



Waycroft Academy Newsletter - 2nd May 2025

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A Message from the Headteacher



Welcome back to Term 5. We have had a great start to the term, aided by some lovely weather! The children have really enjoyed being back on the grass at playtimes and KS2 have really benefitted from the Quidditch training over the past few days, along with the house tournament they have played this afternoon. If you are wondering how the game is played then please ask your child as I have no idea what the rules are!

Linked to the great weather/outdoors, you may have seen (facebook) that I shared a book called, 'Unplugged' with the children in Monday's assembly. Talking to many of our children, it is clear how much they love playing outside, as well as being on a screen...they just need reminders of this from time to time, along with some help in trying to get a good balance. I have previously mentioned that our staff are trying to ensure they share a greater number

and variety of books at Waycroft, to promote a love of reading, language and imagination etc. I previously mentioned the money raised through the travelling book fayre; below you will see the books that Mrs Kelson was able to purchase with the commission we received. Thank you for supporting this...the children are already really enjoying some of these from our library.

Whilst the children love being on the field, I am aware that hayfever can make life a little challenging at times. If you have a child who does struggle with this, then please make sure they have a dose of Piriton etc before coming to school. Our staff will not administer any hayfever medication during the school day, unless the medication and timings are specifically directed by a GP. The guidelines for taking Piriton is 5ml every 4-6 hours...so a spoonful before school should cover the majority of the school day, especially the times when the children are on the field.

A message to Year 6 pupils-As you approach your SATs, I want to express my sincere pride in all the hard work you've put in this year. We've seen you grow and learn, and you should be feeling confident about what you have achieved. Remember, these tests are just a snapshot, a measure of your current knowledge, and they don't define you as a person. Your teachers know you well, and we have all seen your talents and skills extend far beyond the curriculum. You are all unique and valuable, with your own strengths and passions. So, as you take these tests, remember to focus on doing your best...do not let them worry you and think of them as a way to show what you are able to do. You have prepared well, and you have everything you need to succeed!

I hope that everyone thoroughly enjoys the three-day weekend...have a great one!

Mr Smith





Health and Safety/Uniform reminder



As the weather is getting warmer, we would just like to take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform expectations.

Our uniform is:

- Royal blue school cardigan, sweatshirt or fleece (with or without logo)
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers/shorts/skirt. **Not tight-fitting leggings or lycra style trousers or shorts.**
- Grey or black pinafore dress
- Royal blue summer gingham dress
- White, black or grey socks or tights
- Plain black flat shoes. This can be plain black trainers, as long as there are no other colours/markings e.g. white stripes, Nike tick etc. Please ensure that footwear is easy to fasten i.e. no children should be wearing laces unless they can confidently tie them.

Please note: Children should not be in any type of sandals where their feet are exposed.

For PE, all children need to wear the following on the days they have PE

- Plain white t-shirt, with or without the logo
- Black shorts or joggers; **not tight-fitting leggings or lycra style trousers or shorts.**
- Their blue school jumper or cardigan
- A pair of trainers

Please can you ensure that sun cream is applied prior to coming into school, children have a hat when it is warm and that they have a refillable water bottle each day.

Attendance



Week commencing - 21/04/2025

Whole school attendance - 94.5%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Mayflower 97.8%

KS2 class with highest attendance - Discovery 98%

Week commencing - 28/04/2025

Whole school attendance - 94.8%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Nina 98.7%

KS2 class with highest attendance - Endeavour 98.3%

Penalty Notices

- If a child has at least 10 (10 or more) sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 school weeks, their parent/carer(s) may receive a penalty notice (a morning or afternoon is one session; a whole school day is two sessions.)
- The first time a penalty is issued within a three-year rolling period, it is £80 (per parent/carer, per child) payable within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid between 22 and 28 days. (If the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted for the child's unauthorised absence.
- The second time a penalty notice is issued to the same parent/carer for the same child the amount will be £160 per parent/carer, per child (if paid within 28 days). There is no reduction in the amount if the penalty is paid early. (Again, if the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted.)

- Fines per parent/carers will be capped to two fines within any 3-year period. Once this limit has been reached, a prosecution will be considered. Prosecution may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent/carers, per child.

School attendance: Is your child missing out?

	In a week means missing ...	Over a year means missing...	Over the seven years of primary school means missing...
100% attendance	No days	No weeks	No learning at all!
90% attendance	Half a day	Almost four weeks	Over four terms
80% attendance	One day	Over seven weeks	One school year and two terms
70% attendance	One and a half days	Eleven weeks	More than two years
60% attendance	Two days	Over fifteen weeks	Two years and four terms
50% attendance	Two and a half days	Almost twenty weeks	Three and a half years

SEND and Mental Health



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

SEND and You

SEND and You was originally set up as a charity in Avon in 1989 by local parents and professionals. They'd realised that better outcomes could be achieved for [children and young people with SEND](#) by working together. Today they remain as responsive and firmly focused as ever, ensuring that children, young people and their parents or carers get the help they need. SEND and You was formerly named Supportive Parents.

