



Building Bright Futures

Responsibility:
make good choices
because your
actions matter

Respect:
value everyone
and everything in
how you listen,
speak and in what
you do

Compassion:
show care and
understanding for
everyone

Courage:
be brave; believe
you can

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Blackwell News

Issue 14

24th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a restful break and are ready for an exciting and busy summer term ahead. The children have returned full of energy and enthusiasm, and we are delighted to begin a new term filled with fresh topics, engaging learning opportunities, and special events.

This term, our curriculum is bursting with creativity and discovery. Across the school, pupils are diving into new topics that inspire curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world around them. Some year groups have already begun exploring the fascinating question, "What happens inside our bodies?", encouraging children to think about health, biology, and how our bodies work.

We have also been celebrating important global events. World Art Day sparked creativity across the school, with children expressing themselves through a variety of artistic styles and techniques. Earth Day provided a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how we can care for our planet, with pupils taking part in discussions and activities focused on sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Learning has not been limited to the classroom. Our Squirrels class enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Observatory and Science Centre, where they explored science in a hands-on and engaging way. Meanwhile, Rabbits and Hares were thrilled to welcome some very special owl visitors. This unforgettable experience allowed the children to learn more about these magnificent birds up close—do take a look at the photographs in this edition!

Alongside our academic learning, we are also looking forward to a range of sporting events throughout the term. These activities promote teamwork, resilience, and healthy lifestyles, and we encourage all children to take part and enjoy themselves.

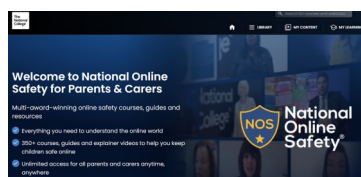
As always, we value your continued support and partnership. Please keep an eye on upcoming dates and events, and do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

We look forward to a term full of growth, achievement, and memorable experiences for all our pupils.

Sarah Martin,
Headteacher

Keep me safe online'

We want to help you to keep your child safe online, so please find below a couple of resources to support you. The QR Codes below provide you with easy access. Do take the time to have a quick look as there are step-by-step instructions, as well as short videos. www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/#choose-parental-controls-guide



Blackwell Art

On Wednesday 15th April it was World Art Day! It is on this date each year as it is celebrated on Leonardo Da Vinci's birthday. In art assembly we looked at why world art day is important and some famous artists. We then created our own 3D cliff sketches - children are selected at random from Y1-Y6 to have their artwork displayed. I promoted World Art day by asking children to create something at home and bring it in to show me. Here are some



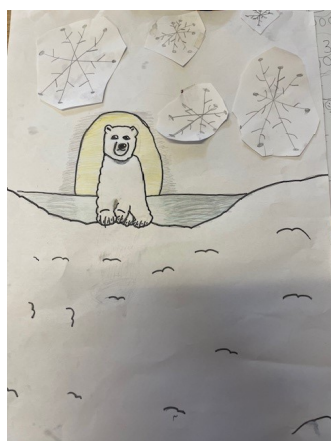
By Brian — Y2



By Emily — Y5



By Megan — Y5



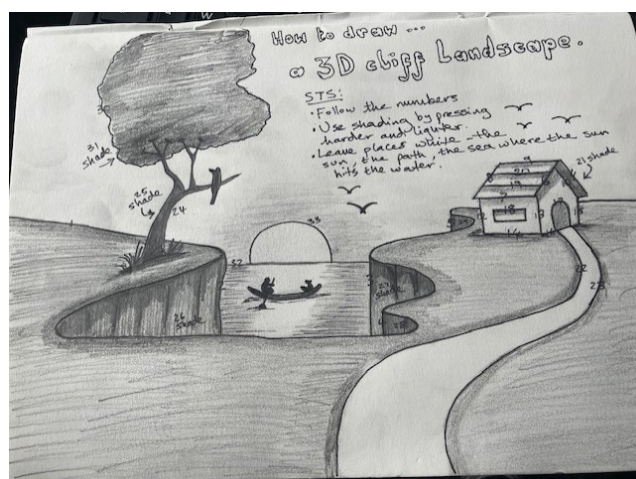
By Bella — Y2



By Vlad— Y2



Our whole school Art Assembly display



Miss Cantillon's example to celebrate World Art Day in art assembly

Sport

Cameron and Albert took part in a rugby tour last weekend in Bognor Regis, organized by Leicester Tigers. It was a great weekend with the team from East Grinstead U11's playing 6 games and losing just one, against teams from Birmingham, northern Ireland and southern England, losing just once and winning their pool group. Here they are with the trophy that was presented to them by ex England and World Cup winner Will Greenwood.

