



Hello everyone

Welcome back **#thorntonfamily**! I am sure that you share with me the overwhelming feeling of joy that all the children have finally returned to school! We were blown away by our 95% attendance on Monday and outstanding punctuality. On behalf of the staff and Governors, I would like to thank every parent and carer and the children for getting to school on time and ready to learn this week—that is no mean feat!

This week, we were rewarded with the children throwing themselves into the work planned for their reconnection curriculum. They have been enthusiastically exploring books written by the Kate Greenaway Medal winner **Shaun Tan**. Staff have been super impressed with the resilience the children have displayed during in-depth discussions relating to emotions and seeing the positive in different situations.

Next week, we will continue to prioritise **wellbeing and mental health** as we start to reintroduce a more formal approach to our curriculum when we return to the normal timetable. Additional sessions are planned during the week so the children have the opportunity to continue to strengthen their mental health and build on this week's really positive start.

Of course, we cannot ignore the possibility that Covid-19 is still a very real threat to the **closure of class bubbles**. We will only close a class bubble if we receive confirmation of a positive Covid-19 test result. We hope this will not happen as we are continuing our stringent health and safety measures to reduce transmission and maximise hygiene. If, however, we do need to close a class bubble, we will let you know immediately. Fortunately, we are now in a position to be able to issue every child who would need to isolate in the class bubble for 10 days with a DfE loaned laptop so that learning can continue. Our plan is to continue with the great work we have established using Google Classroom and daily Google Meets so that no learning time will be lost.

Thank you to everyone who has managed to complete our **survey about the remote learning** we provided during lockdown. If you haven't completed the survey yet, please check you email for a link. Thank you. We will share the results with you next week once everyone has had a chance to complete it.

For all those parents and carers that are entitled to Free School Meals (FSM), please be reassured that Birmingham City Council is going to provide you with **FSM e-vouchers for the two week Easter holidays**. You will receive an email in the week beginning 22nd March with the code for you to use to redeem the voucher. We'll remind you nearer the date!

And finally, thank you for sending the children into school looking super smart in their **school uniform**. If anybody needs support with uniform, please telephone the school and ask to speak to Ms Devi, our Pastoral Manager, and we will see how we can help you. Please also note that Ms Devi has a fantastic free clothes bank on site that has a range of pre-worn clothing in very good condition that will fit most of our children—please speak to her if you would like to take advantage of this.

Have a lovely, restful weekend and stay safe,

Cathy Grace, Acting Headteacher

Acting Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace  
Assistant Headteachers - Miss Loach,  
Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar

Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali  
Vice-Chair of Governors—Mr Johur Uddin



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# Lockdown Learners of the Week



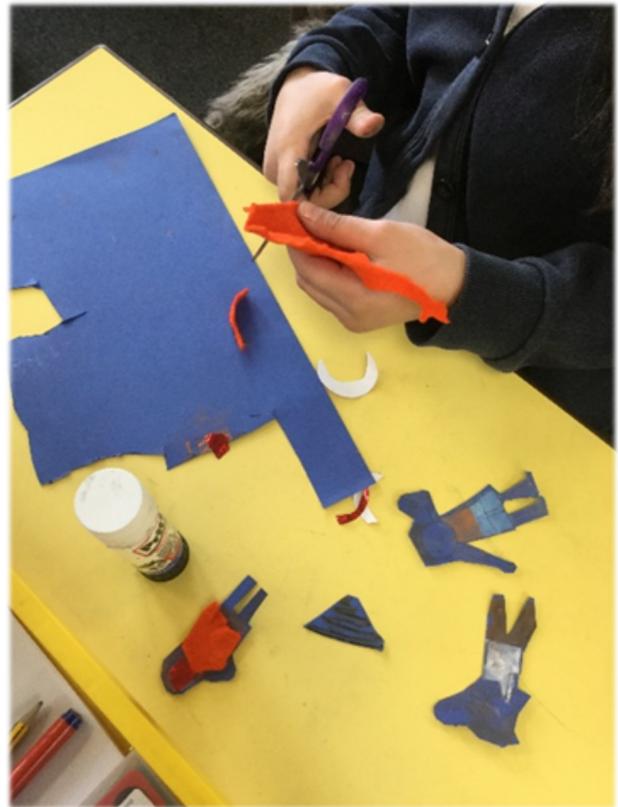
W/C—05/03/2021— These children received special post cards from their teachers to celebrate the excellent work they have been doing on Google Classroom and remote learning work packs. **WELL DONE EVERYONE!**



