



Principal's update

We have had a really excellent first half term at CPA. The children are working very hard and demonstrating great behaviour and positive learning habits. As I walk around the school I feel very proud of both the staff and the children. Thank you for all you do at home to support school and your children's progress.

The playground markings are now complete and our outdoor space is now looking wonderful! The children have a vast open space to play in and we have a wide range of sports equipment and games out at breaks and lunchtime to keep them active and engaged. The feedback from the children has been fantastic.

We have also had a very positive start in terms of CPA's 5th Star quality - 'Supportive'. As a school we commit every year to raising money for charity and ensure that children understand the importance of helping others. Our first big charity event of the year, the Macmillan Coffee Morning, raised over £1500! Thank you so much for supportive such a worthwhile and important charity.

Finally I would just like to reiterate my concerns regarding road safety around St Dunstan's entrance. Please could I ask parents not to walk and stand on the road outside the gates as it is very dangerous to do so and causes even more congestion. Please move away from the gate once you have dropped off to allow the children to enter safely. Please can I also remind drivers not to park near the school entrances as this is dangerous and not to park across local residents' driveways. Residents living near our Nursery are particularly concerned by the dangerous driving manoeuvres, parking and walking in the road that they witness. Please let's work to keep everyone safe!

Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Staff Development Day;
Friday 13th October 2023

Half Term;
Mon 23rd Oct to Fri 27th Oct 2023

End of Term;
Thurs 21st Dec 2023 to
Friday 5th Jan 2024



Attendance

The class with the best attendance this last week was:

1st place: 3HW and 4KS

2nd place: 6DS

3rd place: 4SG and 2RW



Safeguarding:

As we start the year I would like to remind you all of the minimum age for popular apps that you may hear your children talking about or asking if they can have access to. Please see below, you will notice the age rating on the apps is minimum of 13, meaning that no child at CPA or of primary age should have these apps. We ask that as parents/carers you are vigilant and monitor your child's devices to ensure that they are only being exposed to age appropriate content.

Good to know – reminders of the minimum age for popular apps



Facebook (minimum age 13) – lets users create their own profiles, share status updates, pictures, videos and chat with other users and also has a messenger app.



Instagram (minimum age 13) – allows users to alter photos, upload them and share to other social networking sites. Photos and videos can be sent directly to specific users.



Snapchat (minimum age 13) – a photo-sharing app where users can send photos or videos to their friends. These will display on screen for up to ten seconds before being deleted, although it is possible to take screenshots of messages and download other apps designed to capture and save Snapchat content.



TikTok (minimum age 13) – TikTok users can make their own short videos on the mobile app and often like to have music accompany these. The users have creative control over the videos. Other TikTok users can 'react' to videos they see by filming their responses alongside the original video, or 'duet' by making a video alongside another video.



Twitter (minimum age 13) – a social network that lets users send and read 'Tweets': messages limited to 280 characters.



Tumblr (minimum age 16) – a social networking site where users can post blogs and follow other people's blogs. Some of the content on this site includes sexual and/or pornographic images.



WhatsApp (minimum age 16) – a free-of-charge, real-time messaging service. Users can share images and videos, take part in 'group chats' and share locations. As it's based on knowing the user's phone number, you can only message users if you already have this information.



YouTube (minimum age 16) – allows users to watch, create and comment on videos. The dislike button can create insecurities with content posted even if comments are turned off for the video.



Events:



CPA hosted its annual Vocabulary Day again this year and the children and teachers had a great time dressing up as a word! The children celebrated the day by completing word related activities in the classroom, such as finding the odd one out, making connections between words, and defining new words. All of the children and families had made a huge effort with their costumes and the teachers were really impressed with the variety of words the children had come up with. The children had a great day learning new and exciting vocabulary – ask your child what words they can remember!

Congratulations to our winners....

Joseph Doran in 2RW
 Jimmy Head in 4KS
 Zain Mezrit in 6LL

Events:

On Tuesday 10th October, Year 6 were very fortunate to be visited by Emily from Brunel University. We learnt about life at university and some of us even got to try on a gown and cap (which we found out was called a mortarboard)!



Well-Being

Take a minute to look at the Optimistic October calendar and prioritise your well-being...

