



May 2020 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

We wanted to use this summer newsletter to share with you all of the fantastic work that the children have been doing in lockdown. The level of engagement and support on Class Dojo has been tremendous and all our teachers have really appreciated your regular posts and messages.

The quality of work has been impressive – our teachers have trained for years and years to develop their expertise, and yet you have been asked to do this job overnight! Thank you so much for the brilliant job you're doing.

We have been setting a wide range of tasks and it was great to receive feedback that you are happy with the range of work provided. This is intended to offer a wide choice of different learning, to suit all levels of interest, knowledge and skill in each class. I'm also really delighted that you feel our teachers have been able to support you through their video guides on You Tube and by regular communication on Class Dojo. If you're feeling in any way overwhelmed, please don't hesitate to contact your teacher who can guide you through the learning and help you to prioritise, according to the specific needs of your child.

You may have noticed that our website has changed slightly. Each class page now has a weekly newsfeed update, where teachers will post an overview of learning for the week. Everything you need for the week will then be published on Class Dojo, so that you can directly pose questions or comments to the teacher about the learning. Despite our frequent posts and messages on Dojo, if you feel that you'd like a phone call, please don't hesitate to get in touch directly with your class teacher.

We really do miss the children and I hope that we are all back in school as soon as possible and safe to do so. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy reading about what our children have been up to in lockdown and finding out about how some of our teaching staff have been setting their own learning goals!

With my very best wishes to you all,

Best wishes,

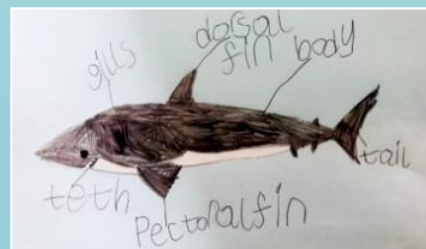
Jenny Stewart

Headteacher



Reception Update

The children in Reception have blown me away with their home learning. One enquiry that the children were investigating was 'What lives under the sea?' They created amazing under the sea scenes, researched all about Octopus and created fact files and completed writing tasks. The next enquiry which they are excited about, they have started mind mapping everything they know about space and what they would like to learn. They were particularly excited about making their own rockets to fly to space.



Year 1 Update

For our home learning Year 1 have been learning about plants and growing. We have found out how a seed grows and what happens in each season. We have been out searching for different types of flowers and trees and even grown our own cress heads. Year 1 have also been doing some of their own growing:

- Max has learnt to ride a bike without stabilisers!
- Stanley and Lola have both lost a baby tooth ready for a new tooth to arrive! • Bobby has helped measure and build a willow dome!
- Tommy and his brother Harry have a new calf to help look after!



Mrs Gibbons

During lockdown, I realised I hadn't bought any tomato seeds so I thought I'd use some tomatoes I already had!

These seedlings show just 3 weeks of growth.

