

Hello everyone,

This week we had the pleasure of seeing **Year 5's Diwali assembly**. At such a dark time of the year it was great to have a celebration of light, poetry, singing, dancing and storytelling. The standard of the performance was very high. **Well done to all the Y5 pupils and staff for brightening up our Thursday morning** – you shone.



Also, well done to all pupils who participated in our weeklong **Times Table Rockstars competition** which ended on Monday. A particular mention needs to go to **3ST, 4AA, 5TR and 6HB** who were the **top scoring classes** in their respective year groups. There were also some fantastic individual performances. Please look out in next week's newsletter for these children's names.



Thanks also to all the parents who attended today's **Year 6 SATs parents' workshop**. Our success at Thornton is built on teamwork and we do really appreciate your support as the pupils prepare for their summer exams.



Next week is just as busy. **On Monday at 9am our local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)** will be holding a parent meeting in the hall to discuss youth anti-social behaviour, gangs and knife culture. **Over Monday and Tuesday Year 3 classes will be visiting Burney Lane Church** as part of the Religious Education curriculum. To end the week, we will be holding **a parents phonics workshop at 9am on Friday**. This is a great opportunity to discover how we can work together to support our early readers.

Here are a few important dates for you:

**Monday 1 December 9-9.30am**

**PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) parent workshop about our local area for all parents/carers**

**Monday 1 December**

**Year 3 Church Visit 3MJ&3ST**

**Tuesday 2 December**

**Year 3 Church Visit 3ZY&3SQ**

**Friday 5 December 9-10am**

**Phonics Parent Workshop for parents/carers of children receiving extra phonics support (individual invitations to be sent out)**

**Monday 8 December 8.45-9.30am**

**Year 4 Healthy Sleep Workshop for Year 4 parents/carers**

**Thursday 11 December**

**Christmas Jumper Day (or wear your favourite jumper!)**

**Tuesday 16 December**

**Year 5 Christmas dinner (children only)**

**Year 3 Christmas dinner with Y3 parents/carers**

**Year 4 Christmas dinner (children only)**

**Year 6 Christmas dinner (children only)**

**Wednesday 17 December**

**Year 3 Nativity Assembly for all Year 3 parents/carers**

**Friday 19 December 9-10am**

**Last day before the TWO WEEK Christmas holidays start!**

**Friday 19 December**

**Staff Training Day 3—school closed to ALL children**

**Monday 5 January 2026**

**School opens for ALL children**

**Tuesday 6 January 8.45am**

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing you at the gate next week.

Mr Mason, Deputy Headteacher



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

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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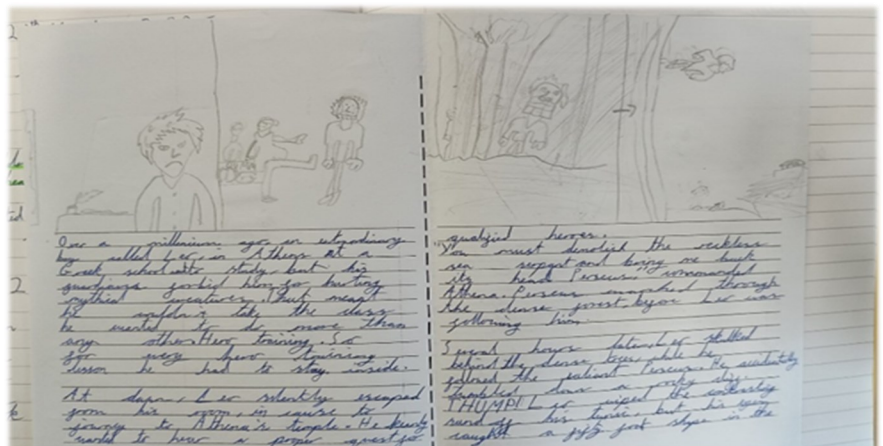
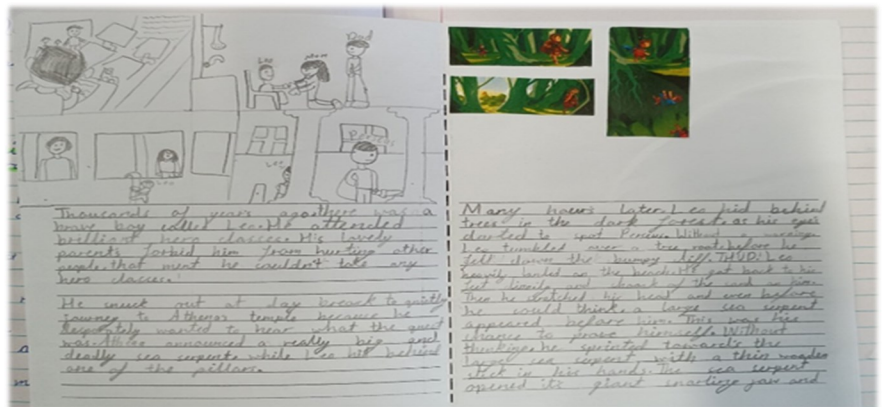
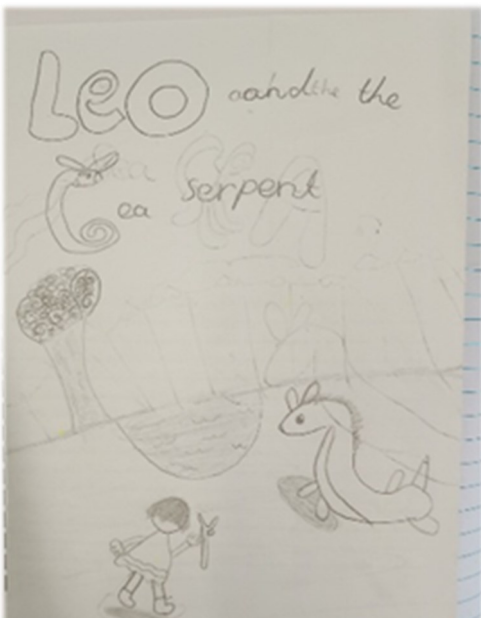
## Year 3