SEND and You now delivers the 'SENDIAS' (Special Educational Needs & Disability Information Advice & Support) service for three local authorities; [Bristol](#), [North Somerset](#) and [South Gloucestershire](#).

Bristol Parent Carers May Newsletter

Bristol Parent Carers have asked us to share their latest May newsletter. Inside you will find signposting to a sibling support pack for your young siblings of children with SEND, a link to an awesome calendar showcasing SEND events across Bristol, opportunities to ask questions and chat with a panel of practitioners from Education, Health and Social Care PLUS exciting upcoming FREE events and webinars.

Juggling the busy demands of parenting can be tough, inside this newsletter you will find handpicked information on the stuff that matters. We want to be in this together.

Please click the link below for more: <https://midd.me/3kzc>

SEND coffee morning

Come along to our SEND Coffee morning hosted in partnership with Bristol Parent Carer Forum where you can find out more information on what support is available locally for your child with special educational needs and disabilities. It doesn't matter if you don't have a diagnosis, we are here to support every family in Bristol and we are parents ourselves so we get it!

There is no need to book, but if you would like to register your interest then click the link [here](#).

Date: Friday 23rd May 2025

Time: 9 - 10:30am

Location: New Hall, Waycroft Academy. Please wait in Reception.

EYFS



Admiral

Children in Admiral nursery have been generously welcoming their new friends and helping them to settle in. We have been learning about minibeasts such as bees, ladybirds and caterpillars and going on minibeast hunts in the nursery garden. We have been noticing spotty and stripy patterns everywhere, and used this knowledge to help us sort Mrs Verrinder's collection of spotty and stripy socks. We have used different techniques to create our own spot and stripe artwork.

Mary-Rose Pre-School

What a wonderful start to Term 5 we have had! We have been learning all about Jack and The Beanstalk, and the children have enjoyed lots of activities related to this. We have been planting our own seeds, using our incredible imaginations to think about what we would love to see at the top of the beanstalk, retelling the story and using masks and puppets to role play. As the weather improves, we have also been making use of our amazing new gardening area.

Reception

Over the past few weeks, the Reception children have been learning all about growing and caring for plants. We started by reading *Errol's Garden*, which inspired us to plant our own seeds and begin our own mini gardens in the classroom and outdoor areas. The children

have been busy writing sentences about how to look after plants, learning that they need water, sunlight, and care to grow. In our maths activities, we've been counting petals and matching numerals to the correct quantities, helping to build our number skills in a fun and practical way. We have also been building numbers beyond 10 and using ten frames to show our understanding of ten plus one digit numbers! It's been a wonderful, hands-on topic so far!

Have a great weekend!

The EYFS Team

KS1



Year 1

Year 1 have started to look at sculptures in art. We were inspired by Andy Goldsworthy to use natural materials to build real life objects. We went outside to build birds nest in groups and then a big Year 1 birds' nest.

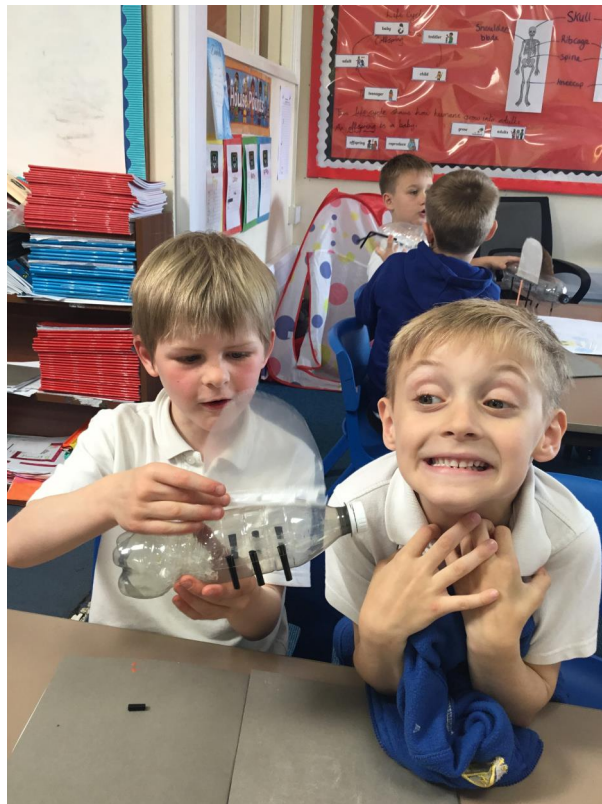
We have started circuits in PE and loved challenging ourselves to complete exercising we have never done before. We can't wait to do more!

