

Ofsted Good Provider

March 2026

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

BE KIND, *BE* DETERMINED, *BE* PROUD

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a busy and productive month, with a wide range of experiences that have supported the children's learning both in and out of the classroom. Year 1 had their tour of Plymouth, seeking out and identifying local landmarks. Year 5 visited the cinema to watch Oceans by David Attenborough, which linked closely to their curriculum work and prompted thoughtful discussion back in school. Many classes have also visited Efford Valley as part of their science learning. These visits provided valuable opportunities for children to observe, explore and apply their knowledge in a practical, outdoor environment.



Reading continues to be a key focus across the school. In addition to regular visits to the library, our school librarians recently visited the Schools Library Service to restock our shelves. They took this role seriously, selecting a wide range of texts to appeal to different interests and age groups. It has been encouraging to see the positive impact this has already had, with lots of enthusiasm for reading across the school. Please continue to log your child's reading on Boom Reader during the holidays- whatever they read!



Supporting children's wellbeing remains an important priority. The Mental Health in Schools Team delivered workshops to Year 2, helping pupils to better understand their emotions and develop simple strategies to manage them. These sessions were well received and have supported ongoing work in class. Year 6 also took part in a knife safety workshop led by the police. This provided clear, age-appropriate guidance and encouraged pupils to think carefully about personal safety and responsibility.



We have welcomed a number of visitors into school this term. Bob the Badger visited preschool and Reception as part of their tooth brushing sessions, our local councillors spent time with the children to listen to their 'Pick up after your pets' campaign. We have also hosted several visiting authors, whose sessions have helped to promote reading and writing, as well as giving children the opportunity to engage with books in a different way. Comic Relief Day was marked with a whole-school Crazy Hair Day. This was well supported and enabled us to raise money for charity. Thank you for getting involved - there really were some super styles. Alongside these events, children have approached their learning with focus and commitment, producing work they can be proud of. As always, the children continue to make us proud. They work hard, show kindness towards one another, and take pride in their achievements. We wish you all a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you again on Monday 20th April.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs Jones

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 4th April- Monday 20th April Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April

1st Day of Term 5

Wednesday 22nd April

5LS Virtual Author Event - Earth Day

4SM Swimming Lesson at Plymouth College

Thursday 23rd April

Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub

Mental Health Support Team to deliver Mindfulness session to Year 4

Friday 24th April

Year 6 Virtual Author Event - Totally Chaotic History

PTA Treat Friday

Monday 27th- Thursday 30th April

Mock SATs week for Year 6

Monday 27th April

Year 6 Virtual Author Event - River Thief

Wednesday 29th April

4SM Swimming Lesson at Plymouth College

Plymouth Family Hub to run 'Ready Steady School' - Dell Centre 1:30-2:30pm

Thursday 30th April

Year 1 trip to Efford Library

Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub 12:30-2:30pm

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CLASS UPDATES







Preschool

What a superb month Preschool has had! The children have fully embraced their theme of 'On the Move' and have enjoyed learning new rhymes. One of their favourite rhymes has been 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat.' They have particularly enjoyed exploring how some of the words in the rhyme can be changed and by doing this they have encountered crocodiles and bears on their trips down the river! Preschool were fascinated by boats and they loved building their own, exploring new vocabulary such as 'sail' and 'mast' as they did so. The children then took their boats to the water and not only found out if they would float or sink but how they could move their boat across the water! During our tuning into sounds sessions, the children have learnt new phonemes, their ability to recognise the initial phoneme in a word when it is spoken has really developed. Our youngest preschool children love choosing which rhymes they would like to sing each day and are joining in with such enthusiasm. In our number sessions, the oldest children have been exploring what happens when we add one and when we take one away as well as how we can partition numbers. The youngest children have focussed on their counting skills and the number four. We are so impressed by the progress that the children are making. We have had so much fun in our PE sessions this month as we have been learning how we can move our bodies to music and learning some new dances. In our music sessions, we have been travelling around the world, finding out about music in different countries. Our favourite place to visit was China! Well done Preschool for another super month of learning, playing and exploring together.