Mrs Gibbons



Miss Edge

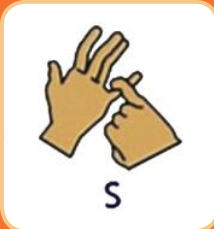
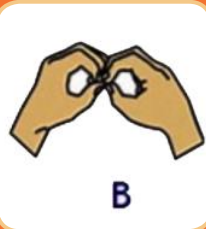
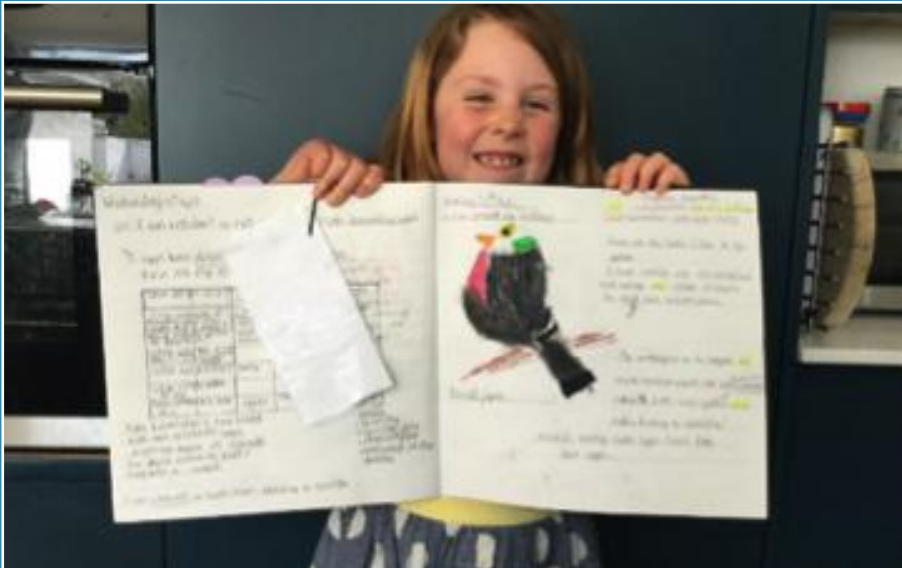
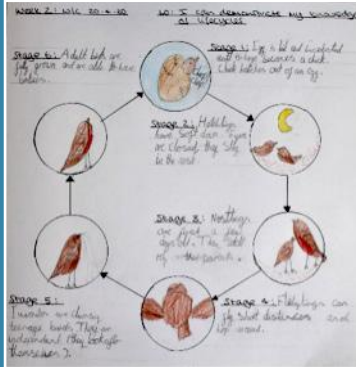
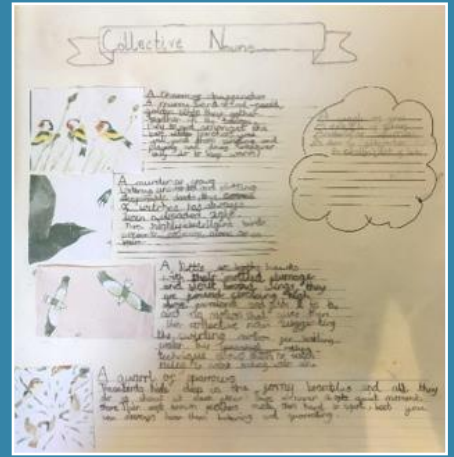
During lockdown I have spent lots of time learning how to incubate chicken eggs in the hope of having a few of my own. It's proving harder than I thought, and I have to get up at 6am to turn the eggs!! Wish me luck, I'm on countdown to see if it has worked. Now I just need to think of some names....

Miss Edge



Year 2 Update

Year 2 have been scientists, inventors, designers and artists this term! The children have been looking at ways of caring for birds in their local area, such as their gardens or local parks. They have made birds nests to test out different materials, carried out surveys and tested different bird feeders.



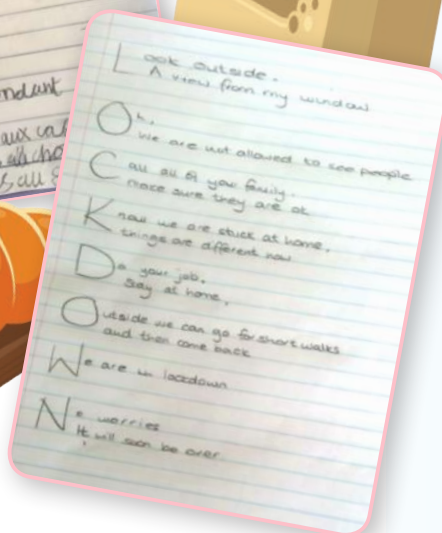
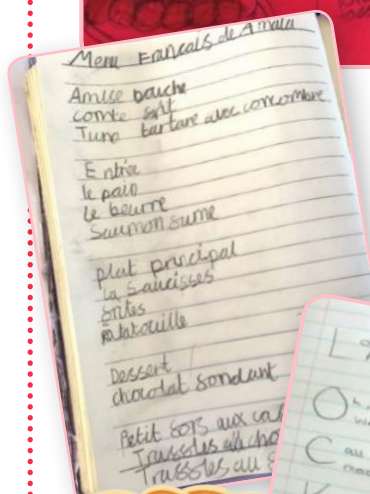
Miss Betts: Sign Language

Since Lockdown I've been doing my own learning via online course's which I've found very interesting. I've also been able to rekindle my love for BSL (British Sign Language). Having learnt to sign many years ago, I've not had the need to use it so much over the last few years.



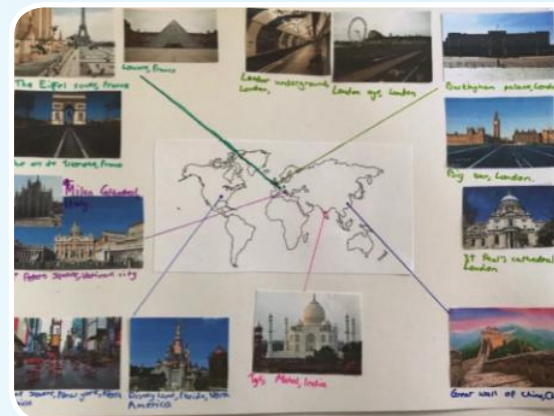
Year 3 Update

We've been really busy in Year Three, making time capsules to capture all that's been going on in these strange times. We've created pictures of our view from the window whilst we've been inside. We've also written diaries and made up our own games to play whilst stuck at home and we've even written some poetry to be sealed away for future generations. The children got really creative and have made all sorts of things to go in the capsule – a perfect way for future children to learn about COVID-19. More recently, we've been carrying on our French learning by looking at food and creating menus.