In maths, we have looked at counting in groups. We started counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and then moved on to finding equal/unequal groups. Mr Randall and Miss Daniels were very impressed with how confident we were!

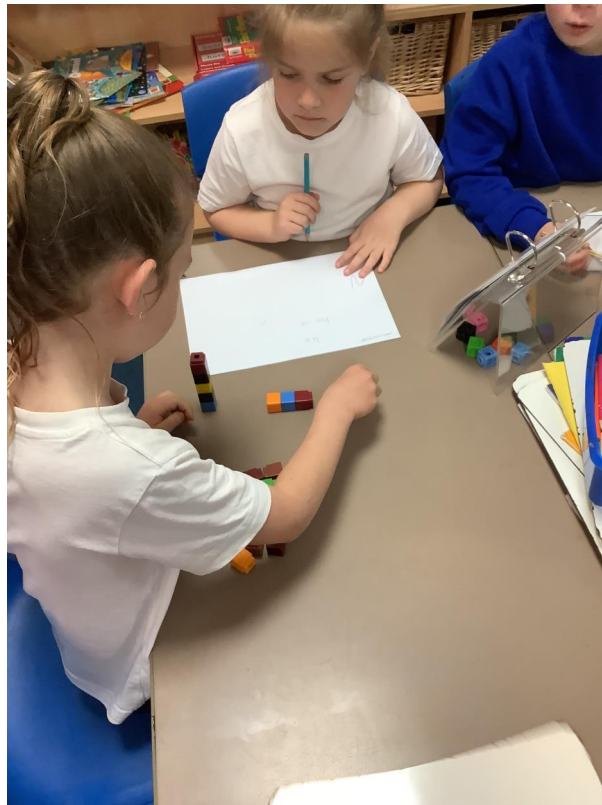
Year 2

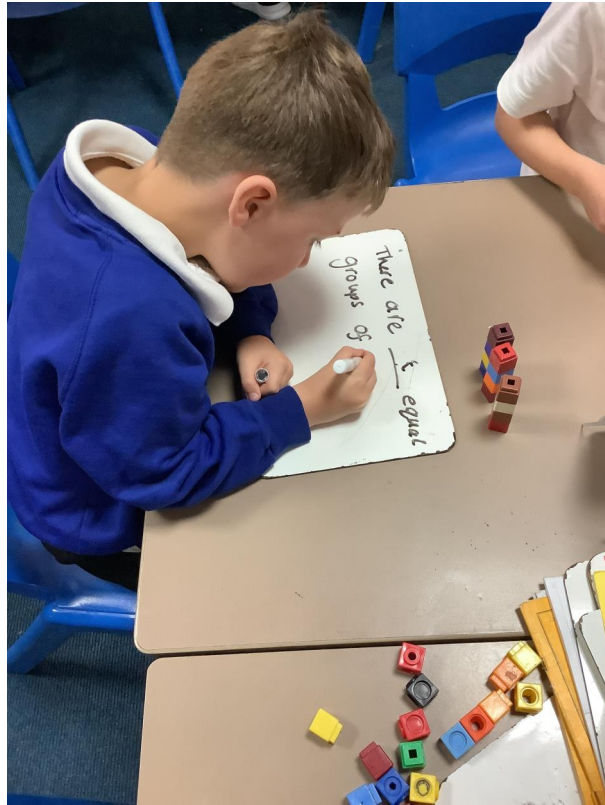
This week Year 2 have been creating 3D models of an insect using recyclable materials. They enjoyed looking at pictures of insects and taking inspiration from these images to create a piece of art. Some children chose to work in a group, while others decided to take the challenge to work independently! Can you name any of the insects?

Have a wonderful, sunny weekend!















LKS2



Year 3

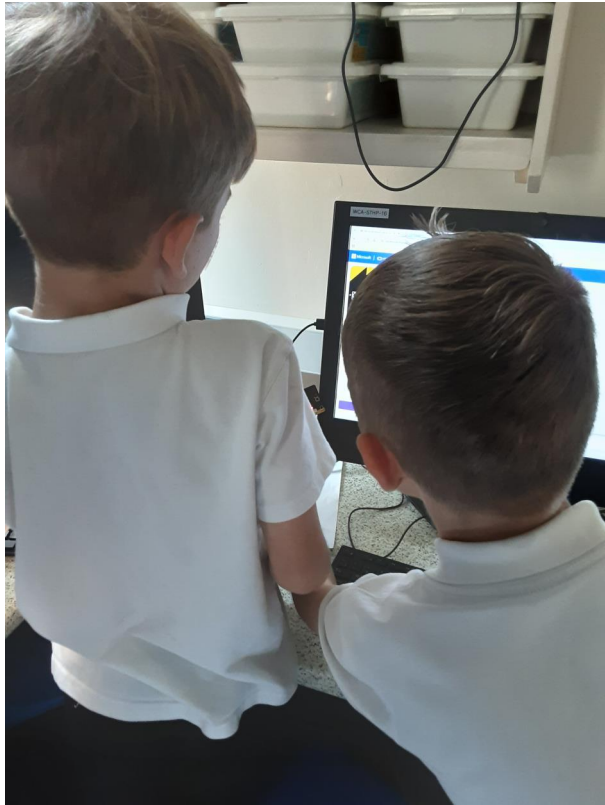
Year 3 have enjoyed using coins to solve practical money problems in maths, including buying items and identifying the change that they will receive. They have had an INKredible time in art this week using ink and surfaces with different textures to create prints involving different patterns. In history, year 3 have enjoyed learning about famous explorers. They learnt about Christopher Columbus and why John Cabot was (and still is) significantly important to Bristol. In computing, they will be applying what they have learnt about the explorers to create an online 'wiki' page. They have planted some cress and sunflower seeds and are looking forward to seeing them grow over the next few weeks.