3EB	Yahya
3AH	Haseeb
3MJ	Siline
3SQ	Anah
4SH	Inaaya
4TW	Eesa
4GJ	Inaaya Jennah
4AB	Isa
4DR	Eliza
5BA	Amaan Muskaan
5ZY	Maira Saif
5NG	Jean- Christian
5ST	Amina
5TR	Ibrahim Danyal
6NI	Aleezah Alexandra Zakariya
6HJ	Alveena Hooriya
6MF	Sulaiman Sameer
6ZB	Aaliyah
6HB	Ishbah Abdur Rahman



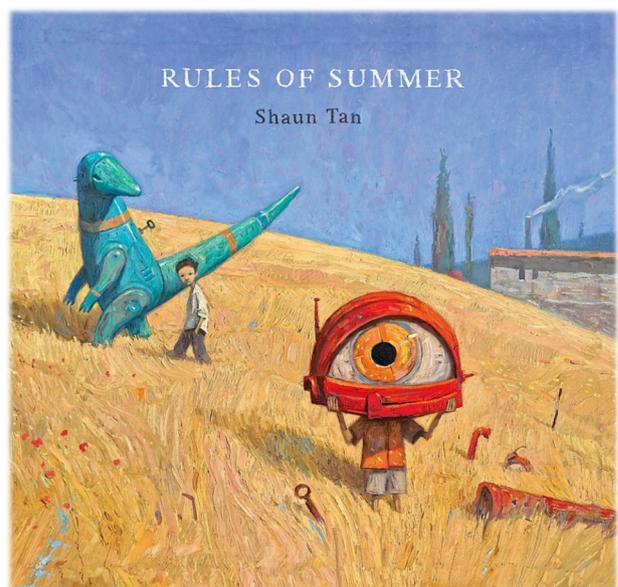
## Year 3



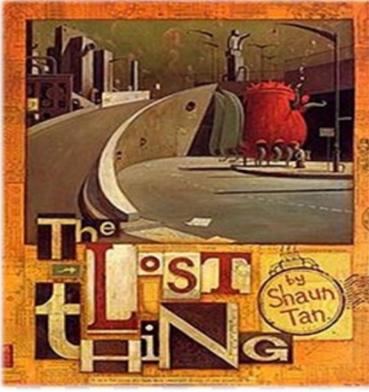
**In Year 3, we have been looking at a Shaun Tan book called "Rules of Summer". We are creating puppets for our very own puppet show!**

**We used card to draw our puppets on, pastels to colour them in and then we added sequins and felt to decorate! They have turned out really well!**

**By the end of the week, we will have also created the theatre stage for our puppet show and we will perform a scene from the story.**



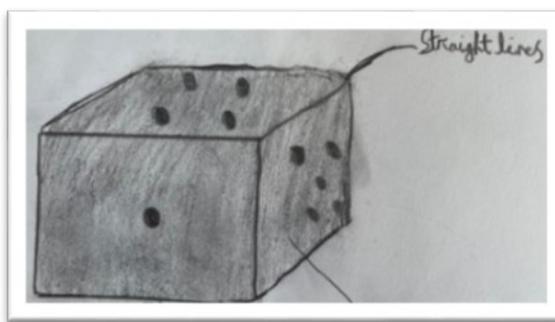
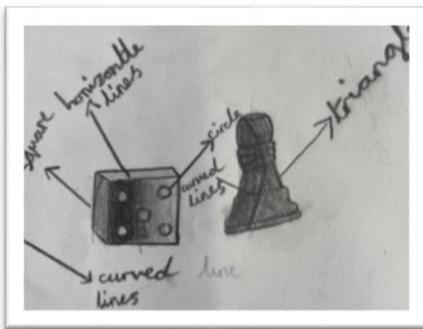
## Year 4



Year 4 have focused on The Shaun Tan picture book 'The Lost Thing'. We used our imaginations to predict what could happen in the story. We also analysed the illustrations to understand what might be happening in each picture.

