

Ofsted Good Provider

May 2025

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

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

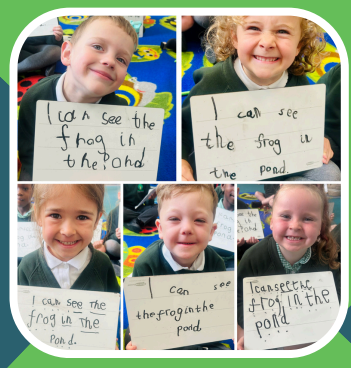
Dear parents/carers

What a wonderful month it's been across the school! We are so proud of everything the children have achieved, and of the enthusiasm and curiosity they continue to bring to their learning each day. A special congratulations goes to our amazing Year 6 pupils for their outstanding effort and resilience during SATs. They approached every challenge with maturity and determination, and we couldn't be prouder of them. This month has also been filled with exciting opportunities and memorable experiences. Across the school, children have taken part in a variety of enriching trips and workshops. Reception had a fantastic day at Paignton Zoo, bringing their 'African Adventure' topic to life. Our Performing Arts Club enjoyed a magical trip to the theatre to watch Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, while other classes visited the Barbican, the local synagogue, and Efford Valley to support their History, R.E. and Science learning. We were thrilled to welcome Clive Pig, a wonderfully engaging storyteller, who brought the Vikings and Ancient Greeks vividly to life through captivating workshops. We also had the pleasure of hearing from Ed Buckingham, who inspired us all with the story of his journey to the summit of Mount Everest. We are proud to be able to offer these trips and experiences at no cost to our families. They play an important role in enriching the curriculum and making learning meaningful, which is why they are such a priority for us. A heartfelt thank you to all the families who have joined us for recent class assemblies. It's been a real pleasure welcoming you into school to share in your children's learning. Your presence and encouragement truly make a difference. We're also grateful to everyone who has taken part in our 'Read with Us' sessions. These shared reading moments are so valuable for fostering a love of books and building lasting memories around literacy. Looking ahead, we're excited for what's still to come this term: Sports Days, more assemblies, our Summer Fair, and the residential trip to Nethercott Farm. As always, we'd like to remind families of the importance of good attendance. Every day in school matters- it helps children keep up with their learning, build friendships, and feel part of the school community. Finally, please don't forget to book your appointment for the upcoming Children's Progress Meetings which are a great chance to celebrate your child's achievements and discuss their next steps with their teacher. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are so lucky to have such a warm and engaged school community, and we look forward to sharing the rest of the summer term with you and your children.

Mrs Claire Jones









Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 3rd June

First Day of Term 6

Year 3 to take part in 3CL have Sea in Schools visit

Year 5 to take part in the Young Marketeers Programme

Thursday 5th June

National Child Measurement Programme RSC and Year 6

Year 4 to take part in the Devon and Cornwall Mini Police Programme

Friday 6th June

Year 5 visit the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, Royal Albert memorial Museum Art & Gallery

Monday 9th June

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Tuesday 10th June

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Wednesday 11th June

Reception visit to Warleigh Barton Educational Farm

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Thursday 12th June

Year 4 to take part in the Devon and Cornwall Mini Police Programme

Year 6 to visit Dartmoor National Park for a poetry workshop

Friday 13th June

Reception's Father's Day Assembly 9:15-10:15am

Monday 16th June

Nethercott Farm Residential

Tuesday 17th June

Year 4 Geography Trip to Cotehele

Thursday 19th June

Year 4 to take part in the Devon and Cornwall Mini Police Programme

Monday 23rd June

Year 6 Swimming Top Ups - Plymouth College

Devon Wildlife Trust to work with Wildlife Champions

Tuesday 24th June

Year 2 Geography Trip to Warleigh Barton Educational Farm

Wednesday 25th June

Year 6 Swimming Top Ups - Plymouth College

Young Carers to watch Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at the Theatre Royal Plymouth

Thursday 26th June

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day- Lipson Co-operative Academy 9:30-10:30am

Year 6 Swimming Top Ups - Plymouth College

Mini Police Celebration Assembly with Parents from 4JL- 1:30-2:40pm

Friday 27th June 9:15-9:45 am

4JL Class Assembly

Monday 30th June

Performing Arts Club to Big Sing Event at Lipson Co-operative

Year 5 to take part in Market Trader Training

CLASS UPDATES

Reception- an African adventure full of learning.

This month has been full of exciting learning adventures in Reception! The children have continued to immerse themselves in their topic, African Adventure, exploring the fascinating world of African animals and the vibrant patterns found in nature. Their creativity has shone through in some truly impressive artwork inspired by their discoveries. A particular highlight was exploring the story Handa's Surprise. The children had the chance to taste a variety of exotic fruits from the book, describing them with delightful words like "tasty," "delicious," "soft," and "squishy." Passionfruit, however, received some mixed reviews! In Phonics, the children have shown fantastic resilience and progress- it's been a joy to see their confidence in reading and writing blossom. In Maths, they've been busy spotting patterns, counting in twos and tens, and exploring the concepts of odd and even numbers. The fun hasn't stopped there! Reception have also loved their Music and PE lessons, and their trip to Paignton Zoo was a definite highlight- what a wonderful way to bring their learning to life.Well done, Class RSC- we are so proud of everything you've achieved this month!









Year 1- a fantastic month of learning!

