Dolphin School (incorporating Noah's Ark Nursery Schools)

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4 February 2021

Dear Parents,

It was splendid to have so many of our families join the parents' session about E-safety earlier this week. We have already sent out the supporting documentation and information for those unable to attend.

Karl Hopwood provided an excellent, informative day for all classes and staff to help us to keep safe when using the internet. He celebrated the many advantages of online communication, particularly in this time of lockdown, but helped us to be better prepared for and aware of some of the potential pitfalls. In his session for parents he reminded us of the need to understand how to respond to anything untoward, and how to reduce the likelihood of our children coming across unwelcome content. His comprehensive knowledge and his open manner of delivery, made this a very positive, informative occasion for parents.

Reception Diamonds Learning at Home

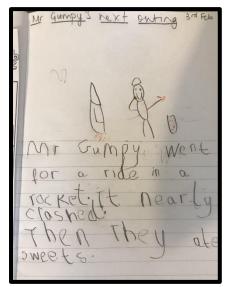
The Diamonds have been 'Shape detectives' this week! They have looked for 3D shapes at home, discovered that some have 2D flat faces and even built castles with them (Well done, Theo Brown!). We have also been comparing and measuring our toys. Archie made 3 snakes of different lengths.



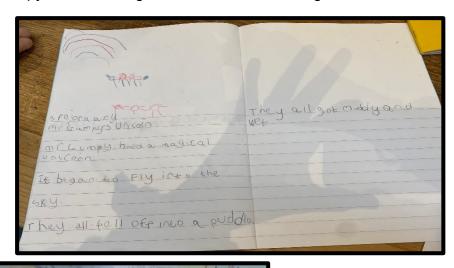


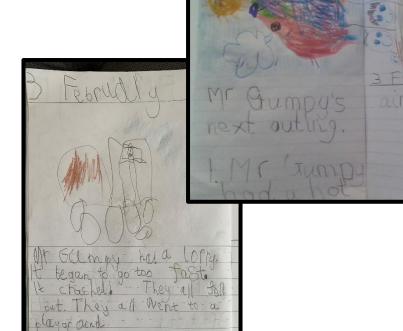


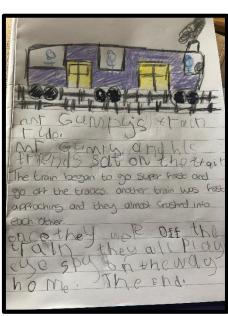




We have also written our very first stories! After reading Mr Gumpy's Outing, by John Burningham, we wrote about Mr Gumpy's Next Outing. Have a look at our imaginative ideas!





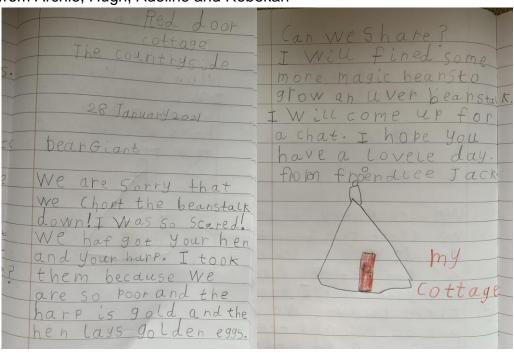


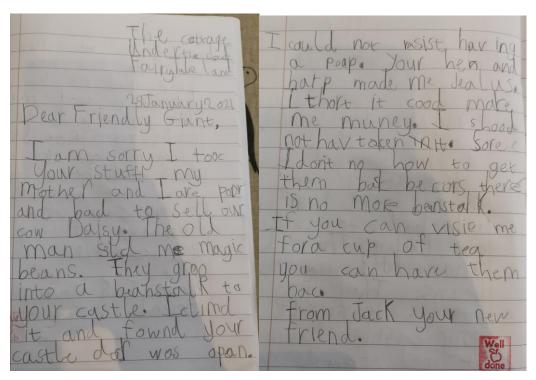
Year 1 Pearls

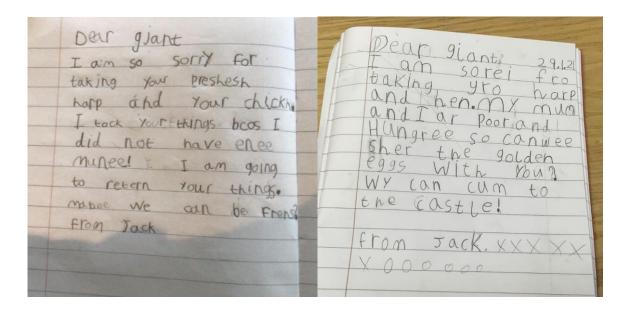
Year 1 Pearls have been enjoying the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Last Thursday, a mysterious message from the giant arrived and we realised that Jack had made a terrible mistake and the giant just wanted a friend!

Pearls put themselves in Jack's shoes, and wrote some fantastic letters to the giant to apologise and resolve the problem. They thought carefully about how to add detail and description, use interesting punctuation, and include some of the key features of a letter.

Letters from Archie, Hugh, Adeline and Rebekah







Year 3 Rubies

Over the last week, the Year 3 Rubies have been diving into descriptive settings. We discussed how starting sentences with adjectives can jump the reader straight in, and using similes allows us to be more creative. Using thesauruses, we worked as a team to create a rich and diverse word bank to inspire us as we embarked on a journey to Planet Delta - an inhospitable and desolate discovery - alongside Captain Nimmo of the Starship Voyager 7. We all started with the same introduction:

Voyager 7 touched down on Planet Delta. Captain Nimmo switched on the scanner and studied the landscape. What he saw made his heart sink.