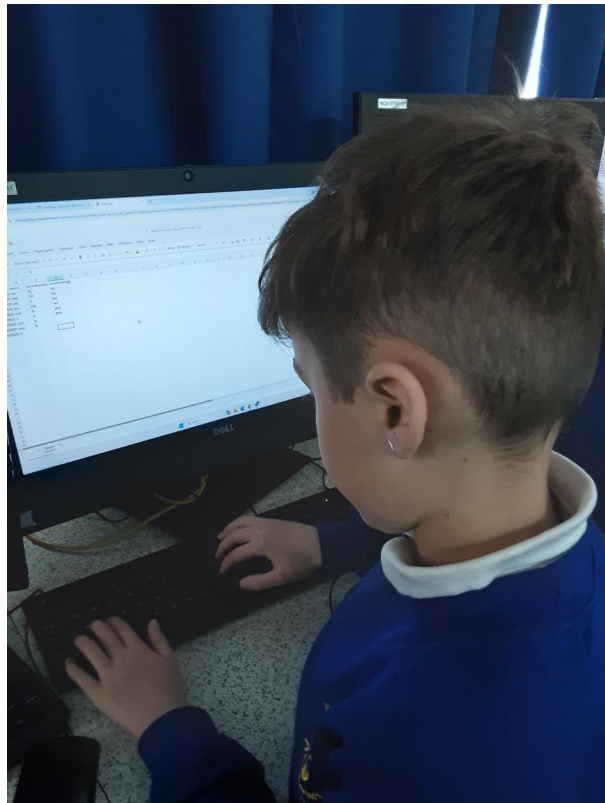
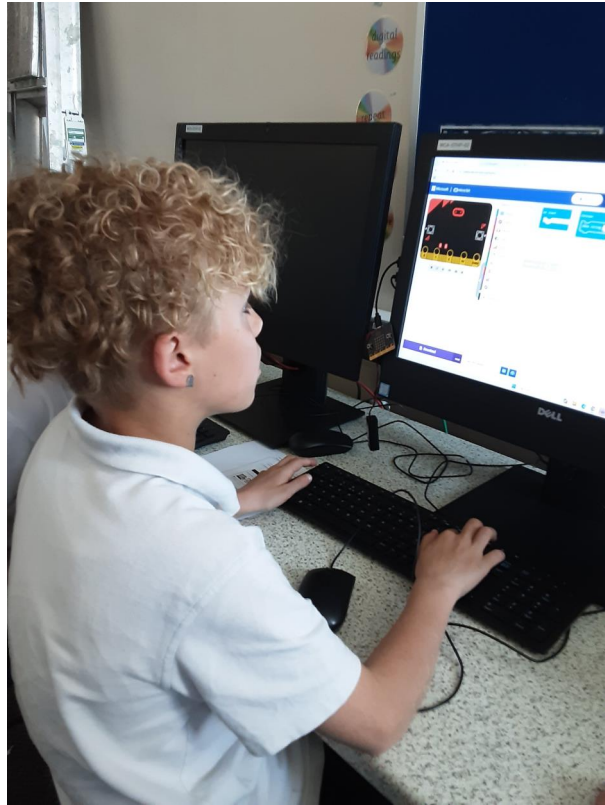
Year 4