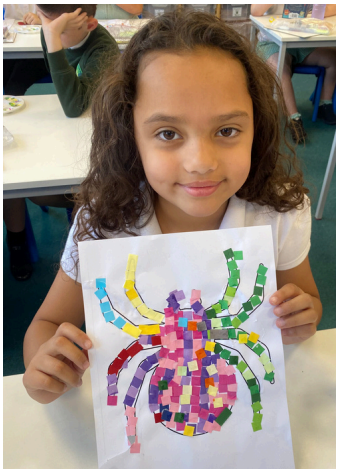
What a fantastic month we've had in Year 1! Our maths wizards have been diving into the world of fractions, understanding the parts of a whole. In PE, it's been all about developing our ball skills, with lots of enthusiastic throwing, catching and kicking. Creativity has soared in art, where the children have been busy designing and making incredible sculptures using a variety of exciting materials. In English, we're so proud of the fantastic stories our young authors have been writing, remembering how to write in perfect sentences. During computing, the children have confidently practised adding and removing text on their hromebooks, building their digital literacy. Finally, in Science, we've become budding botanists, thoroughly enjoying our explorations of plants. We are so proud of the engagement and enthusiasm shown by all children, well done Year 1!

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CLASS UPDATES

Year 3 - a month full of discovery, imagination, and achievement.

The past month has been exceptionally busy in 3CL and the children have thoroughly enjoyed all of the exciting events that they have celebrated along the way. A particular highlight was their class assembly. We were all so proud of how well the children performed during the assembly and how confident they were with projecting their lines. To add to the fantastic historical learning that has been going on in our History lessons this term, Year 3 welcomed a visitor into the classroom to learn more about Ancient Greek myths. They were all captivated by the stories that the visitor told during the session. The children also had their final session with the Plymouth National Marine Park as part of the Sea in Our Schools project. This was a virtual session whereby the children were able to 'explore' the Plymouth Sound to learn more about some of our coastal features, including Drake's Island, Smeaton's Tower and the breakwater. In addition to all of these exciting events, there has also been a lot of learning squeezed into the last few weeks. The children have enjoyed reading an 'Interview with a Tiger' in English over the past week. So far, they have started to explore the text's features, including learning how to use prepositional phrases in their writing. In Maths, 3CL have been learning all about money! We started this unit by learning how to identify different amounts of money and we finished by learning how to add and subtract amounts to find change. During Computing lessons, 3CL have learnt how to create animations using iMotion on the iPads. They have absolutely loved taking several photographs of their stick men figures to create mini stories.









Year 2- from World War II to wonderful writing – Year 2 shines!!

In May, Year 2 have been busy learning all about World War II in History, covering key topics such as the Battle of Britain, the Blitz, evacuations, and rationing. The children have shown great interest and curiosity as they explored this important part of history. In Science, we investigated how bulbs and seeds grow, discovering that plants need the right temperature to thrive. It's been wonderful to see their excitement as they observed the growing process first-hand. In PE, we've been developing our target game skills by practising different types of throws and aiming at moving targets which was lots of fun! Our Maths lessons have focused on fractions, with the children learning to identify and work with halves, quarters, and thirds. Meanwhile, in English, we read a fascinating biography about the inspiring Amelia Earhart. The children have worked hard to research and write their own biographies about Julia Donaldson, showing excellent focus and creativity. Well done to all the children for their hard work, enthusiasm, and fantastic learning this month!

CLASS UPDATES

Year 4 – a fantastic month of fun and learning!

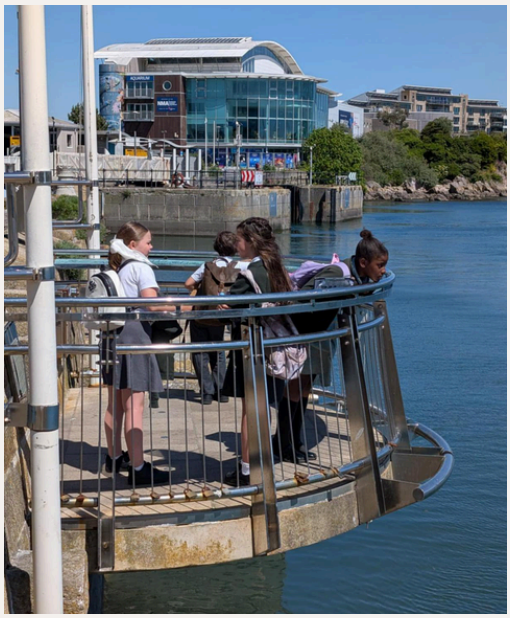


Year 4 have had a fantastic month, full of fun, creativity, and meaningful learning! The children have thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor adventurous PE sessions, developing teamwork skills and growing in confidence while enjoying the fresh air. In History, our Viking topic has truly captured everyone's imagination. A standout moment was the incredible storytelling workshop with Clive Pig- which really brought the past to life! In Maths, we've been working hard solving real-life problems involving money, while in English, the class impressed us with persuasive letters encouraging others to reduce littering. We're so proud of their passion and persuasive power! In Art, the children explored colour and texture using oil pastels, creating some truly striking and expressive pieces. Looking ahead, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check is coming up shortly after half term. Please continue to support your child by encouraging regular practice on Times Tables Rock Stars—a few minutes a day really makes a big difference.









Year 5- a whirlwind of learning adventures!

What a busy and brilliant month it's been for Year 5. From 5MT's class assembly and the Young Marketeers programme to Bikeability and an inspiring history and RE trip, the children have enjoyed a fantastic variety of experiences.