During our Guided Reading lessons, we worked in pairs to sequence the pictures to create our own story about The Lost Thing. We worked collaboratively to sequence the story and used our listening skills when our peers were sharing their stories with the class.

Each afternoon, we focused on our drawing skills. We began by drawing using our sense of touch. We could not see the objects we were drawing but we felt for the different lines and shapes. During another lesson, we looked carefully at the different objects to identify the 2D shapes we could see and used this skill to draw like an artist. By the end of the week we all designed our own Lost Thing using a range of different materials to collage different effects.



If you would like to watch the animation of The Lost Thing, please scan the QR codes below.

Part one

<https://watchkin.com/606472af87>



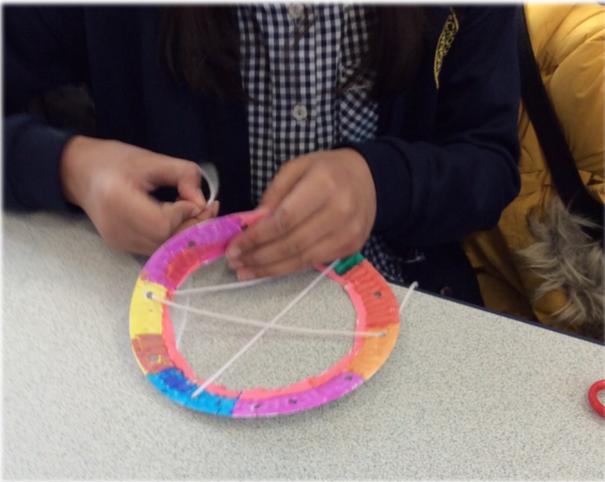
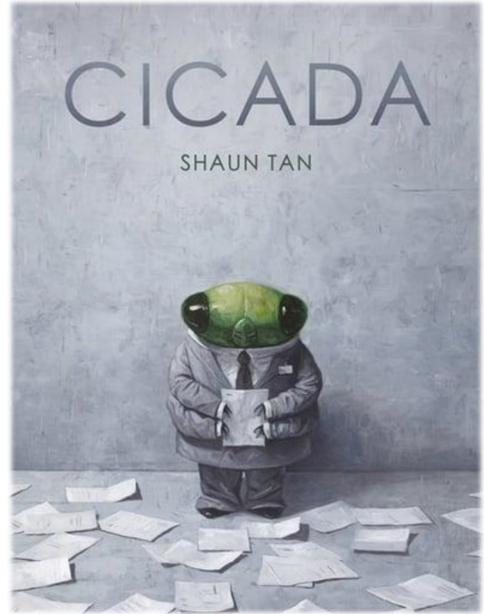
Part two

<https://watchkin.com/4ba4fd6c64>

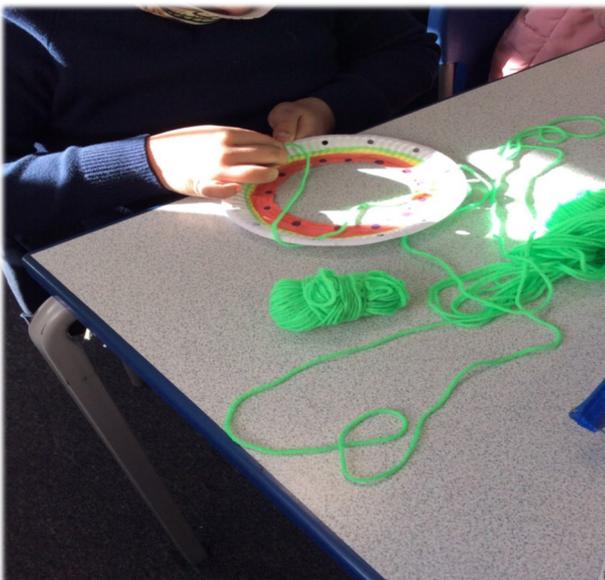


## Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been looking at the book '[Cicada](#)' by [Shaun Tan](#). The children have used images from the text to create their own model of Cicada. They have used a range of colouring techniques to achieve their final creation. The Year 5 children have thoroughly enjoyed discussing and learning about the text.