Reception







Class RSC have enjoyed another fantastic month, full of exciting learning opportunities through their 'Dinosaur Detectives!' topic. The children have fully embraced their roles as palaeontologists, exploring the fascinating world of dinosaurs. They have learned about herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores, as well as how dinosaurs once lived. Over the term, they have produced some wonderful pieces of artwork, discovered dinosaur facts, and even had the exciting experience of hatching their very own dinosaur eggs. In Maths, they have continued to develop their understanding of 2D and 3D shapes.

During Phonics, the children have shown fantastic effort and determination when reading and writing longer words, demonstrating great perseverance in their learning. They are also becoming increasingly confident in using their phonics skills to write words and sentences independently. In PE, the children have thoroughly enjoyed the 'dance' unit, developing their expressive movement skills. They have explored the concept of space, practising how to use it safely, while experimenting with travelling movements, shapes, and balances to music.

We enjoyed a lovely walk to Efford Library, where the children had the opportunity to explore the books and discover the library. Reception have also celebrated Mother's Day with a wonderful assembly that they worked incredibly hard to perform. It was wonderful to see their confidence shining through and we were incredibly proud of all of them. What a fun-filled month it has been - well done, Reception!

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CLASS UPDATES







Year 1

March has been a busy and exciting month for our Year 1 class! We began with a wonderful open-top bus tour of Plymouth, where the children enjoyed spotting key landmarks and learning more about the city they live in. This trip supported our Geography learning, helping us explore different types of homes and understand how Plymouth has changed over time. The children asked thoughtful questions and made great observations throughout the day. In PE, we have been creating a pirate-themed dance, carefully sequencing our movements in preparation for a performance to our peers. The children have shown great creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm as they practised and refined their routines. In PSHE, our "Healthy Me" topic has focused on what makes a balanced diet and how we can live a healthy lifestyle, including exercise, rest and making positive choices. In Maths, we have been learning about length and height, using both non-standard and standard units to measure and compare objects accurately. In English, the children wrote thoughtful letters expressing concerns about environmental issues and suggesting ways to make positive changes. Our whole-class reading book, The Dark, has inspired rich discussions, with a focus on vocabulary and developing inference skills. In DT, we have explored different fabrics and practised basic stitching techniques, including threading a needle, showing great perseverance. Well done to everyone for their hard work this month, we are very proud of them!

Year 2

March has been another exciting month of learning in Year 2! The highlight for all of the children was our fantastic trip to Saltram House for a fun-filled day of Science learning. Having completed lots of learning in school about the different habitats in our world, it was a lovely opportunity for the children to see a woodland habitat up close and everyone enjoyed taking part in the day's hands-on learning experiences. Another highlight for 2RB has been the opportunity to take part in some competitions, with lots of creativity shown through facts on World Book Day as well as sharing posters about their curiosities during British Science Week. It has been lovely to see the children continue these learning opportunities at home. Year 2 have been lucky enough to have their PSHE lessons this term with the Livewell MHST team. The children have loved learning all about their thinking, behaviours and experiences and they have done a great job of learning strategies to help them when they might feel anxious or afraid. In Music, we have continued our learning about The Great Fire of London by exploring pieces of Music from this time period. We have been learning songs with a focus on dynamics when we perform. We have also been looking at beat groupings and having a go at following some rhythm notation too. Well done for all of your hard work this month, Year 2!

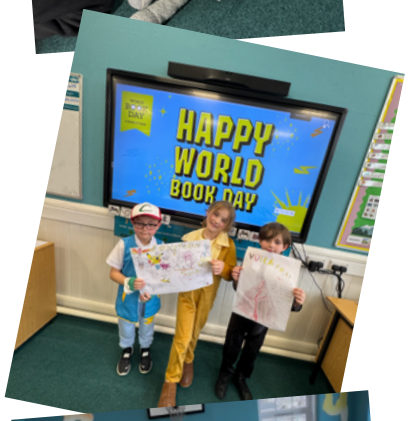




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CLASS UPDATES







Year 3

This month, Year 3 have enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities alongside their learning, including British Science Week, World Book Day, and Crazy Hair Day! During British Science Week, the children had great fun exploring different types of aircraft and testing out their own creative designs. We were also delighted to see everyone's enthusiasm on World Book Day, with fantastic costumes inspired by their favourite characters. Crazy Hair Day for Comic Relief was another highlight, and the children put in an amazing effort with their imaginative hairstyles.