As historians, we've been fascinated to learn about Plymouth's rich past and were amazed to discover just how much the city has changed over time. In Bikeability, everyone grew in confidence, with some children even riding a bike for the very first time - an incredible achievement! Back in the classroom, our budding mathematicians have become shape experts, confidently using protractors to measure angles and translating coordinates across different axes. In English, we've dived into Dragonology, and the children have impressed us with their formal writing and adventurous vocabulary choices. Our science learning has been equally exciting. We've been exploring life cycles and the process of growing up and growing old - investigating gestation periods, growth rates, and the lifespans of various mammals, as well as the development of insects and birds. It's been a month packed with learning, exploration, and achievement-we're so proud of all the children in Year 5!

CLASS UPDATES

Year 6- a month of determination, discovery, and well-earned fun!

What a month it's been in 6LG! We are incredibly proud of our amazing pupils- every single one has shown real determination, maturity, and resilience during their SATs. They've truly done themselves proud, and we couldn't be more impressed with their attitude and effort.

After all that hard work, our trip to Jump was the perfect way to let off some steam! The children had a fantastic time racing down slides, dancing with the staff, and charging around the soft play. We've also made the most of bonus time and well-earned extra breaks, celebrating all their efforts in style.

Back in the classroom, the children have returned to learning with renewed enthusiasm, determined to make the most of their final term at Laira Green. In English, we've been exploring A River of Stories - a beautiful collection of tales from across the Commonwealth- focusing on structure, plot, and rich vocabulary. In reading, we've just finished Journey to Jo'Burg, an inspiring and thought-provoking story set during Apartheid, and we're excited to dive into a WWII novel next term.

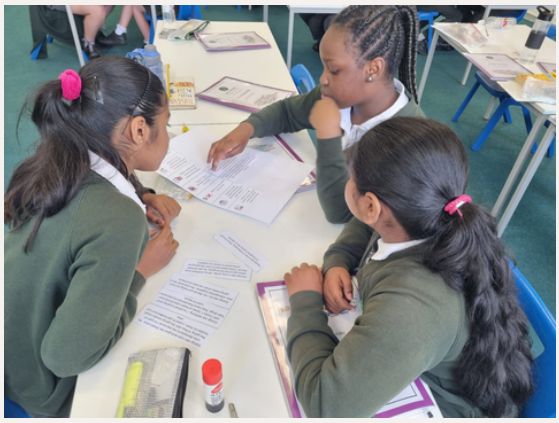
In maths, we've been securing our understanding of percentages and exploring how they connect to fractions and decimals, applying this knowledge to real-life scenarios. In science, our focus has been on the human circulatory system—understanding the functions of the heart, blood vessels, and blood, and exploring how these vital components work together.

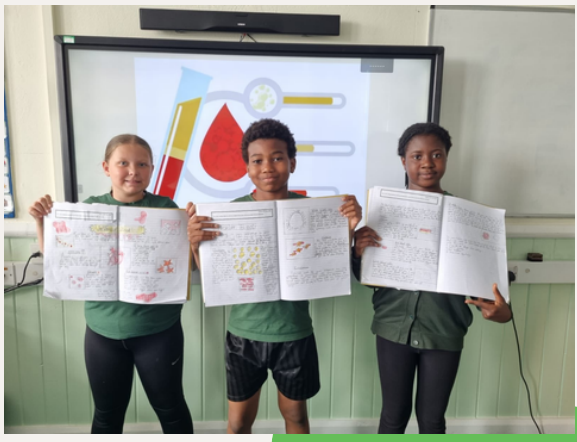
In PSHE, the children have engaged thoughtfully with important topics such as gang culture, substance use, and maintaining good mental and emotional health. Meanwhile, in art, we've been inspired by the work of Henri Rousseau, using his iconic jungle scenes to create our own sketches, watercolours, and digital artwork.

It's been a busy, fulfilling, and memorable month in Year 6, full of hard work, reflection, creativity, and fun!









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School Council Update

This month, School Council has been busy discussing all the positive social impacts we have been making this year for the SuperKind Award. It has been amazing to reflect on the kindness and positive changes our children have made. **Be Kind, Be Determined, Be Proud** underpin everything that we do and the Social Action Award promotes our values through all the fantastic fundraising and positive social impact changes we make as a community. Everything from fundraising, donations, litter picking, making posters and volunteering are all logged to show how through our individual actions, together we can make a difference.

So far this year we have earned **1579** social action badges:



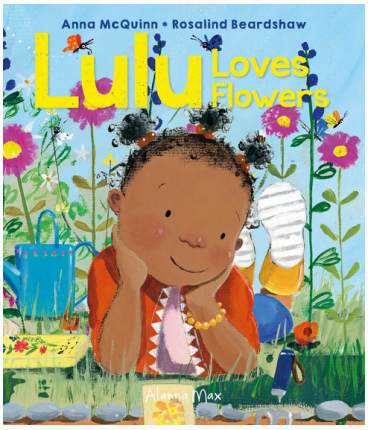
We are very proud of all the children at Laira Green Primary School. We are going to continue to log more actions we have taken as a school in the coming weeks and would love to hear of any actions your children do at home. If your children do take part in any social action while at home, please email school and let us know so that we can log it and celebrate their achievement.