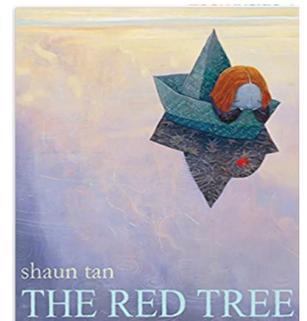
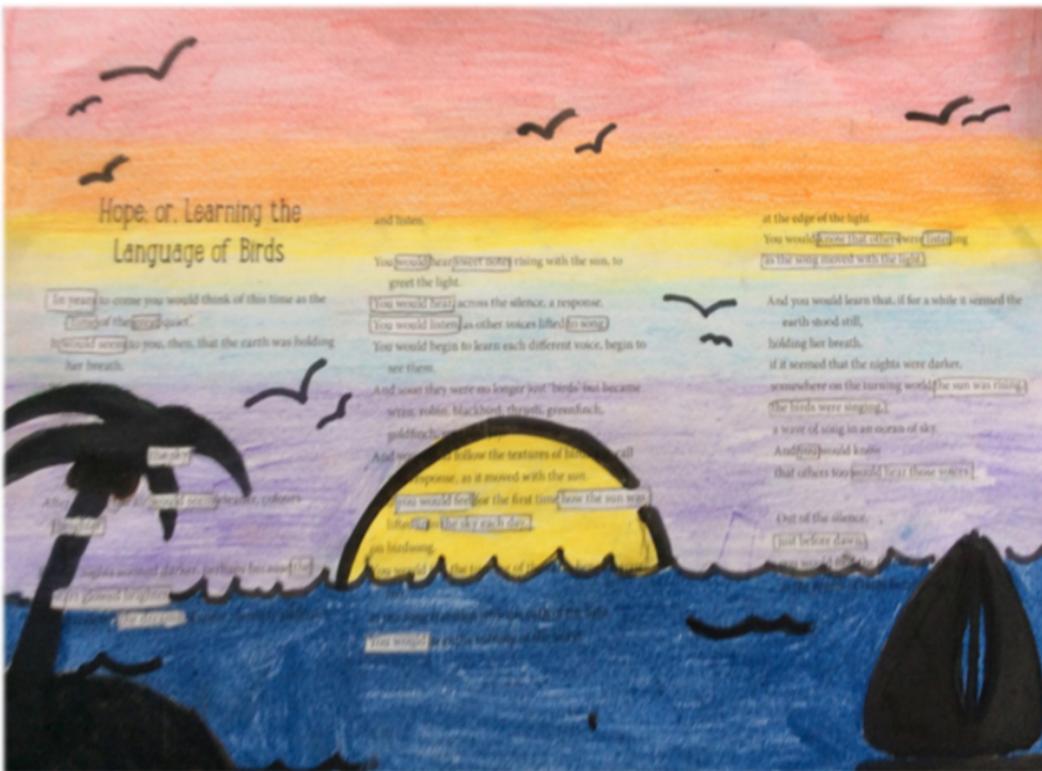
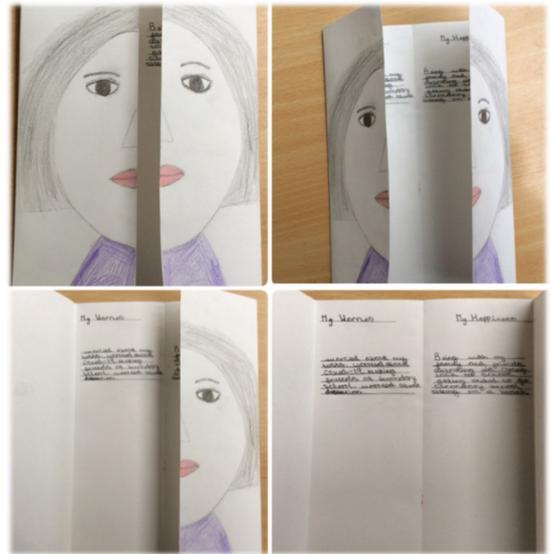
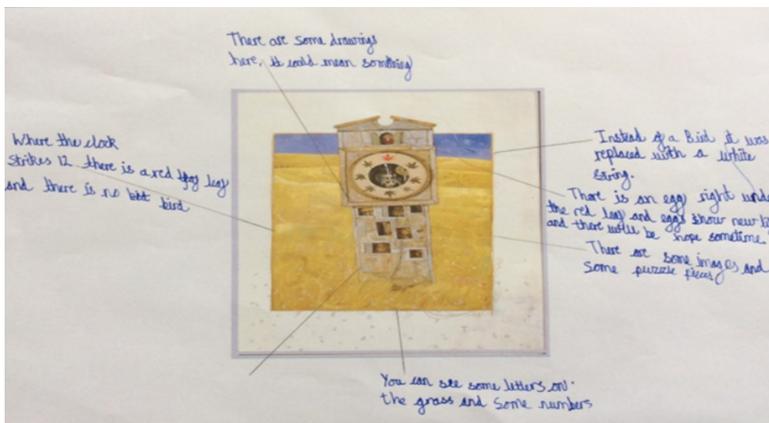
The dream catchers are part of a PSHE lesson about hope. The children explored what they think hope is and what it means to them. They made a dream catcher to capture their hopes and dreams.