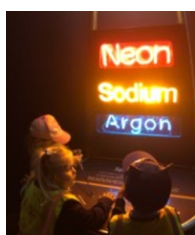
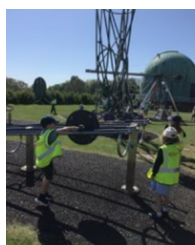


Year R

Squirrels Class enjoyed a fantastic and enriching trip to the Observatory and Science Centre in Herstmonceux on Wednesday this week. The children fully immersed themselves in a wide range of hands-on science experiences, exploring concepts such as forces, magnets, and light through engaging and interactive experiments.

A highlight of the day was a workshop where the children discovered what it is like to be an astronaut, sparking curiosity and excitement about space exploration. They also thoroughly enjoyed a lively science show, filled with fascinating demonstrations that brought scientific ideas to life. Beyond the structured activities, the children had time to explore the science-focused play area and the water exploration zone, where they continued their learning through play. Seeing the gigantic telescopes up close was another memorable moment, inspiring awe and wonder.

We are very proud of how well the children behaved throughout the trip—they represented our school brilliantly. A sincere thank you goes to our parent helpers for their support in making the day such a success.



Year 1

We are so excited to be starting our new topic 'What Grows in our Gardens?' The children are working towards creating their own clay flower sculptures inspired by Andy Goldsworthy a famous sculptor who collaborates with nature. The children have been looking at flowers, plants and fruit as well as thinking about the transition between spring and summer discussing what they can see in parks, woodlands and gardens. We have already seen lovely 'blooming' talent! Creating stunning print style flowers using vibrant colours.

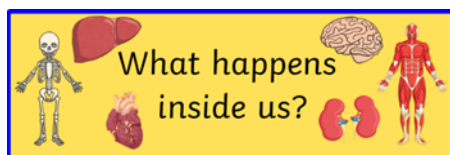


Year 2

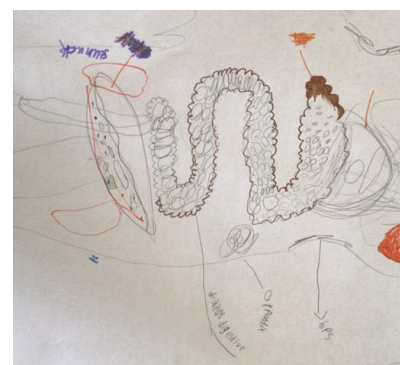
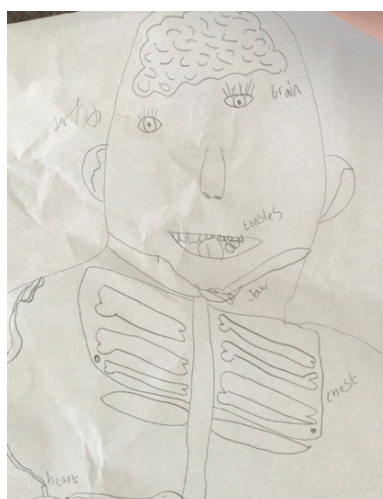
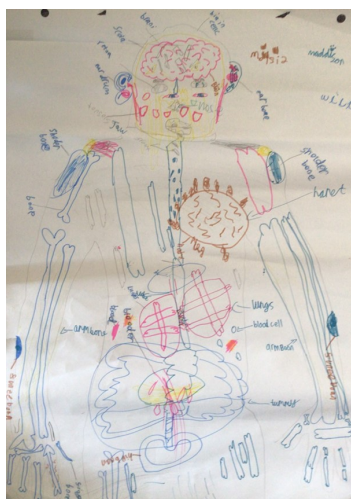
The children had an amazing flying visit from four different owls. They met Zarzu the Southern Faced White Owl from Africa, Aileen the long-eared owl from Europe, Bindi the Boobook owl from Australia and Hazel the Barn Owl who is native to the UK. We found out some interesting facts including that owls have ears in different places on their face and that Barn owls can hear the heart-beat of mice from quite far away because their hearing is so good. The owls flew very close over our heads. Whilst we couldn't hear their silent flights, we could feel their wings or the air moving as they swooped over head. It was an unforgettable experience.