Thank you School Council ♥



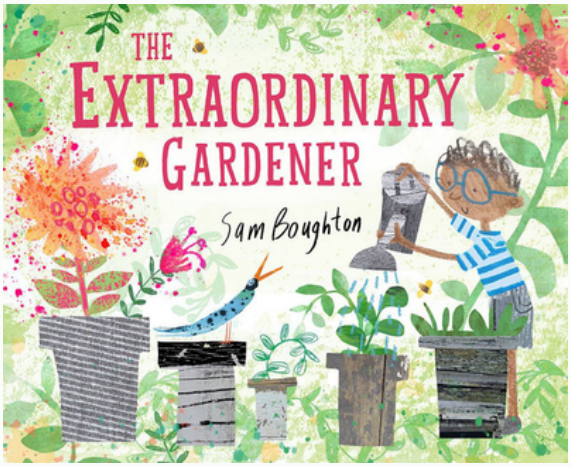
SUPERKIND SOCIAL IMPACT SCHOOLS AWARD

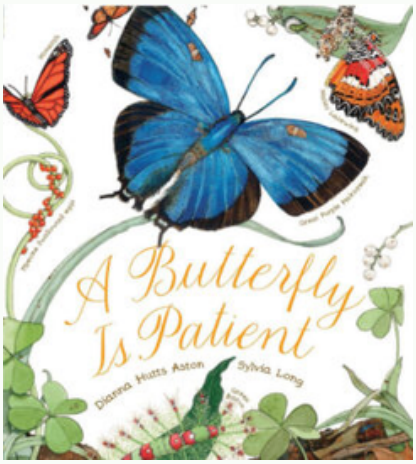
Books to support learning in Reception this term



When Lulu reads Mary, Mary Quite Contrary in a book of garden poems, she wants to grow some flowers herself. Being Lulu, she has to do some research first. She gets gardening books, chooses the best flowers to grow, buys seeds and plants them. Then she has to wait…While she is waiting she makes a flower book, collects silver bells, beads and shells to decorate the garden like the rhyme and even makes a 'Mary Mary' doll! When her flowers have grown, she bakes some cupcakes and invites her friends to see it.

Joe is a boy just like any other, but Joe loves to imagine. Joe lives in a pretty ordinary tower block, in a rather ordinary city. His world is rather grey. However, he spends his time imagining a wonderful world filled with exotic plants and unusual animals. One day Joe decides to plant a seed on his balcony, he waits and waits but nothing happens! Joe gives up and goes back to his daily life, but one day when he least expects it he spots that the seed has turned into the most beautiful tree. Joe begins caring for the tree and growing lots of other plants on his balcony and soon everyone in the neighbourhood is getting involved. A charming story about the importance of nature, teaching us that if we work hard enough our dreams really can come true!





This beautifully illustrated non-fiction text showcases butterflies, using the stunning pictures as a gentle but informative way in to explaining the science behind their life cycles. You may also like A Beetle is Shy, which is part of the same series.

Books to support learning in Year 1 this term



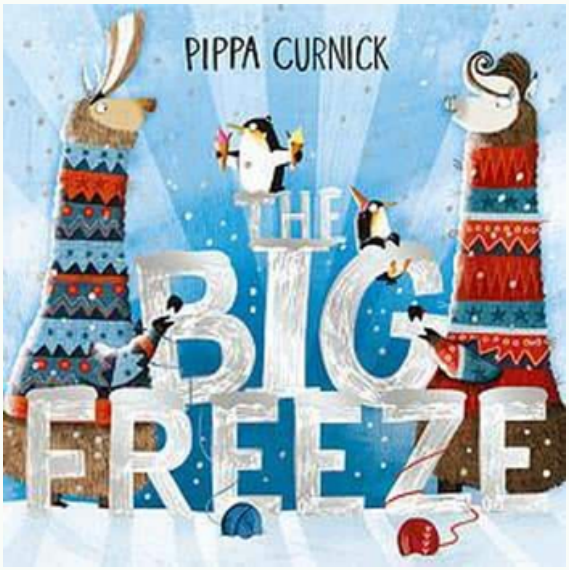
Explore the beauty of the changing seasons in this timeless peek-through book with beautiful artwork and accompanying rhyming text. Following the life-cycle of a tree through spring, summer, autumn and winter, children will easily learn to recognise the signs of the seasons with this simple yet striking picture book. Dotted with hidden animals scampering through cut paper holes, each page of Tree: Seasons Come, Seasons Go allows its reader to investigate and explore one tree's rich and varied life cycle through seasonal change.

Shama and Bahama Llama can't wait for winter – skating, snowballs, hot chocolate . . . and best of all, the Winter Woolly Party!

But when The Big Freeze suddenly arrives they discover that their jumpers are in a sorry state! Cue a major panic as everyone sets out on a wild race to Granny Brock's Jumper Shop to nab the perfect woolly jumpers.

Will they make it to the top of the queue before she sells out? Or will they learn that sometimes the only way to get what you want is to work together?

The perfect winter warmer, with a gentle message about working together.



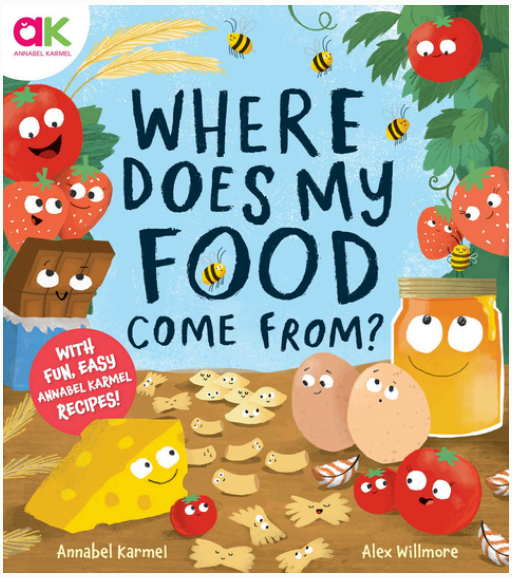


WHOOOOSH! We're off on an exciting adventure in our hot-air balloon to say hello to all the different kinds of weather that make up our world.