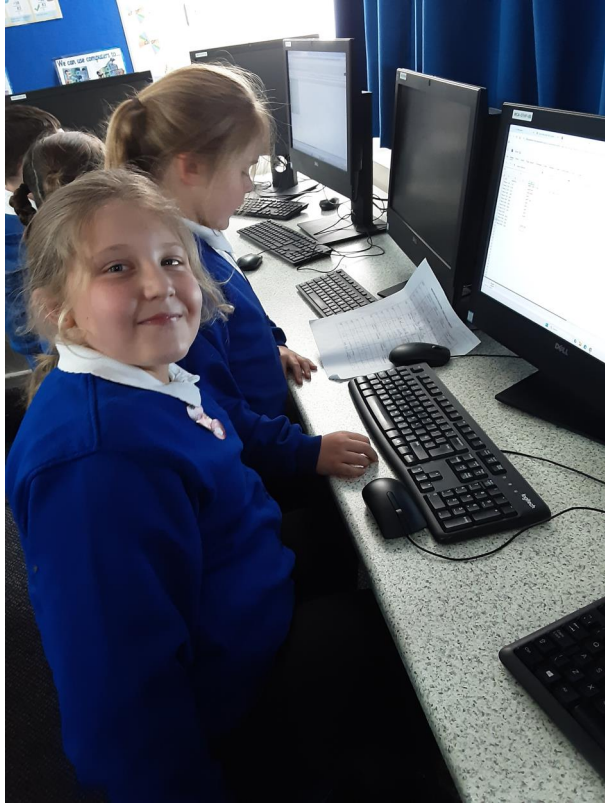
Year 4 have been writing biographies about the British royal family this week. They have also just started learning about decimals. So far, they have noticed the link between tenths as a fraction and as a decimal. In music, they have been immersing themselves in music of different cultures. They particularly enjoyed the classic Irish folk music! Miss Connors and Mr Jones have been really impressed with the progress they have made with their swimming! The children are now all confident being in water.

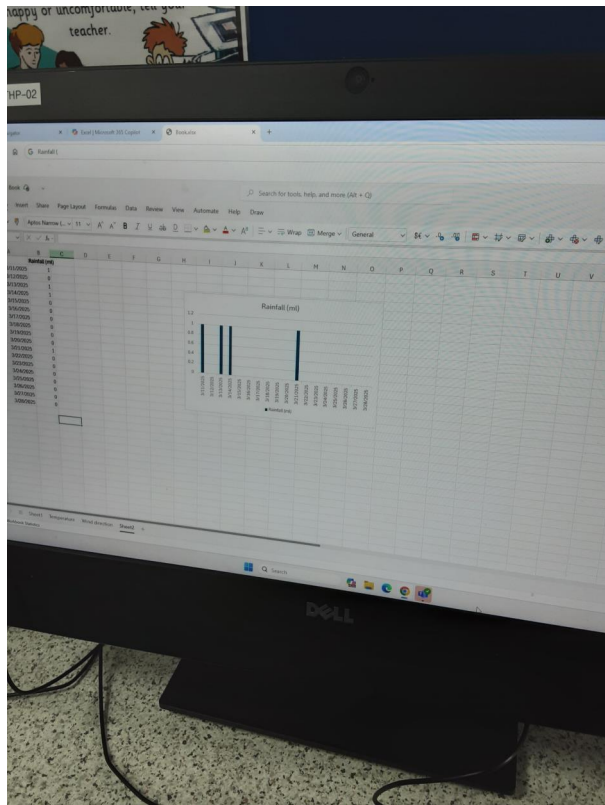
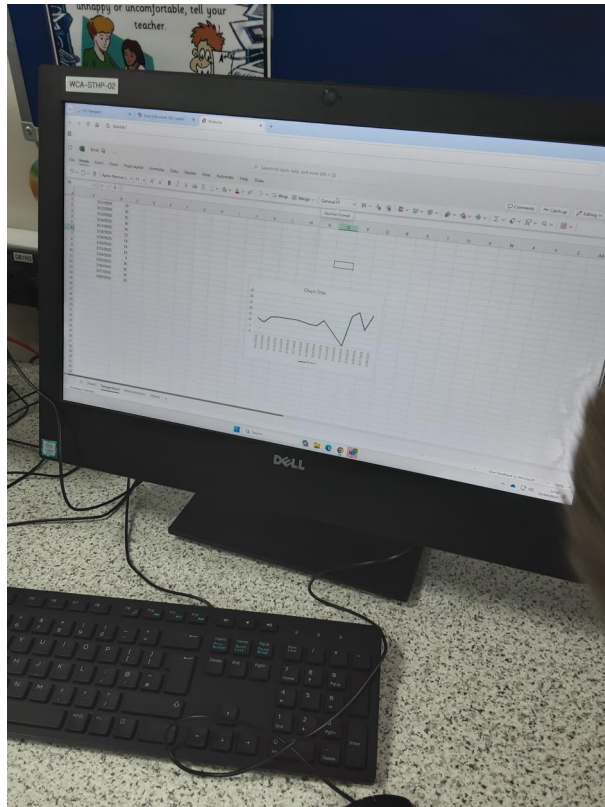