In Science, we have been exploring the topic of light. The children have enjoyed experimenting with torches and classroom objects, learning about how light travels and investigating the differences between opaque, translucent, and transparent materials. In PE, our dance unit has been a real success. The children began by creating mechanical movements with stiff and rigid motifs. More recently, they have been developing seaside-inspired dances, which has tied in beautifully with the recent sunny weather. In French, the children have been working hard to learn the names of different fruits and can now express their likes and dislikes in simple sentences. We are very much looking forward to connecting with our partner school in France again, as we prepare to send videos and Easter cards for their pupils. In Geography, the children have been fascinated by learning about volcanoes and mountains. They have explored how volcanoes are formed, the different layers of the Earth, and why volcanoes are found in certain parts of the world. It has been a busy and enjoyable month, and we are very proud of all the children's hard work and enthusiasm!







Year 4

What a hands-on, busy month for Year 4! We began the month with a lovely walk to Efford Valley where we investigated the vertebrates, invertebrates and plants we could find. Back at school, we analysed and compared our findings with the data we gathered in the autumn to see how seasonal changes affect the flora and fauna of our local area. The children loved being outside in the fresh air and getting stuck into some hands-on fieldwork. In DT, we've had great fun building prototypes of a variety of chassis including a simple chassis, a slingshot car and a wind-up car. The children showed excellent initiative and fantastic teamwork throughout. In Science, we've been really enjoying our Electricity unit. The children have been fascinated by using the equipment to build a series of circuits to support their investigations. It has been great to see the children develop their scientific thinking through practical, experiential learning. In Music, we've loved listening to and creating our own samba pieces. The children did brilliantly creating their own call-and-response songs, accompanying them with percussion instruments. This has linked beautifully with PE where we are also exploring samba through dance. The children have been so enthusiastic meaning our PE lessons are full of smiles and giggles as everyone finds their groove!

CLASS UPDATES

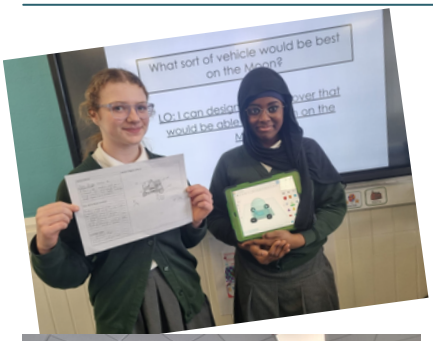
Year 5





What a busy few weeks we've had in Year 5! World Book Day was a real highlight - everyone loved dressing up as their favourite characters and the creativity on show was fantastic. We also had a special trip to the cinema to watch Oceans with Sir David Attenborough guiding us through the wonders of the deep; the sweet treats the children brought with them certainly added to the excitement. In English, we've been busy writing our own versions of the traditional tale Hansel and Gretel, adding twists, new settings, and imaginative characters. Alongside this, we've been exploring The Journey of Everyday Objects, discovering how familiar items are made and the fascinating processes behind them. Maths has been another area of real success. The children have shown great confidence working with fractions, decimals, and percentages, applying their skills with accuracy and enthusiasm.In Music, Year 5 have been composing their own pieces inspired by The Planets by Gustav Holst, experimenting with dynamics, pitch, tempo and instrumentation to represent different worlds.

Finally, in Geography we have been learning about biomes and ecosystems and how they work together to support a huge variety of living things; the children have especially enjoyed learning about how different species adapt to survive in their environments.