Year 4 Update

School closures and Lock down have certainly brought with it some challenges and changing times but year 4 have risen to the occasion. In order to make their learning as up to date, meaningful and purposeful as possible their learning enquiry question was: Can I record history as it happens?



Class 4, have worked hard at looking at different means of recording history. This has included diary writing, creating time lines, capturing headlines from the latest news. Events such as the Queen's birthday, VE day, and of course the inspirational Captain Tom Moore himself has been featured and captured.

They have captured evidence through photos including images of signs, empty beaches on sunny days and deserted buildings that would normally be crowded. Images that we are unlikely to see again in our lifetime. Interviews have been recorded with their friends and family both near and far and they have applied the skill of using questioning to gather as much information as possible. Their findings have been recorded using a variety of sources such as phone calls, messaging by text, recordings and some even used the wonders of zoom and face time. Just as famous war poets have recorded history through poetry so too has class 4. Learning about acrostic and 'Cinquain' style poems has enabled them to write about the significance of the rainbow during this time and other significant people such as the one and only Joe Wicks who greets us every morning come rain or shine, even with a broken arm!.

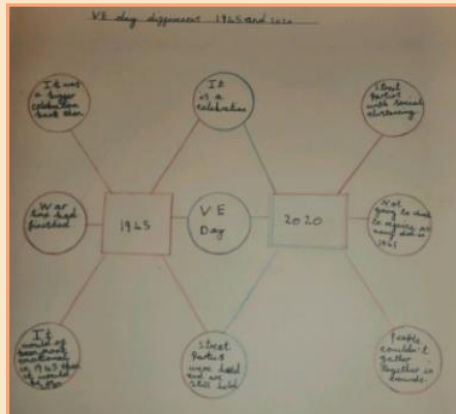
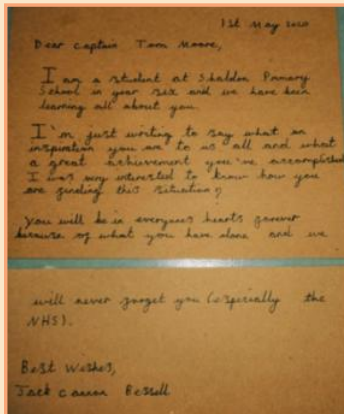
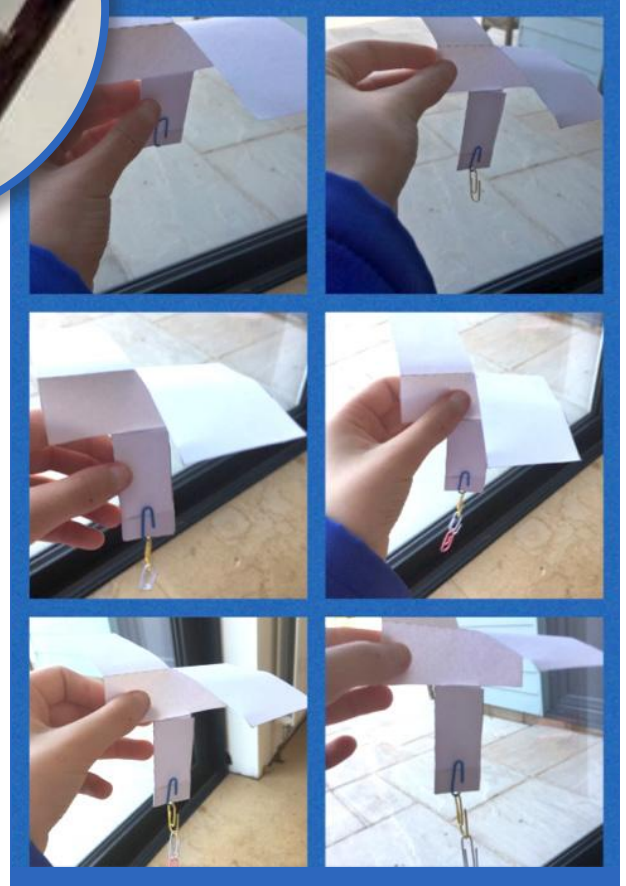
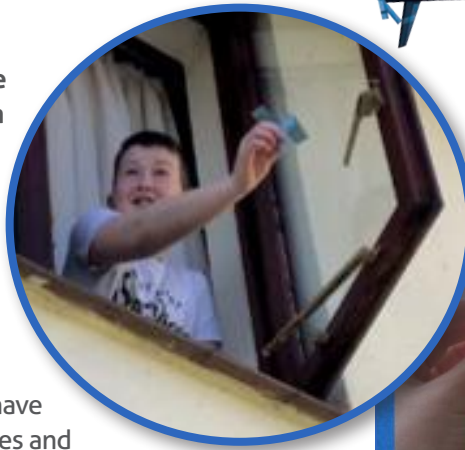
Class 4 have produced some highly informative and creative journals which reflect on these strange times. They have learnt more about not only themselves but their family and others and how wonderful and inspirational people can be in times of need. Each page is individual as everyone has a different story to tell. Creativity has been able to shine and families have worked together to produce a keepsake. Memories they can look back on and share forever whether they be good or bad.