Optimistic October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today
8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation
15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you
22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?
29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**

Curriculum Showcase:

Nursery

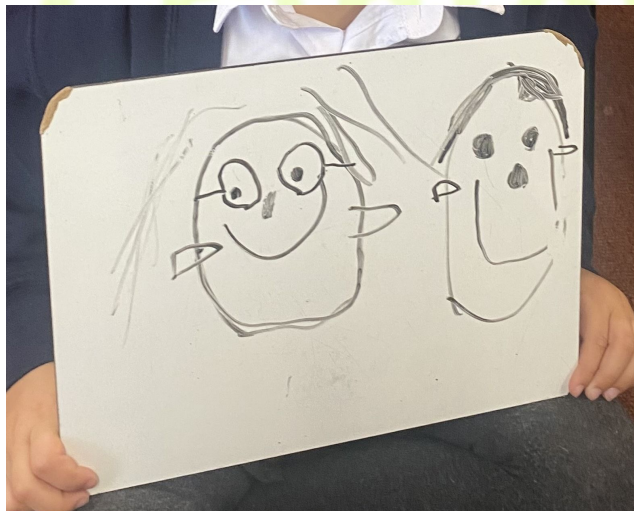
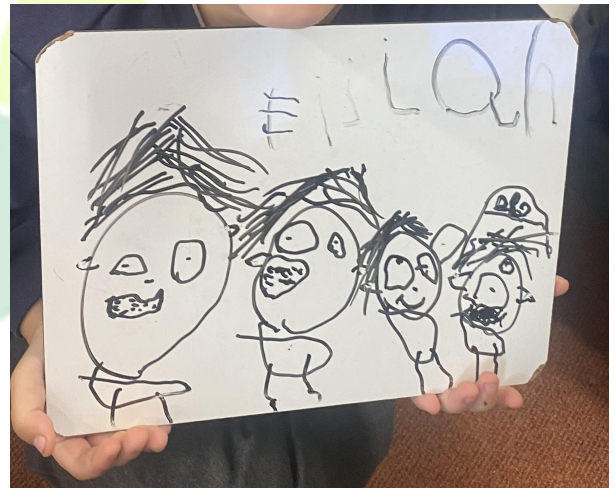
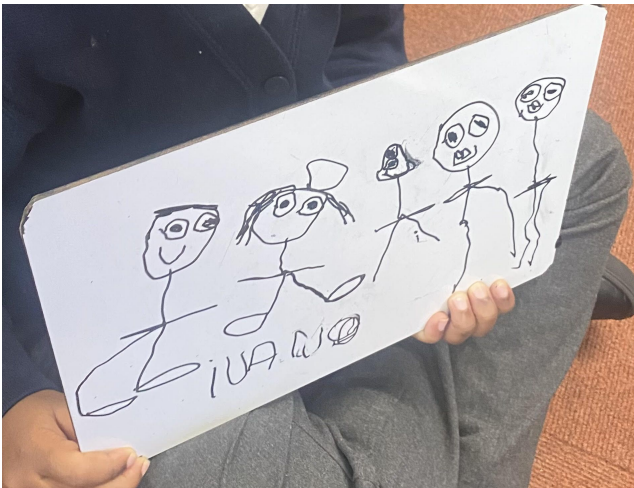
The children have had so much fun exploring Forest school for the first time this week!



Curriculum Showcase:

Reception

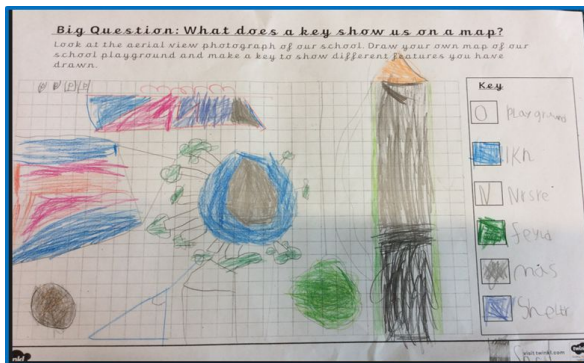
Reception have had a great couple of weeks learning all about themselves and their families. They learnt about the importance of diversity, that it should be celebrated and how incredibly special it is. Here are some family portraits that the children drew. Fantastic detail Reception, well done!



Curriculum Showcase:

Year 1

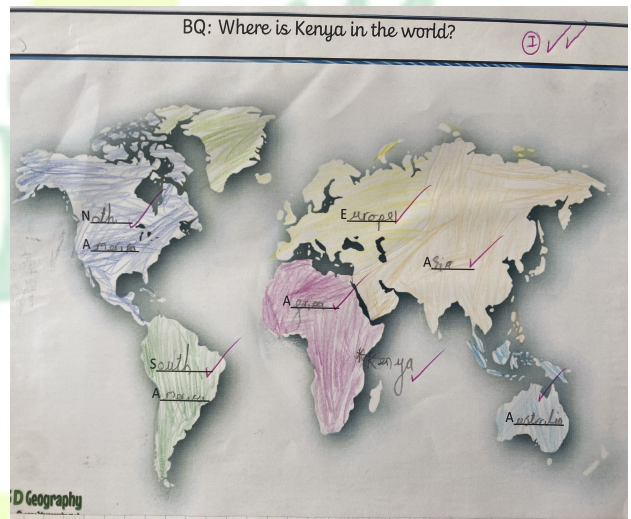
Year 1 have been learning about our local area in our Geography lessons. We have looked at an aerial view of our school and identified different things such as supermarkets, parks and rivers that are in our local area. We then drew our own maps of our school grounds, using a key to help us to identify the different areas within our school. We were very proud of the children and their geographical knowledge.