## Year 6

A warm welcome back to all the year 6 pupils.

This week we have focused on the book 'The Red Tree' written and wonderfully illustrated by Shaun Tan. It has been a very creative week and pupils have had the opportunity to become book detectives-where they analysed pages from the 'The Red Tree' for clues on how the protagonist's feelings change through the course of her journey. Pupils also participated in drama during a 'hot seating' activity and created some inspirational 'black out' poetry relating to hope. Pupils participated in many art activities including creating a collage, practising the technique of 'drawing in' and writing messages of their hopes for our display. A great effort by the year 6 pupils, keep up the great work!



## Epic Library



Music



Our Solar System



Ecosystems & Habitats



Electricity



Chapter Books & Novels



Fables, Folktales & Myths

Have you tried the amazing virtual library at <https://www.getepic.com/> yet?

Get the class code from your teacher and log in to your account to get access to thousands of books on a whole range of topics. There are fact books and fiction tales; comics, poetry and read-aloud books; funny, scary informative or mysterious books. Whatever you're interested in, you should be able to find lots to enjoy!



Biography



Explorers



Animal Adaptation



Art

## School Attendance

We are pleased to announce that our school attendance was **95% on Monday 8th March**. Thank you so much for your fantastic support with sending your child/ren to school everyday!

Mrs Grace and the staff are very impressed with the excellent punctuality. The children have been arriving to school on time ready to learn everyday. Well done!

Please help us to continue to improve our school attendance by sending your child/ren to school every day, as long as they are well enough to attend or have not been asked to self-isolate.

### Reporting Absence to school

Please can you contact the school office to Inform us of the reason for your child's absence. Parents/carers please give school as much information as possible about your child's absence.

Please ring the school office on 0121 327 0824—our lines open from 8am .



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



## PE TIMETABLE

W/C 15th March

Year 4

Monday 15th March

Year 6

Tuesday 16th March

Year 3

Wednesday 17th March

Year 5

Thursday 18th March

6NI ONLY

Friday 19th March

### E-Safety Advice for Parents

During the recent lockdown, some pupils were using certain apps to message each other. They should not be using any of these apps. Information has been shared with us and we know that some of the messages were not appropriate or polite. Messages of this nature can impact negatively on pupil's mental health and well-being and can raise serious safeguarding concerns also. Please click the link below to view more information

[Click here to view the documents](#)

## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2021

Term Starts : **Monday 22 February 2021**  
Term Ends: **Thursday 1 April 2021**

### Easter holiday:

**Friday 2 April 2021 to Friday 16 April 2021**

### Summer Term 2021

**Teacher Training Day: Monday 19 April 2021**

Term Starts: **Tuesday 20 April 2021**

**Teacher Training Day: Thursday 6 May 2021**

Term Ends: **Friday 28 May 2021**

### May Half Term holiday:

**Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021**

Term Starts: **Monday 7 June 2021**

Term Ends: **Tuesday 20 July 2021**

**Teacher Training Day: Wednesday 21 July 2021**



## School Meals

If you would like to change your child's meal option, please remember this can only be changed at the start of each term. You must contact the school office prior to doing so. **Dinner money must be paid in advance and is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week.**



### Club Payment

**Please ensure Breakfast Club and Afterschool club payments are paid in advance using ParentPay. Thank you.**

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