6LG

6LG have continued to work incredibly hard towards their SATs preparation, and we are so impressed with the progress they have made! The children have reflected on their own pride in their increasing scores, confidence and test skills, and it is wonderful to see how far they have come. In Maths, children have worked hard to use the four operations with decimals as well as integers, alongside calculating missing angles in our geometry learning. During our English lessons, we have been exploring the fascinating story of Beowulf. The children have discovered a wide range of new vocabulary, and have enjoyed creating gruesome descriptions of the terrible beast, Grendel! We have reached the end of our class novel, 'Street Child', which everyone successfully quizzed on, and many are keen to read the sequel and discover the fate of Jim's older sisters. Our next text is a poetry compilation by Benjamin Zephaniah, and we have already enjoyed dipping in to discover poems about racism, hope and a very strange beetle! In our PE lessons, alongside some excellent dance performances exploring rhythm, movement and syncopation, we have also been logging our mile runs in preparation for the Schools Challenge in May - it is wonderful to see children's determination and fitness improving! A highlight of the last month has been our DT learning, where the children have used hand-drawn sketches then CAD to create designs of new playground equipment. We have then built scale prototypes of our ideas using card, wood, string and rather a lot of PVA glue! The children have worked hard to fulfil their brief, ensuring that their structures are stable, safe, accessible and aesthetically pleasing. Great work 6LG!

CLASS UPDATES

6CL

This month, we are incredibly proud of how Year 6 have continued to show determination and resilience in their SATs preparation. They have made excellent progress in securing their arithmetic skills and are now applying the four operations with more confidence across a range of questions – a fantastic achievement. In English, we have been thoroughly enjoying reading Beowulf. The children have focused on understanding the language of the text, sequencing key events and developing their writing by using extended sentences with a range of clauses and phrases to build detailed descriptions. In Maths, we have recently completed our decimals unit. The children have been adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals, and have worked hard to overcome challenges, particularly when multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. We are very proud of the progress they have made. The class have also been loving their Dance unit in PE. Earlier in the month, they explored the energetic 'Stomp' style, learning to use changes in dynamics in response to a stimulus. More recently, they have been learning Bhangra, demonstrating a strong sense of rhythm and energy in their performances – it has been great fun to watch! We are continuing to enjoy our class text, Street Child, in our Whole Class Reading sessions. The children were shocked to discover that Jim had been sold and forced to work in a warehouse. They made thoughtful comparisons between the warehouse and the workhouse, and will next focus on developing their ability to form impressions using evidence from the text. Finally, in DT, the children have been designing and creating prototypes of playground structures. They began by using Tinkercad, a 3-D design tool, to create prototypes before constructing scale models. They have worked hard to improve the stability of their structures and add high-quality finishes. Next, they will evaluate and present their final designs. Well done Year 6!











Laira Green Primary Community Bike Fleet

🚴 Borrow Bikes for Free 🚴

We have a range of bikes for adults and children available to borrow for FREE!

🌟 Enjoy a fun family day out on one of Plymouth's scenic cycle paths

🚲 Cycle to school or work with ease

📅 Bikes available from Friday to Friday

For more details, or to book out a bike contact the school office by calling 01752 660427



sustrans
JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

SUPPORTED BY

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Attendance Update

Attendance - holiday requests

We understand that booking family trips during the school holidays can be very expensive, and we recognise the frustration this causes. However, missing school can impact on your child's learning progress, friendships, confidence and development of personal skills.

Please remember we are unable to authorise holidays within term time (unless in exceptional circumstances). Unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice issued by the Local Authority.

We kindly request that you plan holidays/leave of absences during school holidays to minimise disruption in learning

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping your child make the most of every school day.

Holiday Penalty Notice

The Local Authority may issue a penalty notice for 10 unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period.

- A penalty of £80 (if paid in 21 days) or £160 (if paid within 28 days of being issued) will be issued per child, to each adult within the household.
- If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
- If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, other enforcement options may be used.

ABSENCE CONCERNS

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's attendance please come and speak to us. Mrs Trembath is available to talk things through- we really are here to help and listen, and we can work with you to overcome any difficulties together.



inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Inclusion Update

If you have any questions or worries about your child, we are always here to listen. Please speak with the class teacher or call/email to arrange a time to come for a chat with Mrs Trembath

Routines play a vital role in a child's development, providing structure, stability, and a sense of security in an often busy and unpredictable world.
Routines can give children a sense of safety. When children know what is coming next, they feel more in control of their environment, which can reduce feelings of anxiety.
Clear predictable routines can support children's emotional regulation, helping them to understand boundaries and help them to feel supported.
It's important to remember that routines don't need to be rigid. Flexibility is key - life happens, and occasional changes are normal.