Curriculum Showcase:

Year 2

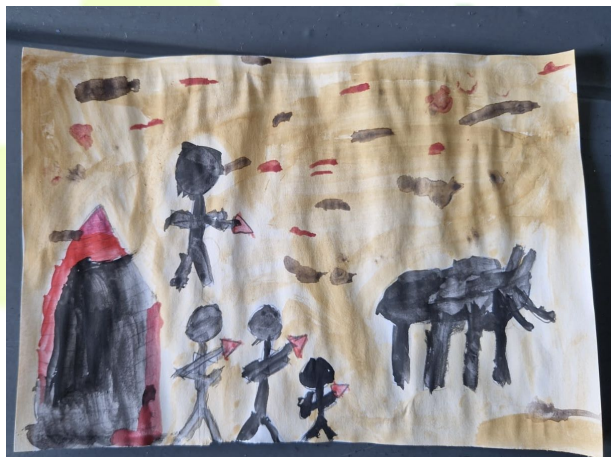
Year 2 have been learning about Kenya this half term in Topic. We have been learning about life in the Maasai Tribe and the children enjoyed making Mud Huts with African patterns in Art. In Geography we identified the 7 continents and labelled where we would find Kenya.



Curriculum Showcase:

Year 3

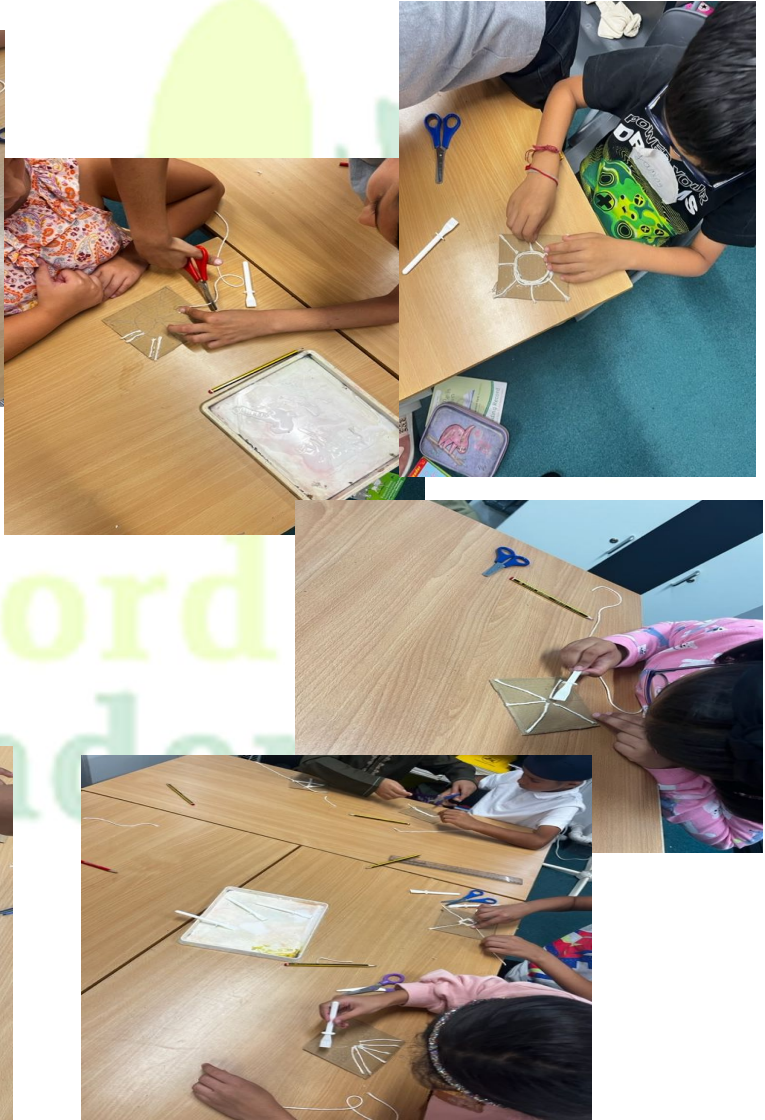
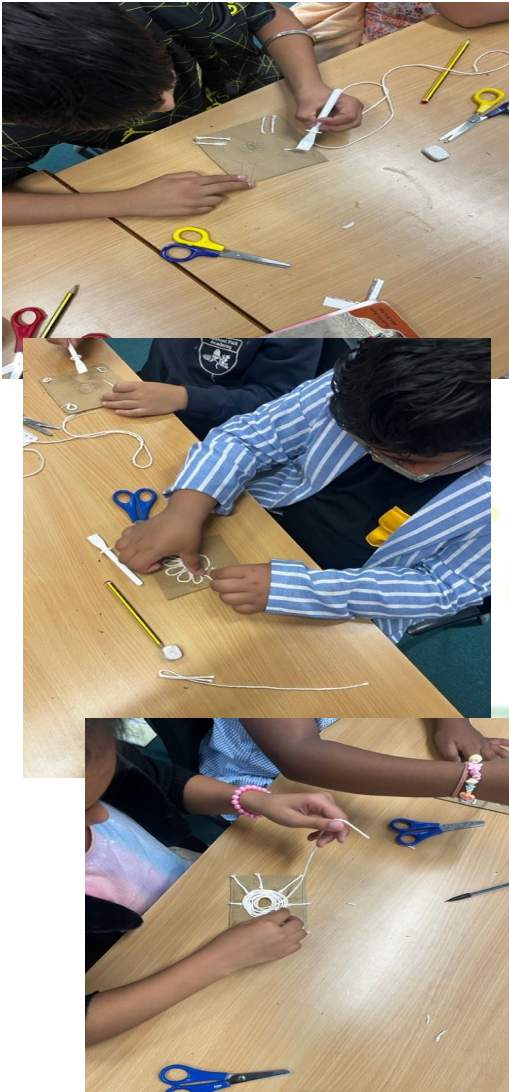
In history, year 3 created some fantastic cave paintings using watercolours to show what life was like during the Stone Age. The children used their knowledge from their history and talk for reading lessons to help them create their artwork.



