


Mars Class' Scientists

This week, Mars class have been exploring the wonderful world of materials! The children put on their thinking caps and got creative by imagining different items made from completely inappropriate materials. They had great fun explaining why a chocolate teapot would melt, why a paper umbrella wouldn't keep you dry, and why wellies made from tissue paper would be rather useless for splashing in puddles! Through this engaging activity, the children demonstrated their understanding of material properties such as strength, waterproofing, and durability. It's been brilliant to see them apply their knowledge in such an imaginative way!

13/1/26 Materials have different properties that mean they are suitable for different purposes.

As useful as a chocolate tea pot!






My useless object is

Explain why it is not useful

A chocolate teddy bear
It will melt
When you are
sitting

13/1/26 Materials have different properties that mean they are suitable for different purposes.

As useful as a chocolate tea pot!

My useless object is



marshmallow hat

Explain why it is not useful

It will melt when it rains
and it is messy

13/1/26 Materials have different properties that mean they are suitable for different purposes.

As useful as a chocolate tea pot!

My useless object is



my jelly hat

Explain why it is not useful

A jelly hat is
useless because

13/1/26 Materials have different properties that mean they are suitable for different purposes.

As useful as a chocolate tea pot!

My useless object is

pencil

Explain why it is not useful

It will fall down

Mercury Class' Mathematicians

Our Mercury class mathematicians have been working brilliantly on two-digit addition this week! The children have been learning to add numbers like $23 + 45$ by breaking them down into tens and ones, then combining them together. We've been using a variety of methods including column addition, number lines, and partitioning to help build confidence and understanding.

The class has shown wonderful progress in recognising when they need to regroup (or carry) from the ones column to the tens column - a tricky but important skill! We've been celebrating their perseverance, especially when tackling those trickier sums where the ones add up to more than 10.

At home, you can support your child's learning by practising addition in everyday contexts - perhaps adding up the prices of two items whilst shopping, or working out how many steps they've taken on two different days. Keep up the fantastic work, Mercury class!

15.01.26
LO: To + 2-digit numbers using a 100 square

Starter:

- 25 ✓
- Sunday ✓
- 12 ✓
- 7 ✓
- Rectangle ✓

① $28 + 40 = 68$ ✓

② $62 + 20 = 82$ ✓

③ $56 + 40 = 96$ ✓

④ $21 + 70 = 91$ ✓

⑤ $35 + 30 = 65$ ✓

10: see yesterday

Starter

- NO ✓
- 25 ✓
- 8 ✓
- 5 ✓
- I do not now m ✓

① $17 + 13 = 30$

② $12 + 22 = 34$

③ $21 + 13 = 34$

④ $38 + 21 = 59$

15.01.26
LO: To + 2-digit numbers using a 100 square

Starter

- 25 ✓
- Wednesday ✓
- 7 ✓
- 5 ✓

① $28 + 40 = 68$ ✓

② $62 + 20 = 82$ ✓

③ $56 + 40 = 96$ ✓

④ $21 + 70 = 91$ ✓

⑤ $35 + 30 = 65$ ✓

16.01.26
LO: To + 2-digit numbers using a 100 square

Starter

- NO ✓
- 25 ✓
- 14 ✓
- 14 ✓
- Artil ✓

① $17 + 13 = 30$ ✓

② $12 + 22 = 34$ ✓

③ $21 + 13 = 34$ ✓

④ $38 + 21 = 59$ ✓

⑤ $56 + 40 = 96$ ✓

⑥ $28 + 14 = 42$ ✓

⑦ $34 + 19 = 53$ ✓

⑧ $51 + 18 = 69$ ✓

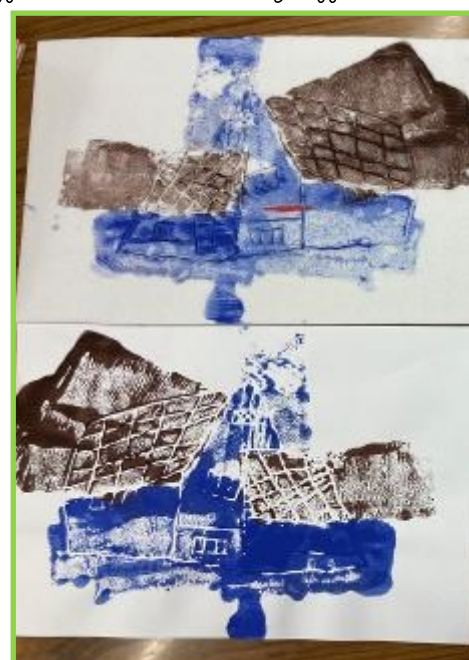
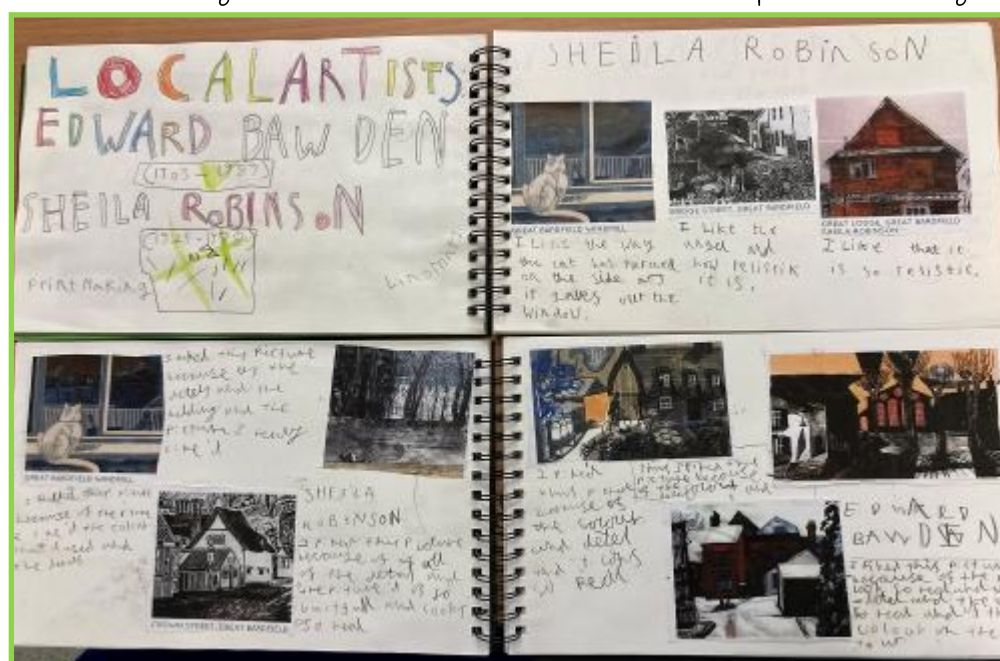
⑨ $70 + 17 = 87$ ✓