TIPS FOR CREATING ROUTINES

- Try to keep to the same routine each day- same time, same order.
- Try using a visual checklist for steps (e.g. for washing: undress, get into the shower, wash body, rinse, get out of the shower, dry with a towel, get dressed)
- For toothbrushing , use a 2 minute timer or song. There are lots of apps with games on to help with this.
- For hairbrushing, break it into short bursts with praise in between each step.
- Give a warning 10, 5 and 1 minutes before a transition to stopping an activity e.g. "5 more minutes of play"
- Bedtime routines could include a warm bath, reading a book or gentle music. Try to set a consistent bedtime, even on weekends, to regulate your child's internal clock.
- A routine in the morning can help everyone keep on track with everything you need to do, especially when they are super busy! (e.g. wake up, toilet and hand washing, get dressed, eat breakfast, brush teeth)



Helpful resources for routines:

CBeebies songs and tips for morning routines

Printable visual for morning routines from CBeebies

Printable visual for evening routines from CBeebies

https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/creating-routines-and-rituals-to-help-your-child

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

FIT AND FED
PLYMOUTH

FREE TO THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR
BENEFIT-RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS
EASTER 2026 - 3-19 APRIL

Gives children and young people the opportunity to take part in fun physical activity and enjoy nutritious, healthy meals during the school holidays.

Ages 5-16

High View School
Mount Wise Primary School
Lipson Vale Primary School
Keyham Barton Catholic Primary School
The Hub at Foulston Park
Woodfield Primary School



Activities include football, dodgeball, tag rugby, basketball, cricket, racket sports, invasion games, archery, arts & crafts & enrichment visits.

BOOK NOW!

ARGYLE COMMUNITY TRUST
PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
Fit and Fed
Department for Education

Clean Our Patch
Community Litter Pickers

P·A·F·C

Walk Wheel Cycle Trust
For our health. Our wellbeing. Our world.
Bring your bike to fix on the 9th

LITTER PICKERS
EASTER HOLIDAY FUN

Thursday 9th April & 16th April

Yeo Close Park, Efford

For children aged 10 years or younger must be accompanied by an adult.

3-5pm

- Fun and Games
- Food and Drink
- Easter Egg Hunt

and of course...

Litter Picking!

PLYMOUTH FAMILY HUBS

For more info: CleanOurPatch@hotmail.com

Family Friendly Cinema this Easter Holiday





Arco (PG)

Sat 4 April, 11am
Wed 8 April, 11am

Hoppers (U)

Sat 11 April, 11am
Wed 15 April, 11am
Thu 16 April, 2.30pm

www.plymouthartscinema.org

Relaxed, accessible, neurodiverse and baby friendly
Cinema snacks and hot and cold drinks at the bar
Award-winning local independent cinema!

Plymouth Arts Cinema



You can head into any Morrisons Café and pick up a free Kellogg's breakfast - perfect for making mornings a little easier over the Easter holidays.

What you get:

- A bowl of Cornflakes or Rice Krispies
- Dairy or soya milk
- A piece of fresh fruit

Open to everyone
No purchase needed
Available throughout the school holidays

Plymouth Dance

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Fit and Fed

FREE Easter Youth Activity!

Join us this Easter for our Fit and Fed programmes supported by Plymouth City Council and Plymouth Active. Days will packed full of fun activity including dancing, arts and crafts, games and a free lunch!

Primary Sessions:

- Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th April 2025

Secondary Sessions:

- Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April 2025



Email to sign up:
kaitlyn@plymouthdance.team

@plymouthdance2 www.plymouthdance.team @plymouthdance

Non-Fiction Reads



Preschool and Reception

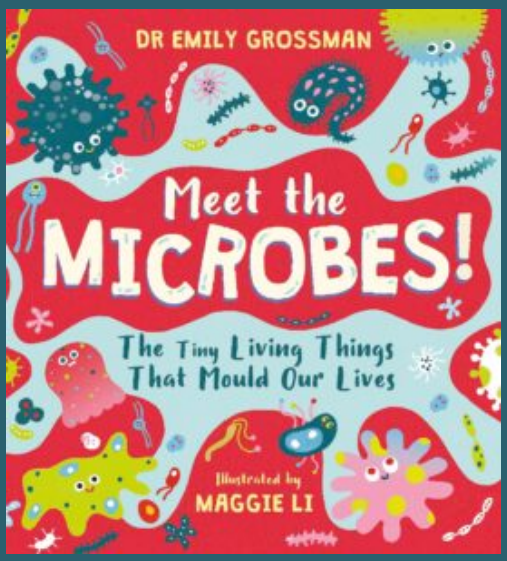
A First Book of Bugs by Simon Mole and illustrated by Adam Ming (Walker Books Ltd, 2025)

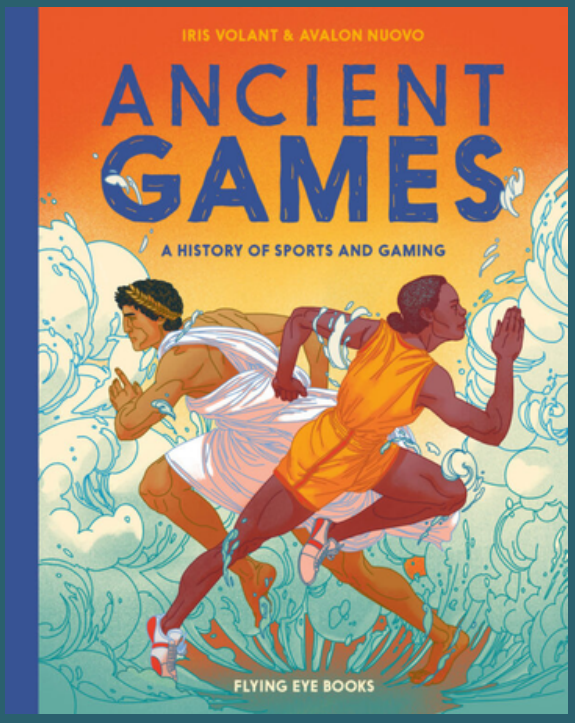
This book contains 30 playful poems about insects and minibeasts. Children will learn fascinating facts as they are captivated by the fantastic illustrations throughout. Your class will love exploring the secret world thriving underneath their feet.

Key Stage 1

Meet the Microbes! By Dr Emily Grossman and illustrated by Maggie Li (Wren and Rook, 2022)

Children will love this introduction to microbes, the tiny living things that mould our everyday lives. Including bright and characterful illustrations, they will learn that some microbes can be bad, but most of them are good and very important for us and the planet.





Key Stage 2

Ancient Games: A History of Sports and Gaming by Iris Volant and illustrated by Avalon Nuovo (Flying Eye Books, 2020)

This book is a perfect way to get sports-mad children into history. Spanning a range of cultures, from the ancient Greeks and Romans to the Aztecs and Vikings, this is a beautifully illustrated and informative guide to the sports and games that have entertained people for the past 2500 years.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

This month, our school councillors have been extremely busy. We were delighted to meet with our three local councillors: Pauline Murphy, Paul McNamara, and Neil Hendy. The children confidently presented their "Pick Up After Your Pets" campaign ideas, highlighting the issue of dog fouling on the roads around our school. The local councillors commented on how the children did an excellent job in raising awareness of this problem. We are pleased to report that the councillors have agreed to look into our proposal for signage and a dog waste bin, and have contacted the cleanse team at Plymouth City Council to support our ideas. We are incredibly proud of the children for leading the meeting themselves and communicating in such a professional manner.

Our school councillors have also worked hard to create a promotional video to support the sale of red noses for Comic Relief. We were amazed that every single nose sold out! Together with Crazy Hair Day, the sale of noses raised over £100 for Comic Relief.

In addition, we were excited to be invited to judge the World Book Day teacher competition. It was a difficult task, but we were delighted to announce that Miss Lindup came first during the World Book Day assembly. We also were delighted to help Miss Lindup judge the British Science Week posters. We carefully reviewed and voted on the entries, selecting four posters that we will submit as part of the project.

Well done School Council for showing such fantastic teamwork and responsibility supporting our school community.





A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures