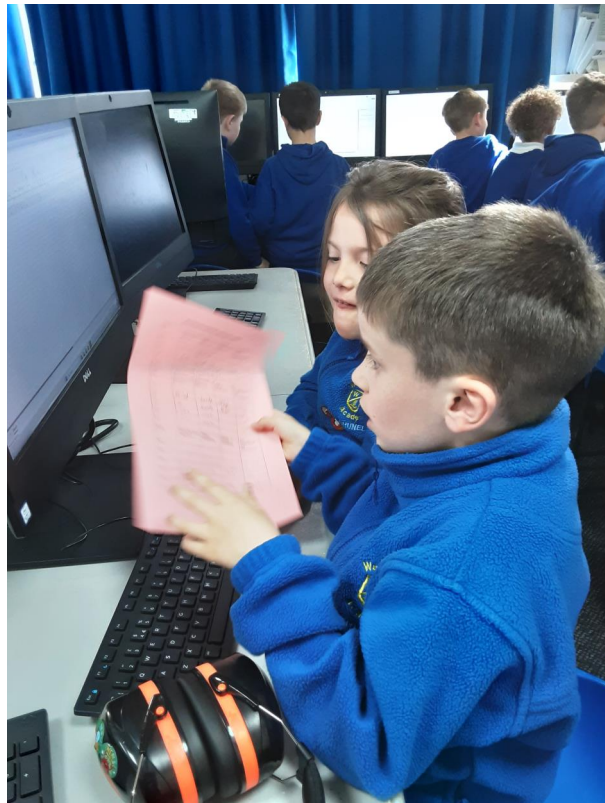
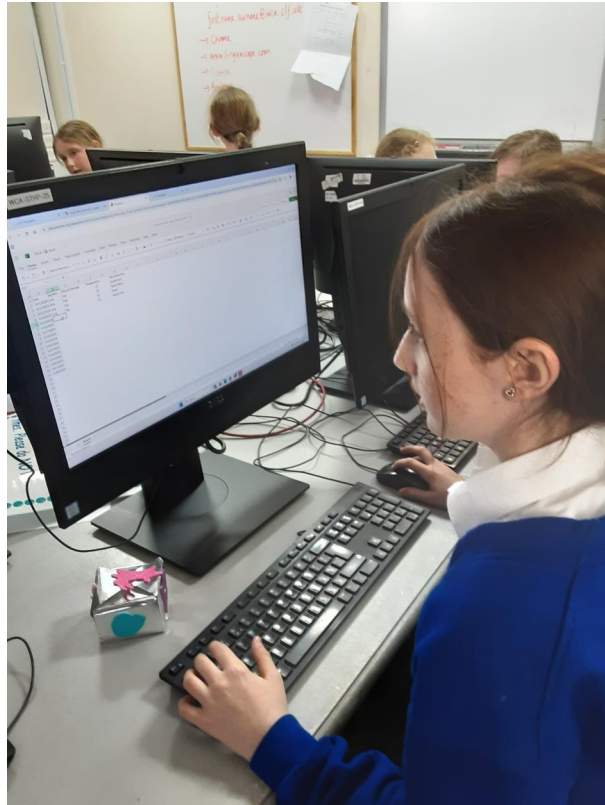


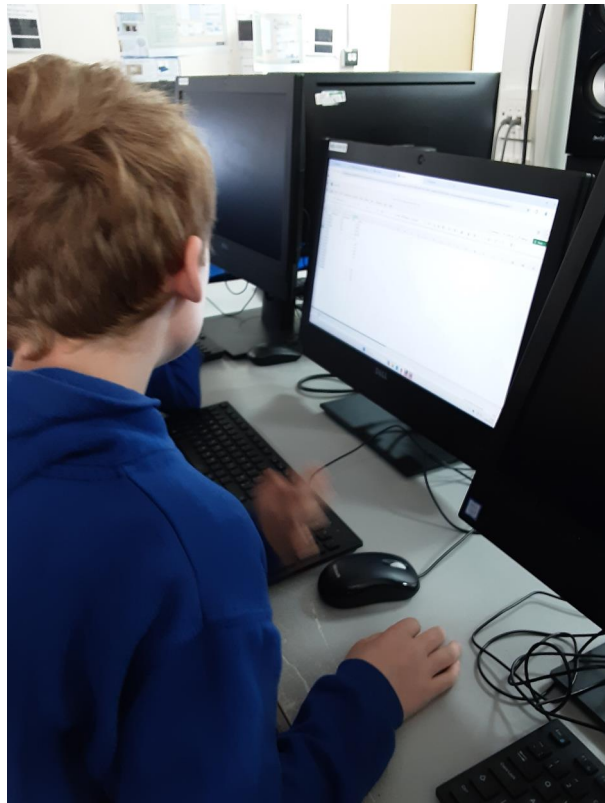
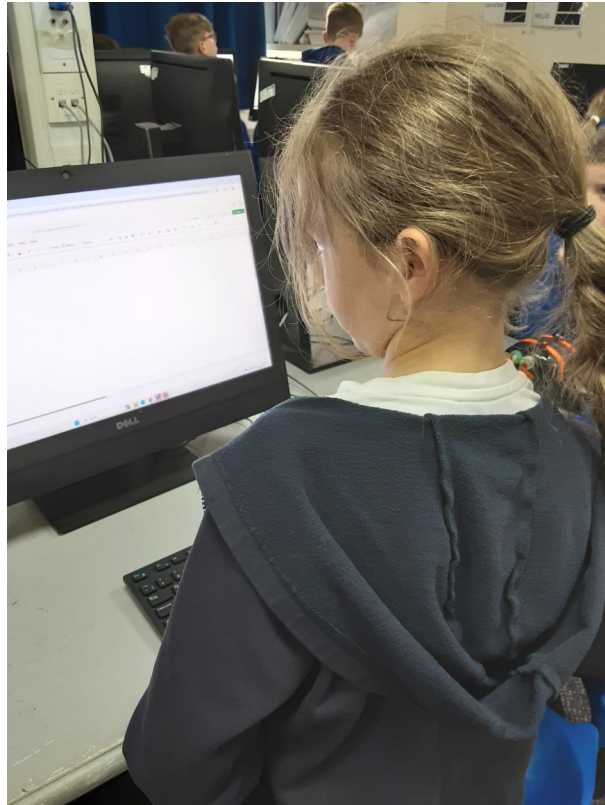