Join in with the rhymes and get ready to meet everything from whooshing wind to bright rainbows and shimmering sunshine. Little ones will be swept away on an unforgettable journey in this striking, action-packed picture book.

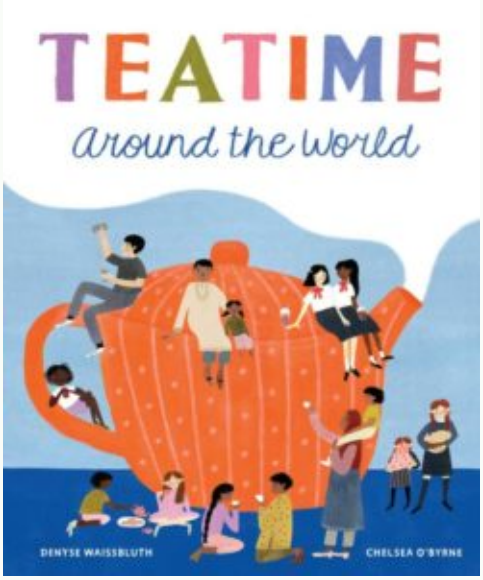
This bold, bright follow-up to the acclaimed picture books Meet the Planets and Meet the Oceans is packed with gorgeous illustrations of everything from rainy rainforests to snowy mountains and stormy seas.

Books to support learning in Year 2 this term



Children often charge to the chocolate aisle, but do they know their favourite treat started out as a bean? They might lap up ketchup, but can they guess how many tomatoes it takes to fill a ketchup bottle? Young learners will discover that llamas and camels have a hand (or hoof) in cheese-making, that bees spit runny honey from their tummies into honeycomb and beat their wings to make it thicker, and how strawberries can be used to clean teeth!

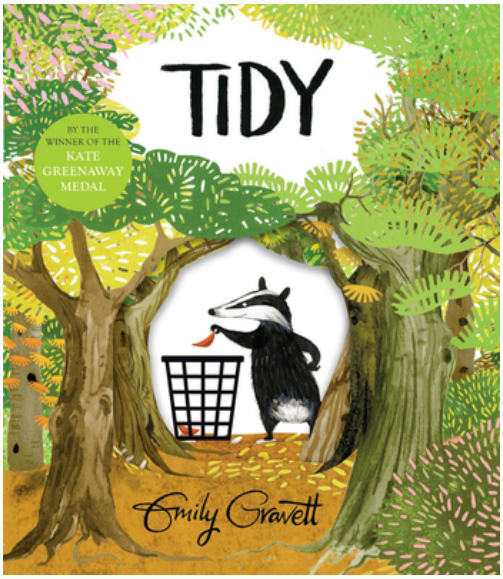
Each food selected is presented through an information section, a foodie craft and two delicious recipes to get children up-close to the ingredient they've been learning about.



In this fun and lyrical picture book for ages 4-8, children will learn how tea is enjoyed in Thailand, Japan, Russia, Egypt, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Uruguay, South Sudan, India, and more countries!

Did you know that po cha, the traditional tea in Tibet, is thick and salty like soup? Or that in Iran, tea is served with a rock? (A rock candy, that is!) Or that afternoon tea was dreamed up in England by a duchess who complained of being hungry between lunch and dinner?

With vivid poetry, vibrant illustrations, and unique facts about different tea cultures, Teatime Around the World tells the delightful story of a beloved beverage.



Pete the badger likes everything to be neat and tidy at all times, but what starts as the collecting of one fallen leaf escalates and ends with the complete destruction of the forest! Will Pete realise the error of his ways and set things right? Lush foliage and delightful characters abound in this cautionary tale of overenthusiastic neatness that delivers its message of environmental preservation with subtlety and humour. The freshness of the illustrations and the many comic details make this a very special book. Once you enter this forest, you'll never want to leave.

Books to support learning in Year 3 this term

Issac plays in his favourite pool on the mountainside. As rain starts to fall, he empties his little jar of water into the pool and races the sparkling streams as they tumble over waterfalls, rush through swollen rivers and burst out into the vast open sea.

Where will my little jar of water go now? Issac wonders. This is a beautiful picture book that explores the remarkable journey of the water cycle. From a few drops of rain in a little boy's jar to the depths of the vast ocean and back to clouds in the sky above, wonderful water is given centre-stage in this gentle narrative that evokes awe at the sheer beauty and scale of nature's systems.