Year 5 Update

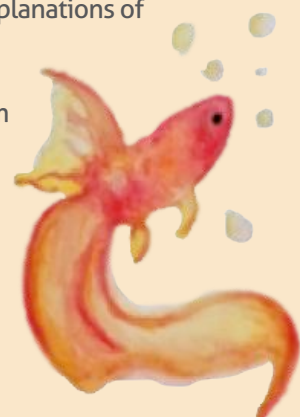
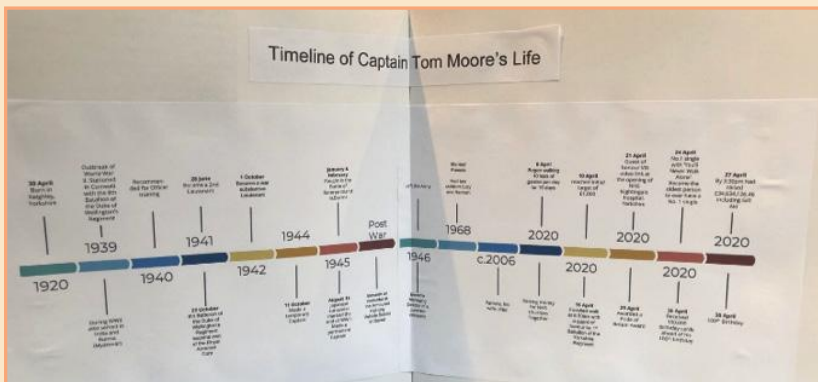
Its been a very strange couple of months for everyone, but there are still some amazing things going on in year 5 through home learning projects.

We have spent time journaling about what life has been like under lockdown as well as learning about a true hero that emerged from the times we are living in – captain Tom Moore. We have also spent time learning about forces and carried out a paper helicopter investigation. The children have even tried their hands at being teachers themselves. It has been a challenging time but I have been amazed, not just be the work that year 5 children are sending to me, but also the other activities children have been doing such as gardening, cooking, fundraising and even tie-dying.



Year 6 Update

Class 6 have been incredible during the lockdown! Their resilience, creativity and passion for learning has been fantastic to see and they have embraced the challenges that working from home brings with it. We have all had to adapt to a new way of working but the children and parents of Class 6 have quickly learnt how to use Class Dojo to submit fantastic examples of their home learning. Submissions have ranged from some incredible examples of reflective journal pages; brilliant pieces of carefully thought out and creative writing; precise mathematical explanations of challenging reasoning problems; incredible examples of a wide range of curriculum subjects from PE to art and computing; and the superbly choreographed and executed 'Blinding Lights' challenge (which Mr Claridge still needs to complete!) Keep up the amazing attitudes to learning everyone!



Music Update

Music has continued to flourish amongst our Shaldon family during the lockdown. On Class Dojo, many children have posted recordings of themselves playing their musical instruments and singing what they have practised at home. Some children have also had online music lessons with their instrumental teacher, having fun within the virtual world, in a different learning environment. In school, children of key workers have had a music lesson each week with Mrs. Price, learning body percussion phrases, tongue twisters and new songs. Keep posting your musical videos onto your Class Dojos - they are great to watch and see the amazing progress you are making.