Now sit back and let the descriptions below capture your imaginations! Well done Year 3!

A lifeless, grey sun hung dimly between dozens of forbidding, sharp, craggy mountain peaks. The dark, dusky, dismal clouds hovered motionless like frozen ice on a pond in the gloomy sky, threatening to envelope the entire uninhabited planet. When Captain Nimmo looked closer around the shiny spaceship, he saw a grubby, jagged, damp and drab ground covered in perilous rough and razor-sharp rock formations. The only life on this desolate, hostile expanse were sparsely scattered, dull, shrivelled and thorny, alien-looking plants. A vast dead and lonely looking world at the end of its abysmal existence. It was not the sort of place Captain Nimmo had been hoping for.

By Alexander

A pale, dying sun stared at the ship like death waiting for them. Desolate mountains guarded the horizon like injured soldiers threatening to crumble. A vast stretch of ghost-like clouds hung menacingly in the black sky. Dusty, dry ground cracked and held weakly to shrivelled trees. An endless field of oozie, abysmal plants covered the dying planet. This was not the sort of planet Captain Nimmo had been hoping for. *By Ned*

All around them was an inky, murky sky. Not seeing anything else but darkness almost felt threatening. One pale, lonely sun hung in the sky. Massive, rocky, tall mountains stood out in the darkness. One bare tree stood alone in the bleak and cold landscape like a little boy who was lost. The ground was dusty, rocky, grubby and mucky. Desperately, Captain Nimmo looked around at his team. How were they going to cross this difficult and dangerous world?

By Holly

A lonely sun hung gloomily in the dull sky like a staring unblinking eyeball. Ghostly, lifeless mountains stood abandoned as eerie, foggy clouds drifted past. Plants dribbled out their toxic smell making them as dull as ever. The last shrivelled plants tried to cling onto water that they were given last year. Jagged and rough rocks cracked silently in the gloom. The swampy ground was full with moss and covered with revolting dirt. Captain Nimmo was not expecting this at all! *By Kitty*

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Two misty, lifeless suns hung in an inky, gloomy, murky sky. Enormous, vast, towering mountains sat on the unforgiving dark, cracked ground. Piles of rubble and razor-sharp hazardous rocks surrounded the ship. Frozen, haggard, thorny plants covered the ground. It was not the sort of place Captain Nimmo had hoped for. By Evie

A lifeless and lonely sun hung in the inky, dark sky like a dead eye staring down watching over the dismal planet. Gloomy clouds like ghostly figures wandered the sky. Craggy, vast mountains pierced the sky with their jagged peaks. All around the spacecraft was the harsh, cracked, uneven ground scattered with hazardous, razor-sharp rocks. Shrivelled, spiny plants were pushing out of the cracks to catch whatever faint, dull light they could. The place looked depleted from life and hostile. It was not the sort of place Captain Nimmo was hoping for. By Milo

Year 4 Emeralds – History

Heed ye Vikings of Jorvik, the Hrothgar tribe are coming to learn all they can about your everyday lives. We come armed with a ferocious curiosity and fierce, probing questions to rob and pillage every last fact you hold about your survival in Danelaw. Faster than the wind and with all seeing eyes, we ZOOM through the misty net on our trusty laptopships to meet you face to face. Beware Bork of York, we mean to leave fully laden with a bountiful ship of knowledge to feast upon, for the rest of our lives!



Please note: Miss Ting hoped to highlight the misconception that Vikings had helmets with horns - we learnt that helmets with horns would stop people from standing close together and would have been helpful to enemies as they could grab onto them, so Vikings tended not to have these!

It's Competition Time: Where does reading take you?

Do you enjoy using your imagination?
Do you love story-telling?
Do you like to doodle, write, type or draw?

Then, why not try this community competition:



A unique collaboration with international children's publisher Egmont Books to celebrate the power and magic of reading.

What do I need to do?

- Handwrite, type or draw your answer to the question 'Where does reading take you?' on an A4 piece of paper.
- Email your entry to eastcliffcreatives@gmail.com to be part of a giant artwork.
- Write as little or as much as you like as long as it fits on a single sheet of A4 paper. It's so easy to get involved!

What are the prizes?

If you decide to get involved, there are 2 potential opportunities for prizes!

The first is a weekly prize of £500 book bundle (for Dolphin). The deadline for entries is midnight each Sunday.

The second prize is for the school that delivers the most entries and tops the leader board by the 25 February. The winning school will receive a very **special masterclass from a children's Author from Egmont Books**. The 25 February is after Half Term, so what better time to give it a go!

How do I find out more?

For more information on the competition, the rules for taking part and how to submit an entry, please visit http://eastcliffcreatives.com/paper-beach/.

You can also find out more about how and why Paper Beach exists, see other children's entries (including the first winner of the £500 book bundle) and view the UK leaderboard to see which schools have submitted the most entries!

If you choose to get involved, let your teacher know as we would love to hear! This won't be an in-school task, but rather an optional extra for home should you wish to try it over Half Term or before. Enjoy!

Many thanks for your perseverance as we enter another month of lockdown and remote learning.

With best wishes for your continued good health and good spirits.

Yours sincerely

N. S. Baldwin

Mrs N S Baldwin Principal