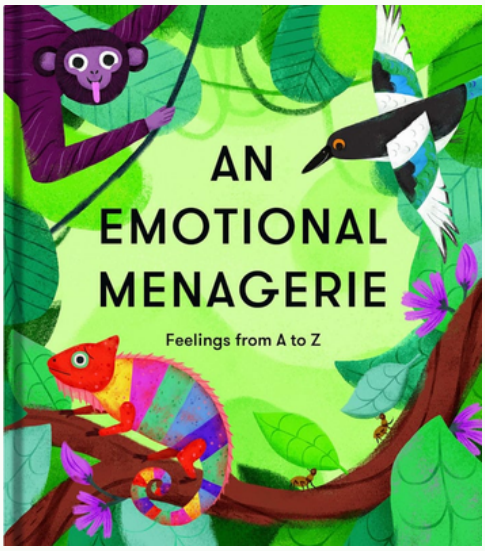




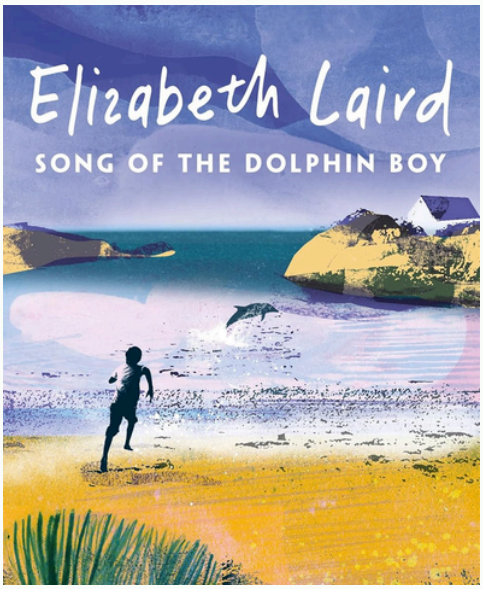
Follow the journey of a small sparkling raindrop as it falls from a cloud to become part of the mighty Mekong River and the South China Sea. Learn about its never-ending cycle and contribution to the ecosystems of our mountains, rivers, and seas.

The Start Small, Think Big series sets readers on a journey of discovery, beginning with small miracles of life and connecting them to the big picture of our natural world. with a giant fold-out map, an illustrated life cycle and an I-Spy game.

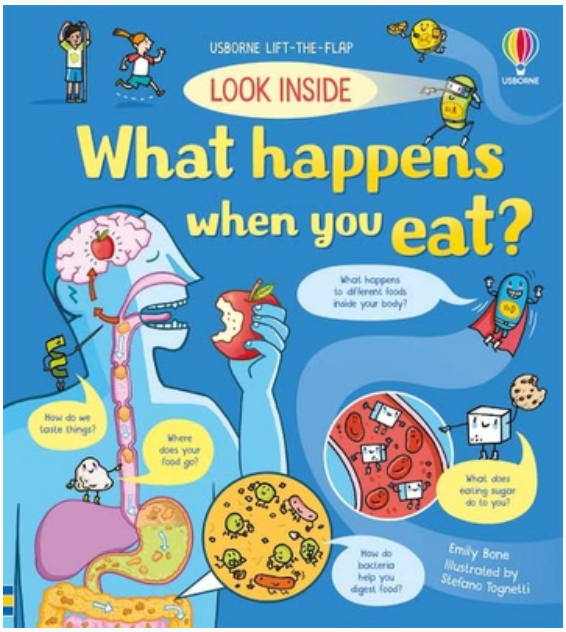
Emotions are like animals: No two are quite the same. Some are quiet; some are fierce; And all are hard to tame. An Emotional Menagerie is an emotional glossary for children. A book of 26 rhyming poems, arranged alphabetically, that bring our feelings to life – Anger, Boredom, Curiosity, Dreaminess, Embarrassment, Fear, Guilt, and more. The poems transform each emotion into a different animal to provide a clear and engaging illustration of its character: how it arises; how it makes us behave and how we can learn to manage its effects.



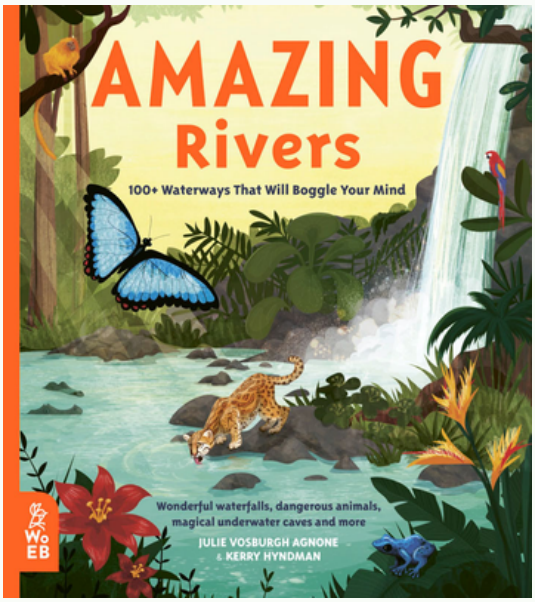
Books to support learning in Year 4 this term



Finn takes a dive in the water near his fishing village, he is delighted to find dolphins to swim with. However, the dolphins face a terrible threat due to the masses of rubbish floating around in their water. It is up to Finn to find a way to save the sea creatures and prevent their natural environment from becoming ruined. This is a topical and thought-provoking novel.

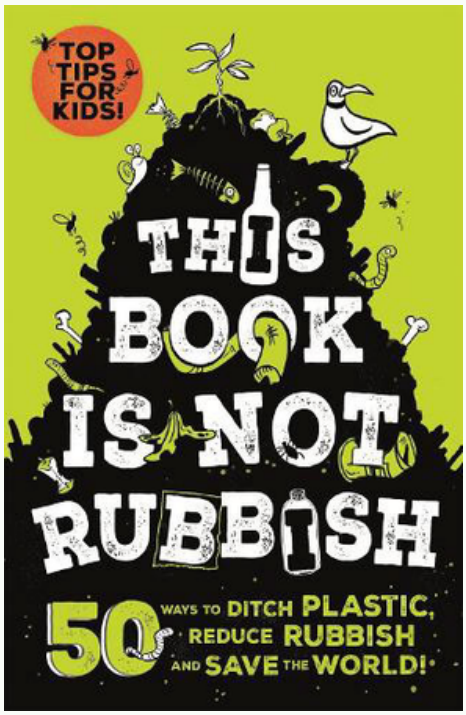


From the very first bite, your food goes on an incredible journey inside you. Lift the flaps to find out what happens when you eat fat, sugar, carbohydrates and protein, and what vitamins and minerals do for you. With over 80 flaps to lift, advice on healthy eating and links to websites for more information.