Year 3 have been busy in their D.T. lessons this week, working hard to develop their **sewing skills, using a needle and thread**. Children have been learning how to make Christmas decorations, which they can hang on a door or wall. They carefully followed the step by step instructions to sew, fill and decorate the hanging snowmen or Christmas trees. Everyone was very impressed with their own sewing skills!



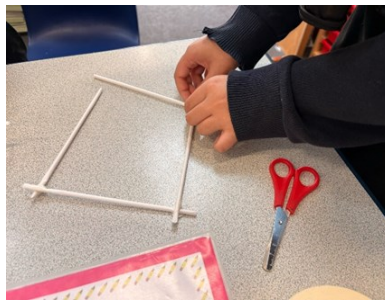
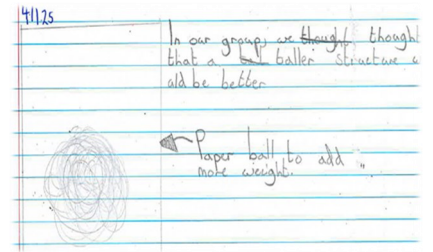
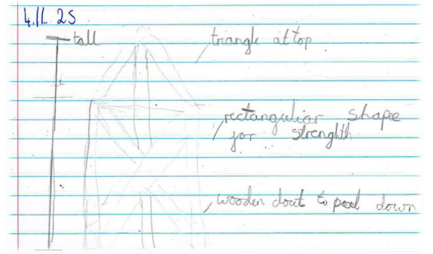
## Year 4

Last week, the children **redrafted and published their own retelling of Leo and the Gorgon's curse**. They designed their own front cover and illustrations to compliment the fantastic writing they produced.



