



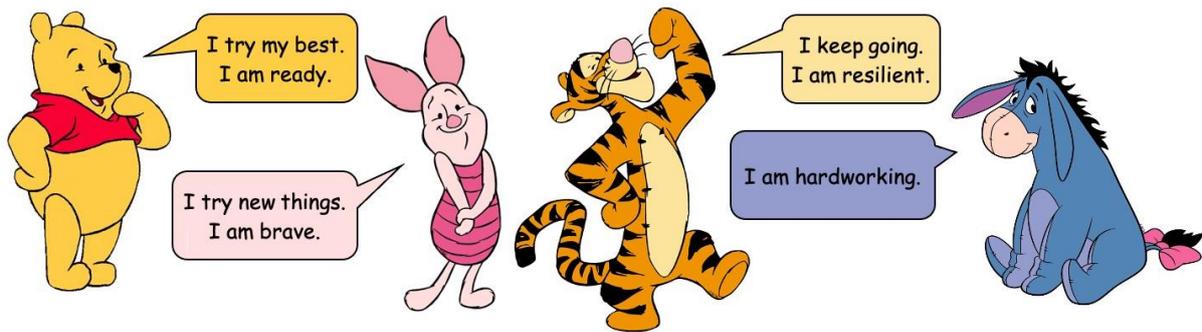
A SUPER START TO TERM

Well done to all pupils for an excellent start to the summer term. Now that we are all back at school and with a full term ahead of us, we've reintroduced good behaviour stamps. These are awarded for kindness, consideration for other people, use of manners and also for good learning behaviours, and especially those highlighted by our learning to learn characters, a few of which are shared below:

At Key Stage 2, we use learning to learn characters from the Roald Dahl stories:



In Early Years and Key Stage 1, we use learning to learn characters from the Winnie the Pooh stories:



There are bronze, silver and gold certificates, with a book awarded to pupils as they complete the scheme. Pupils are well on their way to achieving their bronze certificates, and by the next newsletter, we will be celebrating their success.



READING IS REWARDED TOO!



Of all the things that pupils learn to do, reading is perhaps the most important. We invest as much time as possible in this aspect of learning during the school day and really appreciate the support of parents with home reading. Starting next week, your child will receive an additional good behaviour stamp each week when they read at home at least four times. Pupils' home reading will be celebrated on their class reading tree display as well. You'll find a record chart in your child's home school book.

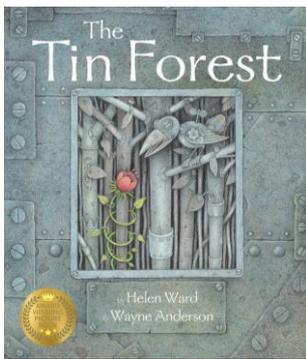
EARLY YEARS

This term our youngest pupils are learning about life cycles and growing and have some exciting additions to their classroom - caterpillars and tadpoles! They are enjoying watching them grow and change. They have been writing their own stories based on the Very Hungry Caterpillar and have made books about the life cycle of a frog. In PE pupils are exploring gymnastics and have all enjoyed travelling along and jumping off the benches! In the coming weeks, lessons will focus on plants and all pupils will do some planting as part of this learning.





YEAR 1 and YEAR 2



Pupils in Key Stage 1 have been reading *The Tin Forest*, a beautiful story of an old man who lives in a wide, windswept place, near nowhere and close to forgotten. He is surrounded by rubbish and all the things that no one wants. He loves nature and every night he dreams that he lives amongst tropical trees, toucans and tigers. He decides to build his own forest out of the rubbish, making trees, flowers and animals. One day a toucan visits his tin forest and drops a seed. The old man nurtures it and a real plant begins to grow. As time passes more animals visit his forest and more plants and trees begin to grow. A real forest emerges and the old man's dreams come true. He lives in a place filled with all the things that he wanted, with toucans, tree frogs and tigers in his garden.

Pupils have been exploring the language, emotion and settings of *The Tin Forest* and in the week ahead pupils will write their own version of the story. The art project this term is also inspired by the story with pupils making their own characters for the story as 3D sculptures.