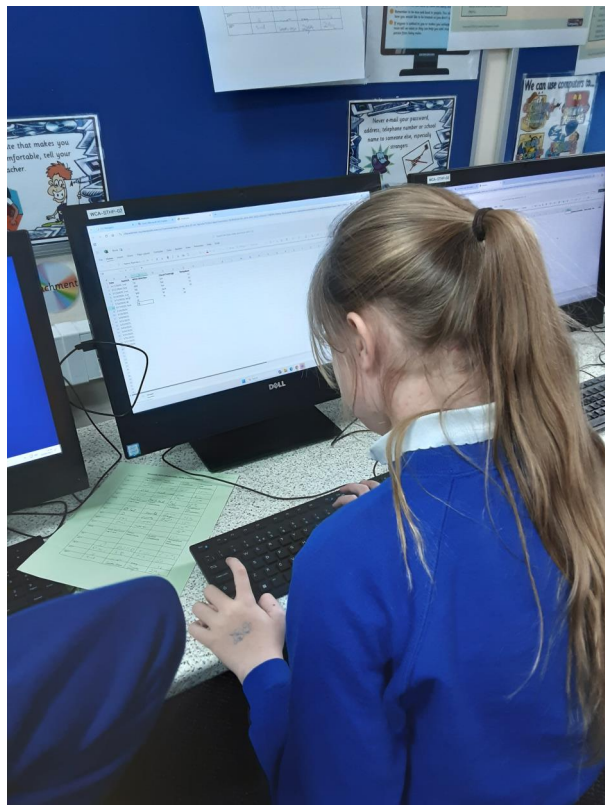


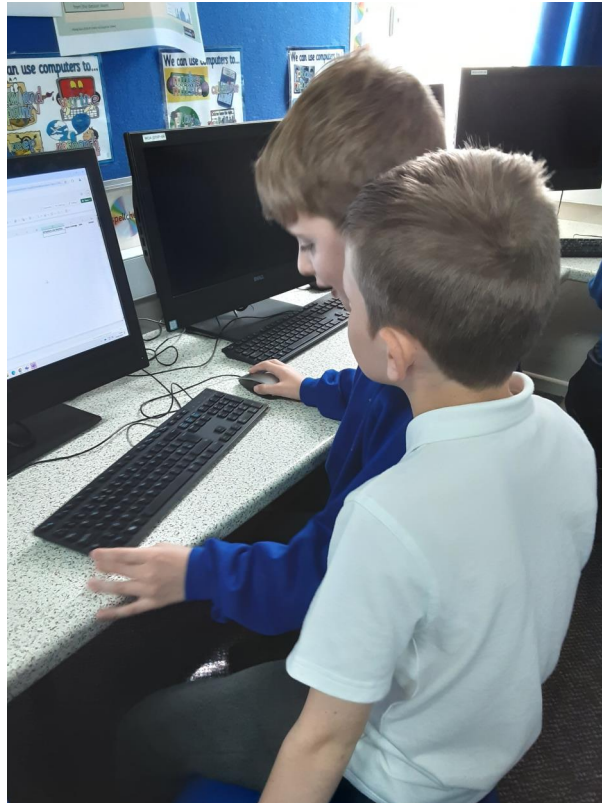












UKS2



Year 5

What a start to Term 5! Year 5 have had so much fun this week, honing their skills as budding Quidditch players! We have really enjoyed a sports coach coming to teach us this new game! The children showed great adaptability in learning this new sport in under 45 minutes! In English, we worked together to plan and write a mystery story. The children loved creating their own nasty character along and conversation in which they reveal their plan.

