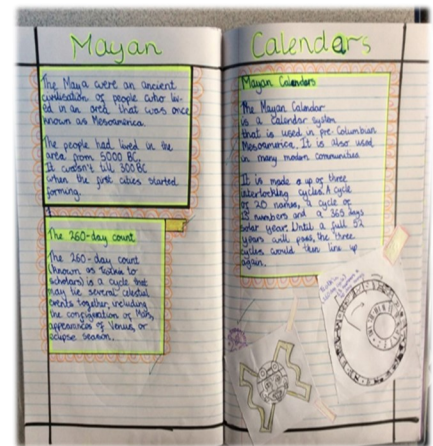
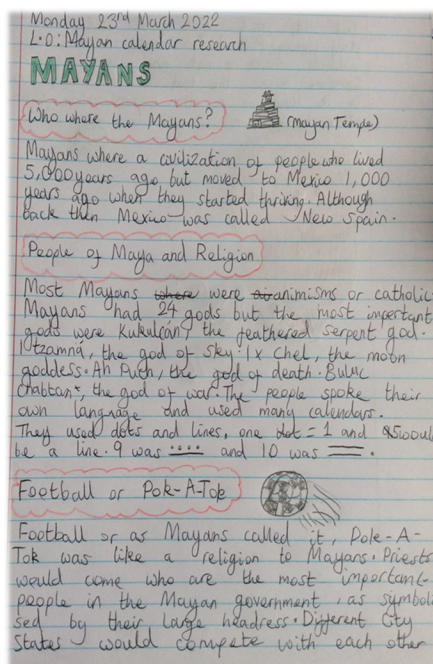
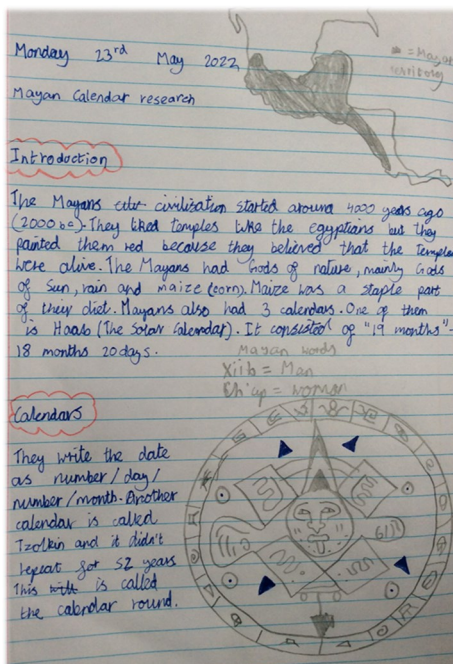


In Computing, Year 5 are discovering what **concept mapping** is. Before they did this, they had to establish what a 'concept' is. We agreed that a concept is an idea in the form of a question. For example, 'How do we know that the Earth is spherical?' As a class, 5ZY created a concept map asking a very topical question, 'Why should we care for the environment?' The children activated their prior knowledge to come up with some ideas. They then created their individual concept maps based on their own questions. Here are a few examples:



Year 6

This week in topic, Year 6 carried out some research on **Mayan Civilisation**. By the end of the lesson, the children found out that the Mayans used 20-day months and had two calendar years: the 260-day called Sacred Round, or tzolkin, and the 365-day called haab. The 260-day count was used to determine important activities related to the gods and humans.



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: '**deference**'

"You can show deference or respect by listening to other people, you could also say please and thank you, and you can also not throw rubbish on the floor"
(Selina, 3EB)

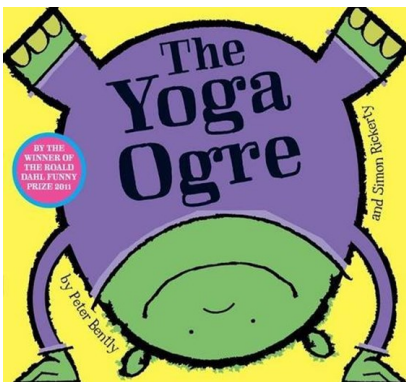
As Selina has explained, deference does indeed mean to show respect. At Thornton we expect respect to be shown towards others by pupils and adults. This is a key part of our behaviour policy, which helps ensure that everyone shows respect between others.

Ready

Respectful

Safe

Thornton Staff Book Review



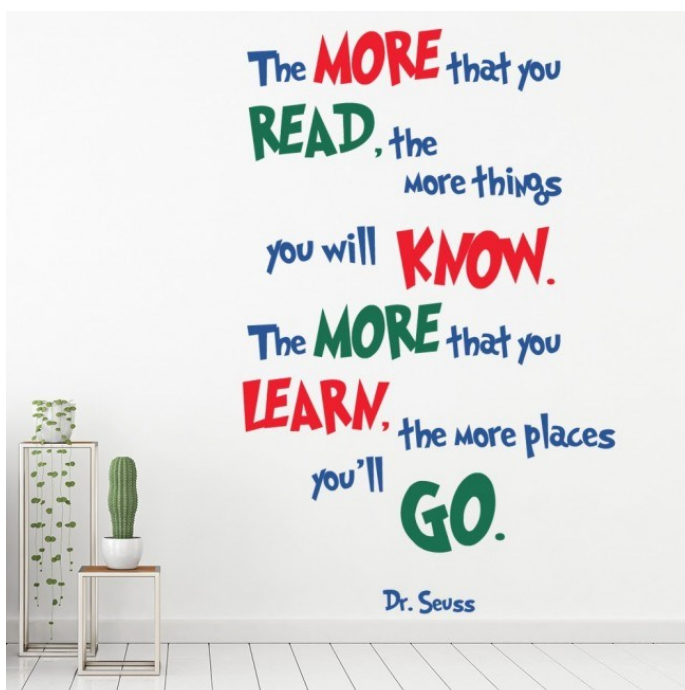
The Yoga Ogre by Peter Bently and Simon Rickerty

The Yoga Ogre is a book that I have recently enjoyed reading to my five-year-old son. It is rare that books written for the younger age groups make me laugh, but this was one that had both my son and myself laughing aloud. The book follows the story of Ogden the ogre who is determined to lose weight after he discovers that he no longer fits in to his pyjamas. As the reader, you then follow Ogden on his quest to become leaner and fitter.

However, there is a problem. All the sports and activities that activities Ogden tries seem to result in him accidentally damaging his hometown. Even trying Yoga results in a cracked wall and a demolished ceiling. The beautiful pictures, clever rhyme, and carefully selected wording mean that this is a book that I can highly recommend sharing with any 4 – 6-year-old.

Mr Mason - Deputy Headteacher

Reading Study



In the 1990s, reading pioneer **Keith Stanovich** and his colleagues conducted dozens of reading studies to assess the relationship between cognitive skills, vocabulary, factual knowledge, and exposure to certain fiction and non-fiction authors. They used the Author Recognition Test (ART), results found that avid readers, had 50% increased vocabulary and 50% more fact-based knowledge.

Reading both predicts and contributes to those skills, according to **Donald Bolger**, a human development professor at the University of Maryland who researches how the brain learns to read. "It's like a snowball effect". "The better you are at reading, the more words you learn. The more words you learn, the better you are at reading and comprehending, especially things that would have been outside your domain of expertise."

Mrs McPherson - Assistant Headteacher

Council Tax Rebate

Birmingham City council has started to pay the £150 Council Tax Rebate to households in council tax bands A to D. Families who are currently paying their council tax bill by direct debit will automatically receive their rebate.

Families who don't pay by direct debit should apply for the rebate, [please click here](#).



Healthy Snacks

Children can bring a nut free healthy snack to have at break time. For example, a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar. Strictly **NO** nuts are allowed in school as we have children with severe nut allergies. Please do not send your child to school crisps and chocolates.

Break time snacks really help to give the children a boost of energy until lunchtime!
Make sure your child does bring a piece of fruit in for mid morning break.



Registration for Entrance Test - The Grammar Schools in Birmingham

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for The Grammar Schools in Birmingham for entry to Year 7 in September 2023. Registration can be made online by visiting the website below.

<https://www.birminghamgrammarschools.org/apply-onlineapp.php>

The closing date for registering is **4pm on 30th June 2022**.

The test will take place on **17th September 2022**.

*The Grammar Schools
in Birmingham*



Bishop Vesey's
Grammar School
"Inspiration & Excellence"



THE SCHOOLS OF
KING EDWARD VI
IN BIRMINGHAM
"In pursuit of educational excellence for all"



SUTTON COLDFIELD
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FOR GIRLS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

Summer Term 1 2022

Term Ends: **Friday 27th May 2022**

**Half Term: Monday 30th May to
Friday 3rd June**

Summer Term 2 2022

Term Starts: **Monday 6th June 2022**

Term Ends: **Thursday 21st July 2022**



School Meals

Changing from dinners to sandwiches? or vice-versa? We are sorry but you can only change at the start of each term and not mid term. Please call the office at the beginning of the term if you wish to change your child's dinner preference so that we can make the necessary changes to our records and inform the school kitchen.

Payments

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week. If you are having any issues with payment please contact the school office for support.

Dinner money must be paid in advance and is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week.

Breakfast Club must be paid in advance and is £1 per day and 50p for any siblings.



ParentPay

School Attendance

Year 6 Attendance Challenge

Congratulations to **6NI** who won two golden tickets by achieving 97% and above for two consecutive weeks. 6NI were surprised with a special visit from Mr Mason and Mrs McPherson with a £50 gift voucher. 6NI received £50 gift voucher to spend on new classroom resources or VIP experience .



Year 4 Attendance Challenge

YEAR 4 Attendance challenge board will be introduced to encourage all the Year 4 classes to improve their attendance and to win the Golden Tickets!

Look out for the attendance challenge board in the school dinning hall.

The challenge will run across two school weeks and will start on **Monday 13th June** until **Friday 25th June**. The classes in Year 4 will need to achieve the school attendance target of **97%** and above each week to earn a golden ticket.

To qualify for the Year 4 attendance challenge reward 4MJ,4SH,4GJ, and 4TW will need to collect 2 golden tickets! Mrs Grace will announce the reward next term. **Good Luck Year 4!**

Week commencing 9th May our whole school attendance was 97.5%

WOW! Our best weekly attendance this academic year!

Our whole school attendance last week was 93.2%



Summer Term Golden Ticket Gold Award

Our final Summer Term Golden Ticket Gold Award can be won by pupils who will achieve 100% attendance for the whole academic year. Mrs Grace has proudly organised an exciting attendance day trip to:

Twinlakes Theme Park on Monday 4th July.

PE TIMETABLE

Look out for the golden ticket winners' invites next term!

Well done to all the pupils who have attended school every day on time.

Good Luck Everyone!



Monday 6th June

Year 3

Tuesday 7th June

Year 5

Wednesday 8th June

Year 4

Thursday 9th June

Year 6

**Friday 10th June
Swimming for classes
5BA & 5ST**

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar,
Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali

Thornton Road
Ward End,
Birmingham B8 2LQ
0121 327 0824
enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk
Twitter- @Thornton0wls