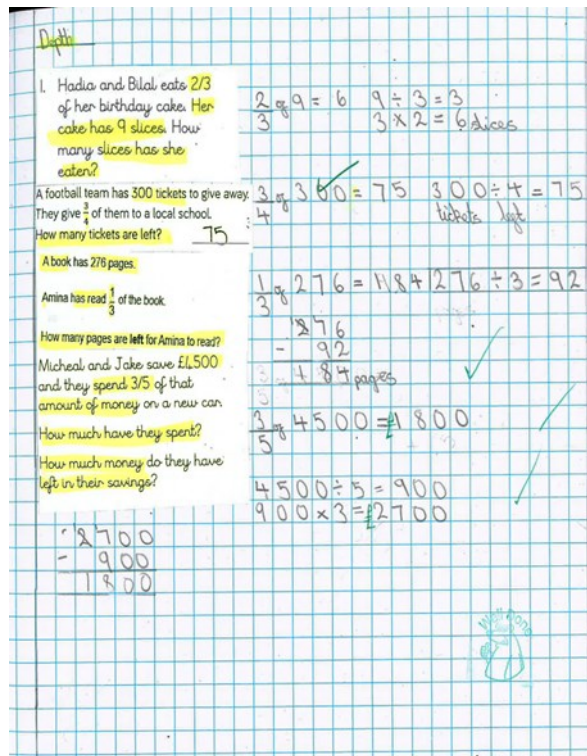
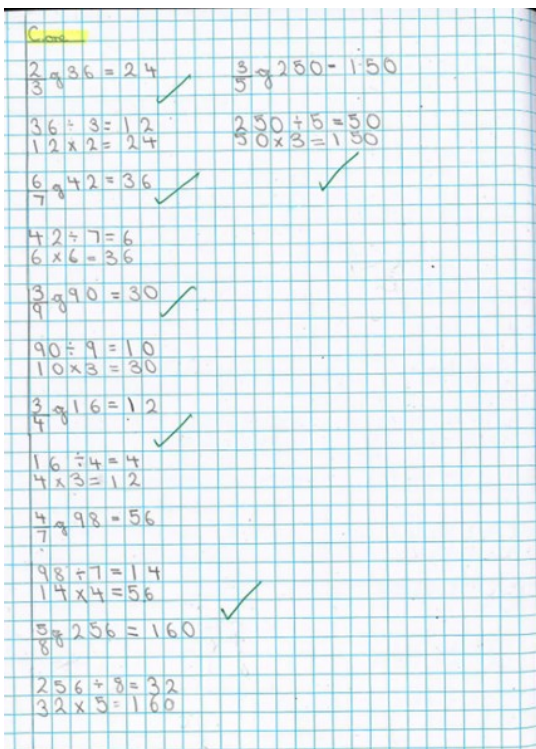
## Year 5

This half term in Year Five, we have researched **how architects create structures to withstand earthquakes, leading up to us designing and making our own models**, using these engineering principles. We innovated on our plans as well as designs we had previously explored to include elements of base isolation, tuned dampeners and more to produce our structure. We are looking forward to testing them to see how we did!



## Year 6

This week in Year 6 we have been learning about **fractions and how to find fractions of a number**. The children learnt that the word 'of' in the statement  $\frac{6}{9}$  of 63 means to multiply the fraction by the whole number. However, children can also use another method to help them. They can divide the number 63 by 9 (denominator) and then multiply it by 6 (numerator). The children had a go at the core skill and then attempted the depth skill and tried to solve problems linked to finding fractions of a number. Have a look at some of the work that Year 6 have been doing in the maths lesson.



## PE TIMETABLE

## Monday 1st December

Year 4

## Tuesday 2nd December

Swimming for 4TW and 4AA

**Wednesday 3rd December**  
**Year 3**

Thursday 4th December

Year 5

**Friday 5th December**  
**Year 6**

## School Attendance

**Our school attendance last week was**  
**92.2%**

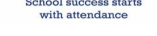
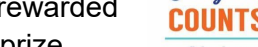
## Class Attendance

Congratulations to classes **5ST** who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above for last week!

## The Magic 10 Raising Attendance and Punctuality Project Celebration Assembly

The pupils who successfully improved their attendance and punctuality during the two school weeks were invited to a celebration assembly. Mr Mason rewarded the pupils with a certificate and a prize.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for ensuring the pupils arrived to school everyday and on time.



*Every day*  
**COUNTS!** 

School success starts  
with attendance

## Golden Ticket Initiative

**Autumn Term Bronze Award** – Pupils need to achieve 97% and above in the Autumn Term to get a golden ticket and a treat! Mr Mason will be announcing exciting details of the reward later this term...

We are pleased to announce we currently have **240** pupils who are on track to achieve the **Bronze Golden Ticket**.



## ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

On 3<sup>rd</sup> December we celebrate International Day of People with Disabilities.

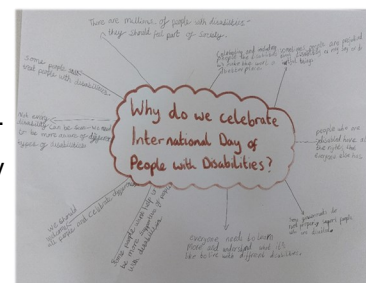


We celebrated the achievements made by people with disabilities. It has been celebrated every year since 1981. In class, we discussed why it was important to have a day to recognise disabilities, and mind-mapped some ideas.

It is also a day to promote awareness of the challenges faced by over 1 billion people living with disabilities, and the role communities and societies play in breaking down barriers to inclusion.

**Article 2 states:** The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, regardless of their abilities.

**Article 23 states:** A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence and to play an active part in the community . Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.



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