Year 6

As we gear up for SATs over the next few weeks, the Y6 team have been really impressed by the resilience and determination shown by the children during our revision sessions. It's fantastic to see how hard everyone is working! The children have also written some brilliant non-chronological reports about Tudor crime and punishment, linking perfectly with our history unit. In science, we've started our new topic on the circulatory system, This week we were lucky enough to learn how to play Quidditch, which was fantastic, especially for the Harry Potter fans! We're all really looking forward to the house tournament this afternoon!





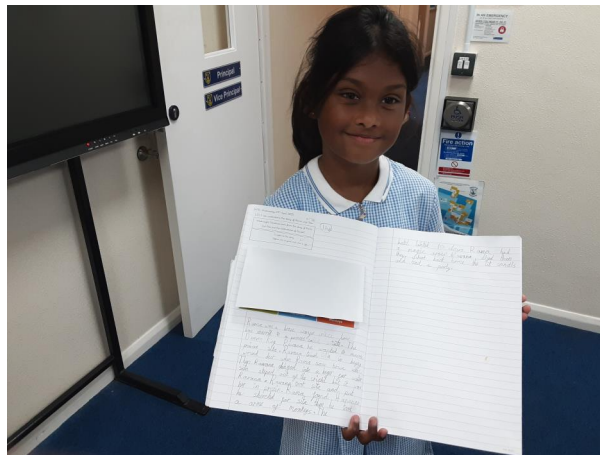
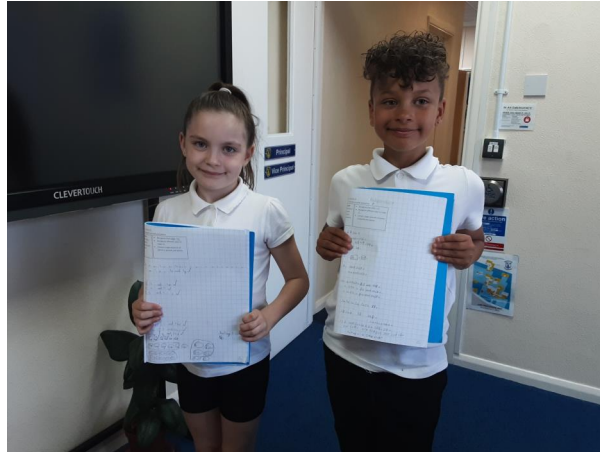


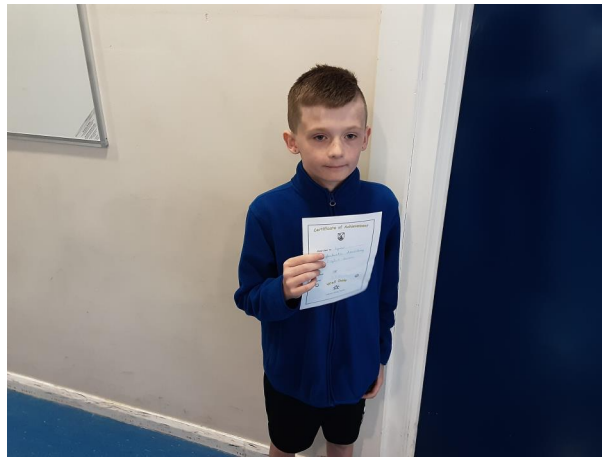


Achievement Assembly



The children who came out in assembly for certificates today were so polite and fantastic at saying a loud and clear 'thank you' (thanks to Lonnie for modelling this so brilliantly for everyone again!). Also well done to any children who celebrated their work this week with Mr Smith or Mrs Sweet; some examples of this below.





Save the Dates for Term 5 and 6



Monday 12th May-Thursday 15th May - Year 6 SATs tests

Thursday 22nd May - Year 5 Swimming to commence (more information to follow)

Wednesday 4th June - Class photos

Friday 6th June - Non uniform day (donations for summer fayre)

Monday 7th July - Year 6 Simonsbath Camp

Wednesday 16th July - Class swap and meet the teachers

Monday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Disco at 5 -6.30pm

Tuesday 22nd July - Year 6 Leavers' service at 2.15pm

Inset Dates 2024/2025

Friday 4th July 2025

Monday 7th July 2025

Payment Reminders



Reception trip to Court Farm - £16.61 due by Friday 30th May. ParentMail sent out with further information.

Year 1 trip to Cattle Country - £19.02 due by Friday 30th May. ParentMail sent out with further information.

Year 5 Swimming - £24 due 22nd May 2025.

Year 6 Simonsbath camp - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £90 due 31st December 2024, £90 due 28th February 2025, £90 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £89.58 due by 30th May 2025.

Year 6 Simonsbath camp Pupil Premium - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £40 due 31st December 2024, £40 due 28th February 2025, £40 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £34.79 due by 30th May 2025.

Community Notices



Contact Us



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Visit us on the web at <https://waycroftacademy.clf.uk/>