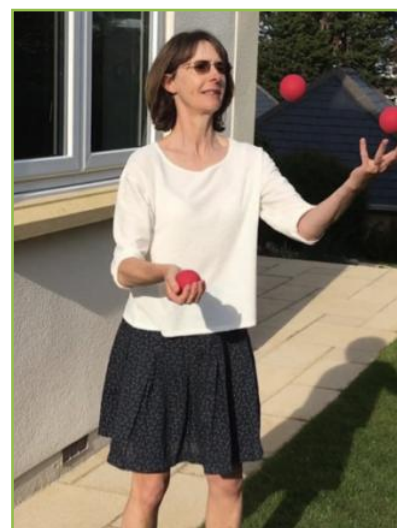
I learnt how to clip my dog's coat - now he's nice and cool!

Miss Hutton

PE Update

The children have kicked off each day by doing Joe Wicks PE so after 6 weeks should be feeling fitter. KS1 children have particularly loved learning to use a balance bike and have really gained confidence. KS2 have enjoyed having a choice of activities and longer sessions on PE. Dodgeball is a favourite and we've also had fun with tennis rounder and handball.

It's been quite a different experience to my normal school day and great to work with small groups to help them improve their skills. Try to stay active every day.



I have been learning to juggle during lockdown - This is great exercise as I have to keep bending down to pick up the balls when I drop them! Try it out with any small ball, it is great fun.

Sally

Green Fingers

During lockdown my family and I have discovered the joy of gardening. I have never been particularly 'green fingered' but that has probably been more about not taking the time to do it properly than anything else.

The children are growing vegetables from seed on the windowsill and every day we huddle over our little pots to see if there has been any change in status. I can't tell you how excited we were at the first sight of greenery coming out of the soil.

We have enjoyed our first lovely radishes and are waiting patiently for the peas, tomatoes and cucumbers to make an appearance. I'm really looking forward to our first salad of home grown produce!

Lou Williams



FOSS UPDATE

We hope you are all well and staying safe! Unfortunately, due to the current situation, we will be cancelling all fundraising events for this term but you can still help raise money by doing the following:

- **Register with easyfundraising – every time you shop online, FOSS gets cashback at no extra cost to you. It really is as easy as it sounds! If you're already registered, please remember to use the easyfundraising site to click-through to earn cashback.**
- **If you're using the time to clear out wardrobes, remember that we have regular Bag2School collections and will have them booked back in as soon as this is possible. Have a look at the Bag2School website for a list of accepted items.**
- **If you have relatively un-used school uniform (in good condition please!) which the children have grown out of during lockdown, keep it for us and we'll hold a uniform sale to raise money as soon as we are able.**
- **If you need non-sew labels for uniform, ordering STIKINS (using code 17729) generates commission for FOSS.**

Don't forget that new volunteers are always needed. Parents assume that we have loads of volunteers but this is not the case! If you would like to get involved, please drop us a line at foshaldonschool@gmail.com or via Facebook messenger.

All hands on deck!

This area was a piece of concrete with weeds growing through the cracks 7 weeks ago. I learnt a new skill as I helped Mr. Brooks make this new decked area. The wood we used was reclaimed from Teignmouth Pier. So I was probably walking along this wood as a child, 40+ years ago...

I cut the damp proof membrane with a Stanley knife - in to strips. I then stapled the strips on to the wood underneath. This will help any rain to be repelled so that the wood doesn't rot. It took me about 3 hours to cover underneath the whole surface. I would like to claim the workmanship for the whole deck but that would be very unfair on Mr. Brooks!

Mrs Brooks



Hello everyone. I hope you are all well and keeping safe. I have, as well as reading lots and taking my dogs out, been busy doing lots of online courses to brush up my understanding and learning new things.

One course that I did find very interesting was all about listening skills. Did you know that there are 9 steps to being a good listener? I didn't and I need to get better at it.

Here is a photo of one of my dogs, Luna who is keeping me company under my desk.



Mrs Rowland

Lockdown Crafting

Hello everyone, I hope you all well and staying safe and are well. Over the last few weeks like the children I have also been doing a lot of home learning. Each day when I haven't been in school I have turned on the computer and completed a number of online courses on a number of different subjects. It's good to keep the brain active and learn about new things. I have also got the knitting needles out, I haven't knitted for a long time so I was a little rusty to start but I've got the hang of it now. I have dusted off my sewing machine and I'm attempting to make face masks, I think I'm going to need a bit of practice to get them right. I look forward to hearing what new things you have been doing. Stay safe.

Sammi Naish



During the lockdown I have been mastering my baking/cooking, up-cycling furniture and photography skills. We have also got a new kitten!



Nadia





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