Fearless adventurers, set sail on a fascinating voyage down the world's most extraordinary rivers! Discover over 100 of the world's most incredible rivers. Learn about the credible wildlife, from brown bears catching salmon that swim upstream to anacondas large enough to eat a pig. Explore astounding natural wonders, from a boiling river so hot you can cook an egg in it to a multicoloured river that flows like a liquid rainbow. And discover awesome river traditions, from ritual baths to rubber duck racing to barefoot waterskiing!

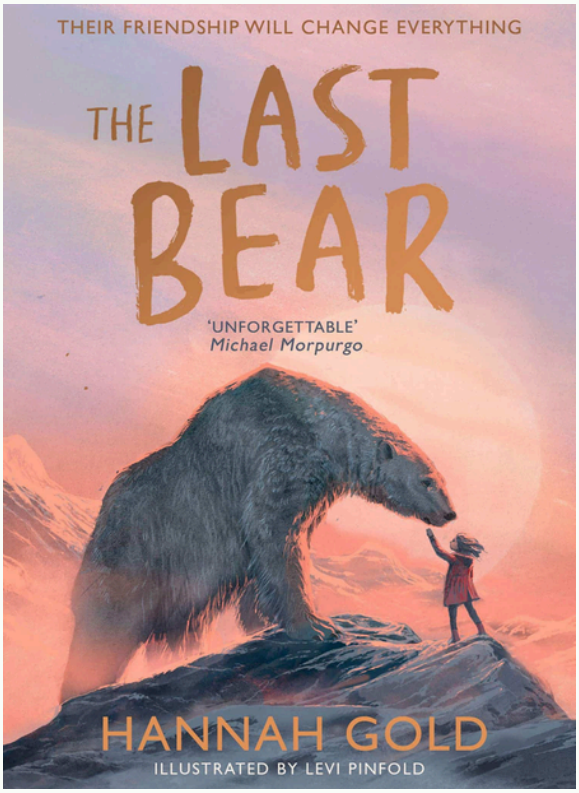
Books to support learning in Year 5 this term



Discover how YOU can ditch plastic, reduce rubbish and become an eco-warrior, not an eco-worrier, with 50 practical tips to really make a difference!

Our planet is in peril and it needs your help! But the good news is that there are loads of easy ways that you can make a difference. From throwing a planet party and ditching straws, to banning glitter and becoming an art-activist, helping to save the planet is not as difficult as you think.

Covering issues like plastics, pollution, global warming and endangered animals, this book is full of top tips for kids and families. Discover how to ditch the plastic, reduce your rubbish and start making everyday steps that will make all the difference.

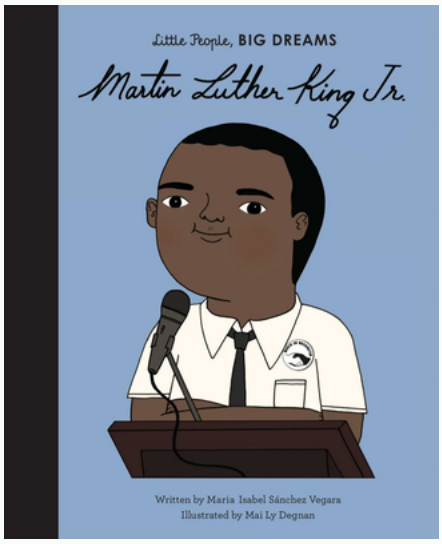


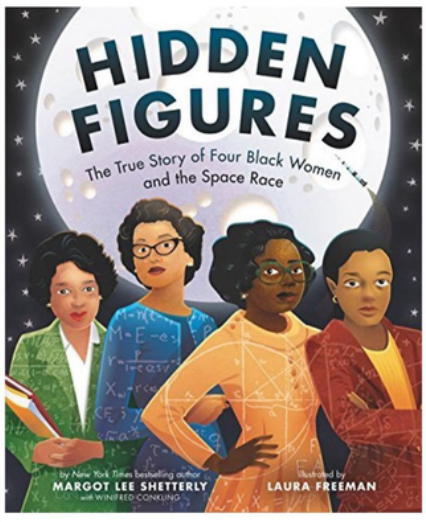
When April heads to a remote Arctic island with her father, who is there for scientific research, she's not sure exactly what to expect. The trip to 'Bear Island' has the potential to be a very lonely trip – with endless summer Arctic nights, an isolated wilderness and, according to her father, no actual polar bears left on the island for April to spot despite its name.

Surprisingly, April encounters a real polar bear on the island when nobody else is around. Isolated from his family, the bear is starving and alone, with nobody to help him. Over time, a friendship develops and April becomes more determined than ever to save the bear. April knows that she will have to tread carefully to nourish the bear in secret and to navigate the issue of making the adults listen at the right moment. Before long, April realises she is witnessing first-hand the impact of a much bigger global problem. With courage in the face of powerlessness, April embarks upon a quest to get the bear to safety in an adventure that she will never forget.