Curriculum Showcase:

Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed exploring block printing within their Indian Art unit. They have created some beautiful designs!



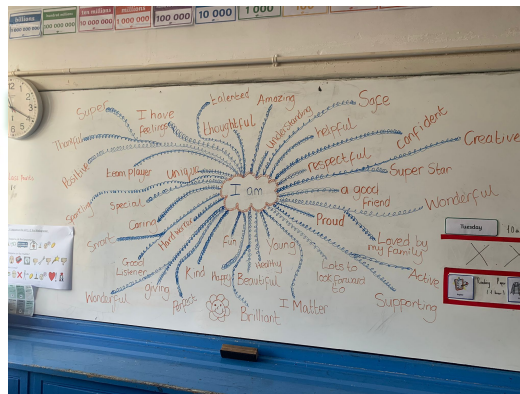
Curriculum Showcase:

Year 5

In PE today, year 5 spent time developing their low apparatus skills, ensuring that they were maintaining good posture, choreographing a sequence of movements and working safely as a team.



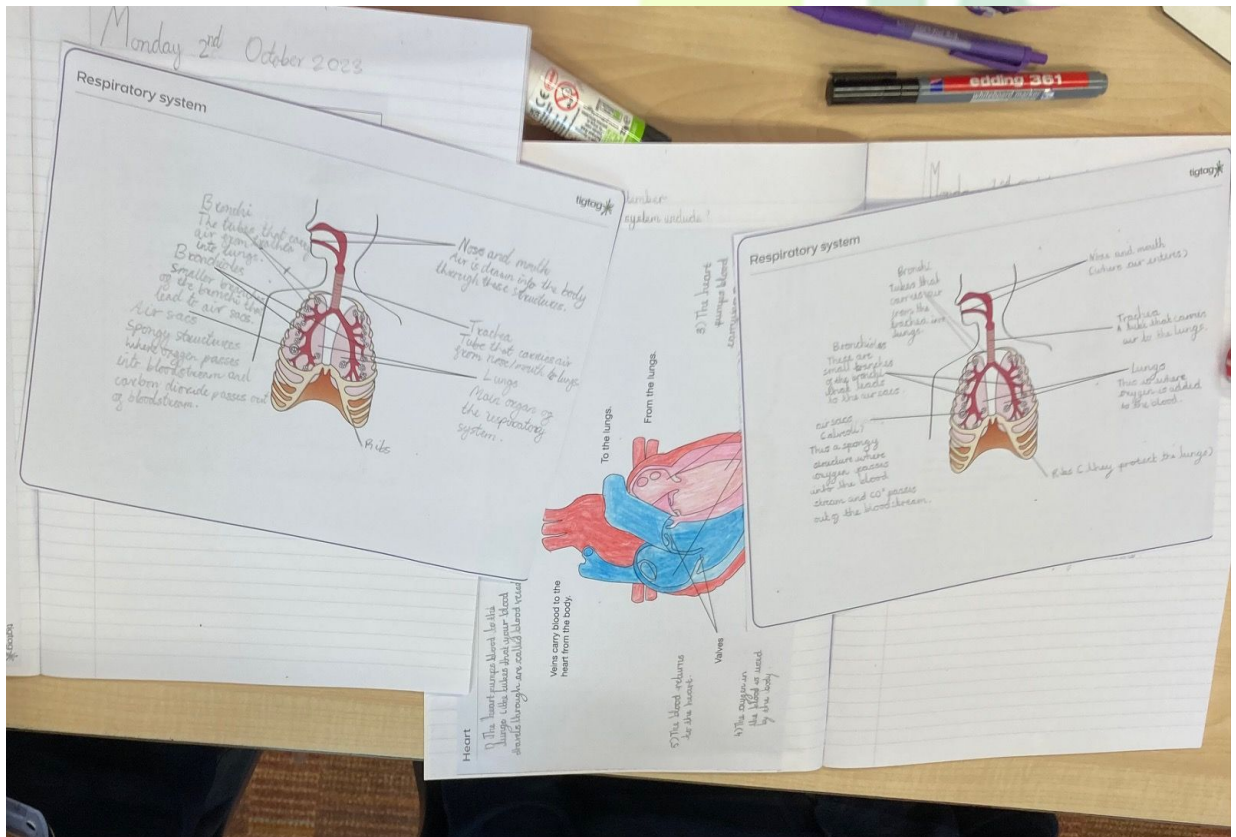
5HK were working hard on World Mental Health Day



Curriculum Showcase:

Year 6

In Science, Year 6 have been learning about the circulatory system and the respiratory system. We have also investigated the effect that exercise has on our pulse. Ask us to tell you about what we have learnt!

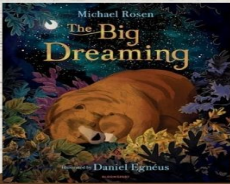


Mrs Hall's Recommended Reads

October 2023 Issue



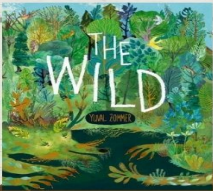
Nursery and Reception



From master storyteller Michael Rosen, this story tells of a big bear and a little bear preparing for their winter sleep. A beautiful, seasonal picturebook for ages 3 years and up.

The Big Dreaming by Michael Rosen

Year 1 and 2



A picturebook which reads like a fable – the 'Wild' is a personified being which generously supports the life that lives on its back, until one creature – humans – begins taking more than it needs. A gorgeously illustrated text about coexisting with the natural world and a call to environmental action.

The Wild by Yuval Zommer

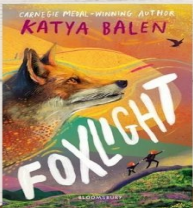
Year 3 and 4



Illustrated with stunning cut paper art, these seven poetic vignettes capture true stories of courage, hope, and resilience from around the world. This powerful picture book is a celebration of everyday heroes and how they make their communities a better place.

Imagine a Garden: Stories of Courage Changing the World by Rina Singh

Year 5 and 6



From the author of *October, October*, winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal, comes a heartbreaking and heart-warming story about sisterhood, found family and accepting love in the most unusual and unknown places.

Foxlight by Katya Balen



News:

Parent Governor Role

As part of the school's Academy Council there is a vacancy for a Parent Governor due to the term of office of one governor coming to an end. I should point out that the current parent governor is keen to continue in the role and will definitely be reapplying. However any applications from other interested parents are also welcomed.

Our Parent Governors are very valuable members of the Academy Council. We rely on them to help us to keep in touch with what parents are thinking and to help us to decide what is best for all our children.

Taking on the role is a significant commitment. Our Academy Council meets once a half term on a Wednesday and any committees would meet regularly also with additional training sessions on top. Meetings alternate between being during the school day and in the evenings.

You do not need to be an expert in the field of education, all you need to do is care about your child's school and be prepared to attend meetings and contribute to the future of the school.

The Term of Office for Parent Governors is four years.

If you would like further information and/or wish to apply, please call as soon as possible to arrange to speak to Sarah Evans the Principal.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 2nd November 2023. If there are more than 2 applications received a ballot will be arranged and voting papers sent to all parents.