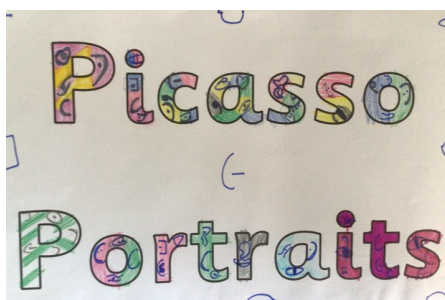
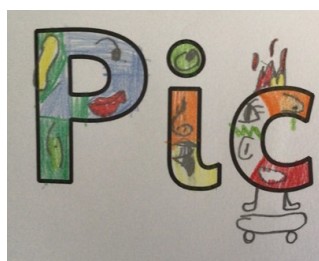
Year 3 and 4



In Years 3 and 4, we launched our 'What happens inside our bodies?' science focused learning journey. We began with our 'hook' where the children drew around each other and then were challenged to draw and label what is inside their bodies. The teachers were impressed with their scientific knowledge from prior learning such as why we have vocal chords and what organs we have in our bodies. The children raised interesting scientific questions which we be exploring in future weeks such as: Why do we have an appendix? Why do we have two kidneys and what is their purpose? Here are some photographs of their learning:



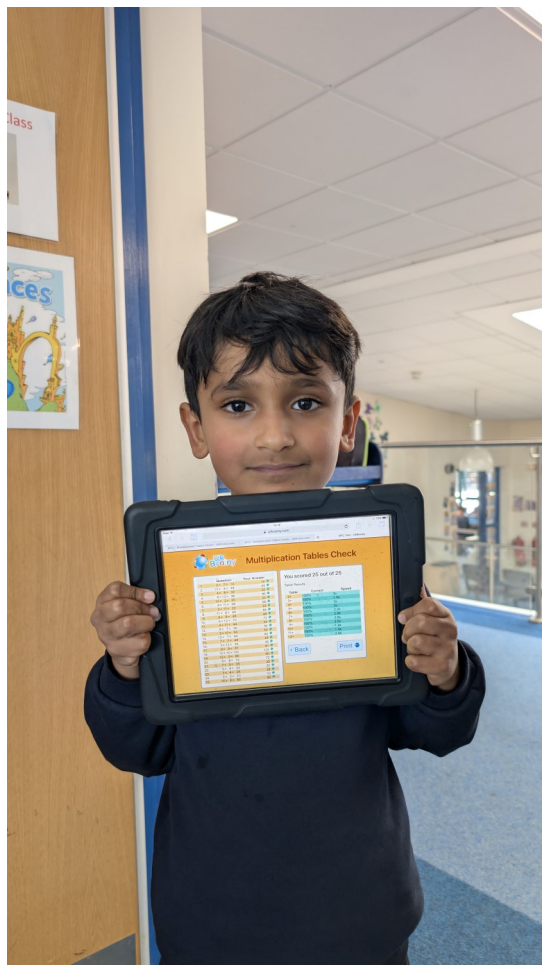
In Art, we are learning about the master of cubism, Pablo Picasso. We learned how he had a 'blue' and 'rose' period and that he was a pioneer of the cubist style. We explored cubism through face shapes and used these to create our title pages. Here are some examples of our learning:



Year 3 & 4

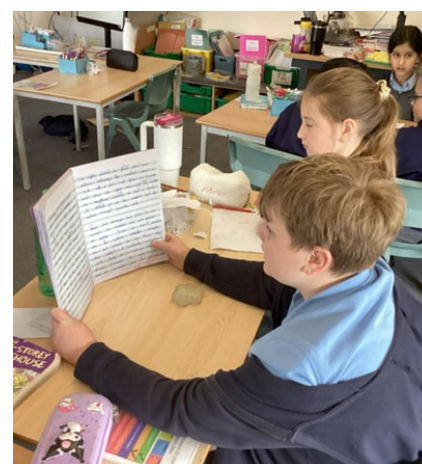
We are incredibly proud of the children who have recently earned full marks on their MTC test. Their hard work, perseverance and positive attitudes towards learning have really shone through. Getting full marks not only reflects their growing confidence with multiplication facts, but also the strong foundations they have built in maths.