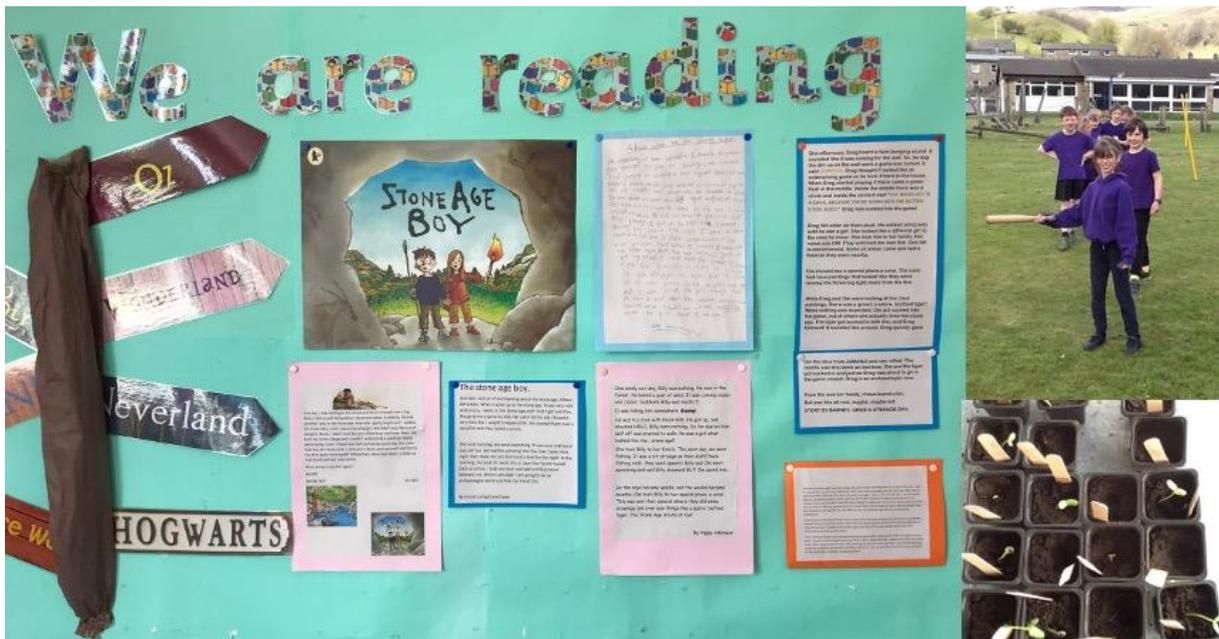
In history pupils have been studying Grace Darling and have enjoyed a talk by an education volunteer from the RNLI. He told pupils about Grace Darling's life, talked about her rescue and compared equipment used in the past and today, exploring the life of the modern coastguard.

In science pupils have been busy planting seeds as part their study of plants. In PE lessons pupils have been developing bat and ball skills as part of striking and fielding games.



YEAR 3 and YEAR 4

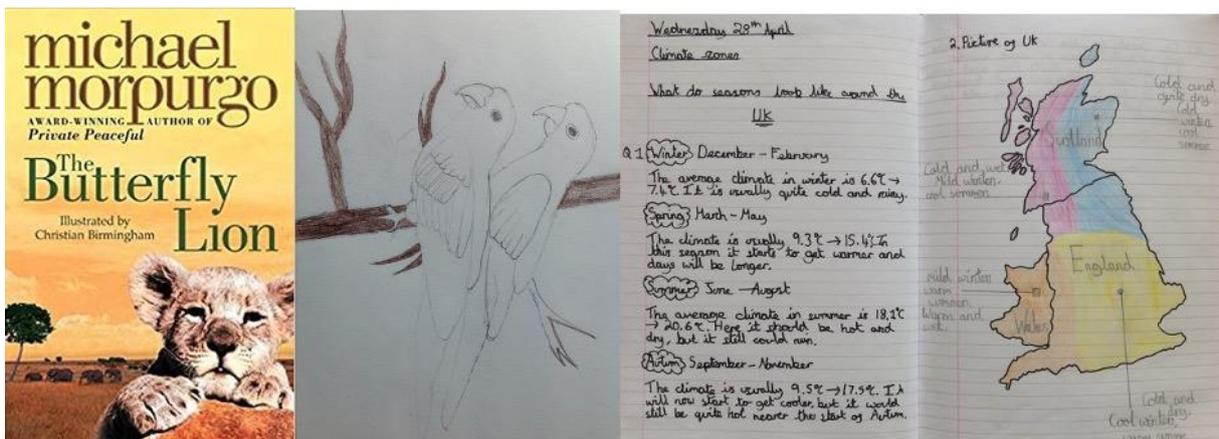
Year 3 & 4 pupils are studying the Stone Age this term, and inspired by the book *Stone Age Boy* have been writing stories set at this time. They have produced some brilliant written work that is on display in their classroom. More recently, they have started a new text, *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth*, and this has led to independent work on instructional writing.



In science lessons pupils have been learning about the key features of flowering plants and have planted sunflowers as part of this project.

YEAR 5 and YEAR 6

Literacy work in our Upper Key Stage 2 has been inspired by the story *Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo. Pupils have responded to the text by writing letters that explore the characters' emotions and wellbeing. Set in Africa, the story has also complimented the children's learning about climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts in geography. DT work is also inspired by a contrasting climate zone, with pupils designing and making their own rainforest animal stuffed toy. In science lessons, pupils have been learning about life cycles of amphibians, birds, mammals and insects.



WATER BOTTLES

Water is available in class throughout the day, with each pupil having their own beaker that they keep on their desk. With warmer weather during the summer term, we understand that some pupils may prefer to have a water bottle in school and pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 are invited to do so if they wish. We recommend that bottles should be taken home each day to be cleaned and ask that only water is brought to school.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

If there is any aspect of school life that you would like more information about or wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact school. We'll do all we can to help.

With best wishes for the bank holiday weekend.

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher

DATES for your diary

May

Mon 3rd

May Day Bank Holiday

Sun 16th

Evening service at Gunnerside Chapel (KS2 children) – 6.30pm

Fri 28th

School closes for half-term

June

Mon 7th

School re-opens