Books to support learning in Year 6 this term

Discover the life of Martin Luther King Jr., the inspiring minister and civil rights activist. Little Martin grew up in a family of preachers: his dad was a preacher, his uncle was a preacher, his grandfather was a preacher… so maybe he'd become a great preacher too. One day, a friend invited him to play at his house. Martin was shocked when his mother wouldn't let him in because he was black. That day he realized there was something terribly unfair going on. Martin believed that no one should remain silent and accept something if it's wrong. And he promised himself that – when he grew up – he'd fight injustice with the most powerful weapon of all: words.

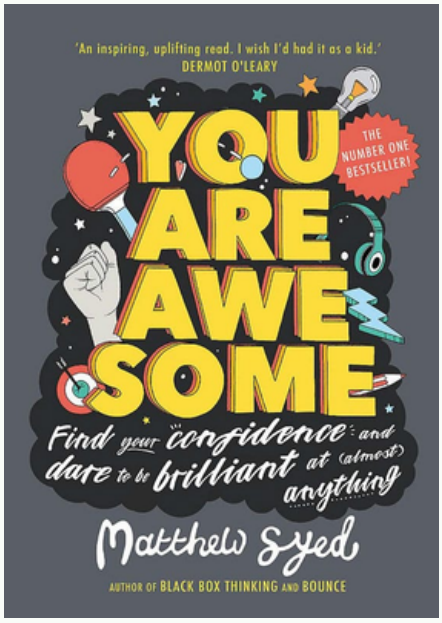




Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden were good at maths…really good.They participated in some of NASA's greatest successes, like providing the calculations for America's first journeys into space. And they did so during a time when being black and a woman limited what they could do. But they worked hard. They persisted. And they used their genius minds to change the world.

If you believe you can't do something, the chances are you won't try. But what if you really could get better at maths, or sport or exams? In fact, what if you could excel at anything you put your mind to?

You Are Awesome can help you do just that, inspiring and empowering young readers to find the confidence to realise their potential. The first children's book from Times journalist, two-time Olympian and best-selling mindset author Matthew Syed, it uses examples of successful people from Mozart to Serena Williams to demonstrate that success really is earned rather than given, and that talent can be acquired. With hard work and determination, practice and self-belief, and, most importantly, a Growth Mindset, there's no reason why anyone can't achieve anything.



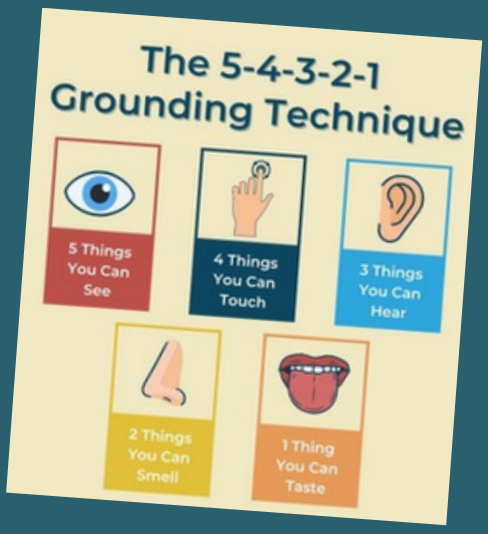
Inclusion Update

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









EMOTIONS

It is really important that children feel able to express their feelings safely and seek support from trusted adults when needed. By fostering a safe and supportive environment, we can help our children develop healthy coping mechanisms and emotional intelligence. No feeling is wrong, it is how we manage those feelings that matter.

Some techniques used in school include: breathing, mindfulness activities, and movement.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION!



The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas



Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital for children to achieve the very best they can, as well as developing their social and communication skills, self-esteem and independence. Thank you to all our families for supporting our children to come to school each day on time. This provides the children with a smooth and happy start to the day. If you have any questions or concerns around your child's attendance, please do speak to us, and we will do our very best to help and offer support.

REPORTING ABSENCE

Please call/email the school as soon as possible (by 9am) to let us know your if your child will be absent, letting us know the reason and when you are expecting them to return. The NHS have a brilliant guide called 'Is my child too ill for school?' which can be found here if you are ever unsure.

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

PLYMOUTH FAMILY HUBS





Family Hubs provide, integrated early help support for families from antenatal to 19 years (25 year with SEND).
Areas of support includes:
Families who have experienced domestic abuse, Debt/ Benefit Advice, Parenting tips/advice/strategies, support on managing children's behaviour, routines and boundaries, Families experiencing social isolation, Healthy lifestyles advice, SEN (Special Educational Needs) support.
Click on the link to see their Summer timetable.



Laira Green Preschool

All children receive 15 hours free childcare. If you are a working parent, you may be eligible to receive 30 hours free childcare. To check, go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or contact the school.

Funded Session times:

Morning Session	8:30am-11:30am
Afternoon Session	12:15pm- 3:15pm

Additional Prices and Session times:

Early Years Breakfast Club	7:30am-8:30am	£4.00
Morning Session	8:30am -11:30am	£18.00
Lunchtime Session	11:30am-12:15pm	£3.00
Afternoon Session	12:15pm-3:15pm	£18.00
Early Years Afterschool Club	3:15pm- 4:30pm	£6.00
Early Years Afterschool Club	3:15pm- 6:00pm	£12.00

Contact the school for more information
01752 660427
laira.green.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures

