This achievement is a testament to the children's and the encouragement they receive at home.



Year 5

Year 5 have completed their suspense narrative; focusing on empty words, short snappy sentences, 'show not tell', precise words, prepositions and speech. After editing and revising their writing, they have shared them with Year 3 and 4. The objective was for the younger students to draw a comic strip showing the details of story read to them. The success of this activity was dependent on Year 5's ability to fully describe what was happening in this scene of the story.



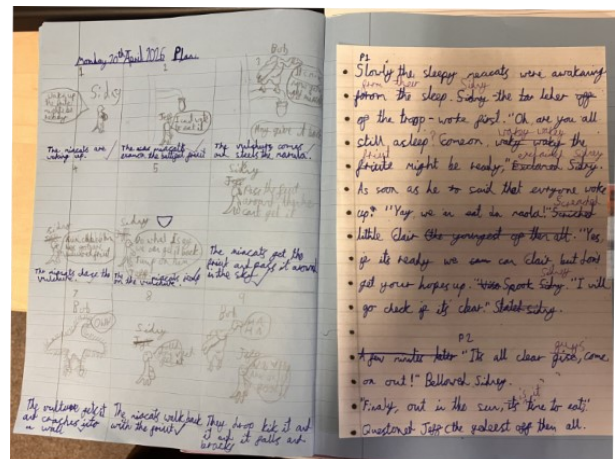
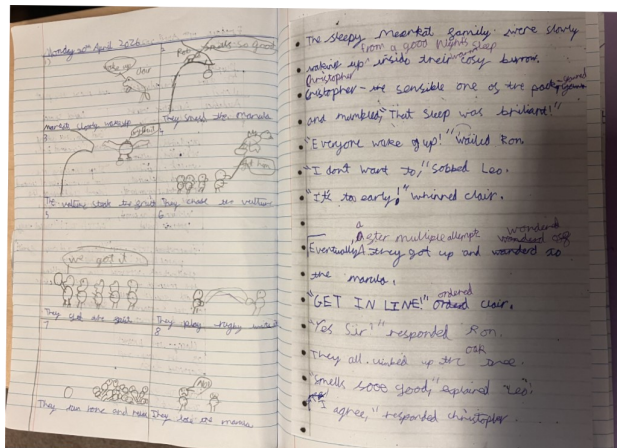
In Science, the children dissected flowers and then labelled the different parts of the flower. This directly links to what we have been learning about in Literacy and Science in our Pollination topic. The children took care to label the different parts using their new scientific language.



Year 6

Year 6 have been having fun writing a narrative with dialogue to move the plot along. They have based their writing around a short video called, 'Catch It!' where a group of meerkats have their prized fruit stolen by an evil vulture.

After story-boarding their plot as part of their planning session, learners ensured they got lots of characterization into their narratives as well as properly punctuating their characters' speech.



May 2026	
4th	Bank Holiday—children not in school
5th	Children return to school Honeybees class assembly—parents invited
6th	EYFS Transition Evening
7th	Polling Day—school open as normal
11th—14th	KS2 SATS
18th	PTA Cake sale 8.00—9.00am and 3.00—4.00pm Class photos
20th	Parents' Forum 8.50am—9.50am
22nd	INSET Day—School Closed to children.
25th	Bank Holiday—children not in school
26th—29th	Half Term Holidays—children not in school

June 2026	
1st	Children return to school
5th	PTA Summer Fair—more details to follow
10th	Year 2 trip to Ovingdean Beach
17th	Parents' Forum 8.50am—9.50am New Reception Parent Meeting 6.00pm—7.00pm
29th	Sports Day—more details to follow

July 2026	
1st—3rd	Year 6—Sackville Induction New Reception Children Stay and Play session 2.15—2.45pm
7th	Squirrels class assembly — parents invited
8th	New Reception Children Stay and Play session 1.50—2.50pm
13th	New Reception Children Stay and Play session 9.30—10.30am
22nd	Last day of term
23rd -	Summer Holidays—School closed to children

September 2026	
1st	INSET Day School closed to children
2nd	Children back to school
2nd—7th	Home visits for New Reception children
8th	New Reception children first day—going home for lunch
9th	New Reception children go home after lunch
10th	New Reception children start full time