Saturn Class' Artists

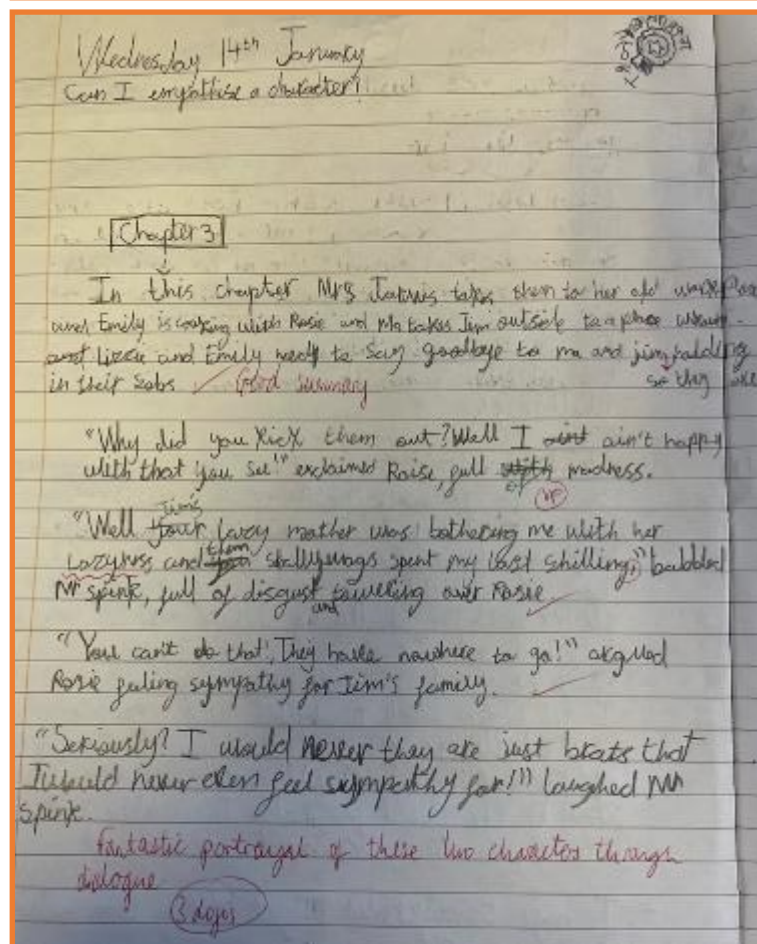
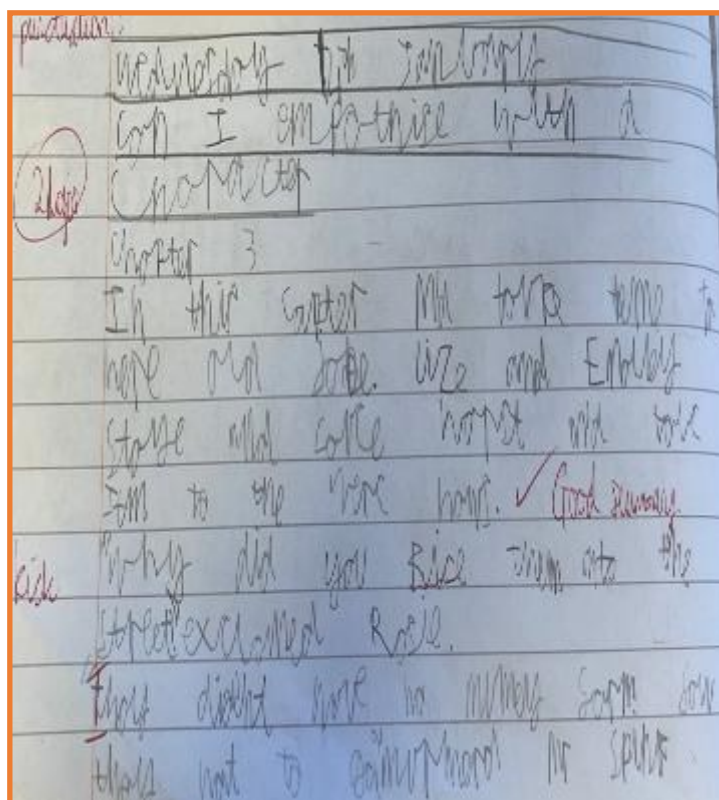
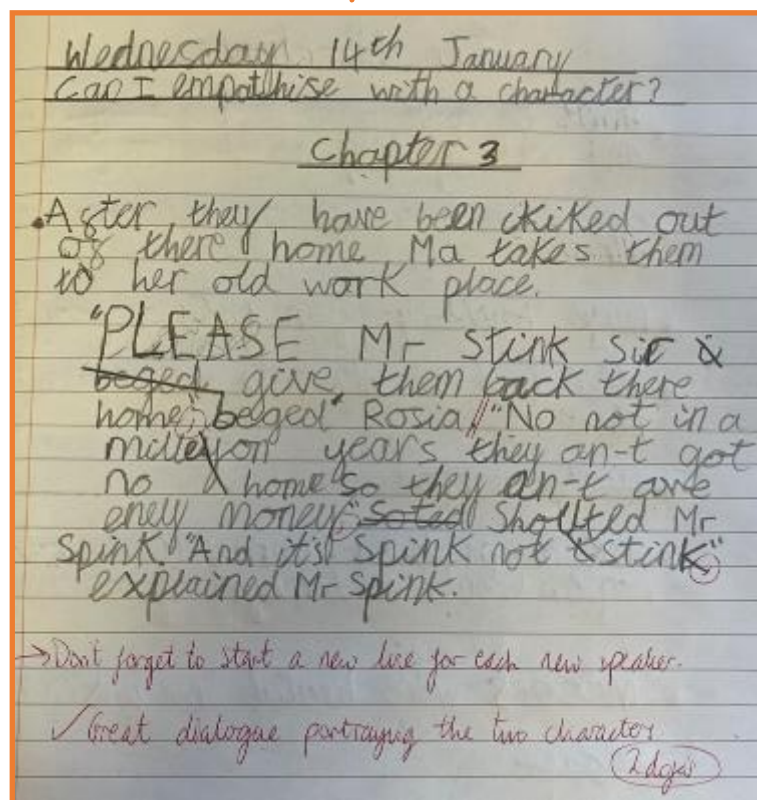
After doing lots of Perspective work in sketch books during the term, we went on a village walk and did some watercolour paintings of buildings we had selected and photographed. We used the technique of 'sighting' to ensure that our angles were as accurate as possible.

We have also been studying the work of local artists Edward Bawden and Sheila Robinson, who both did lino prints of local buildings and landscapes.

You will see that we did print-making, inspired by them, using polystyrene tiles, then prints from these using 2-3 colours. These can be used multiple times, using different colours - very effective!



Jupiter Class' Authors



Our Year 6 pupils have been captivating readers with their thoughtful writing this week, following their study of Berlie Doherty's powerful novel *Street Child*. After reading the opening chapters, which tell the harrowing story of young Jim Jarvis in Victorian London, the children have demonstrated remarkable empathy in their responses.

Through this activity, pupils stepped into the shoes of characters facing poverty, loss, and hardship in 19th-century England. Their writing has shown a deep understanding of the emotions and struggles experienced by street children of that era, with many children drawing thoughtful connections between historical injustices and the importance of compassion in our own time.

The quality of empathy and emotional intelligence displayed in their work has been truly impressive.

Well done to all our budding authors for their sensitive and mature approach to this challenging topic!

Snow in Ashdon!



STARS OF THE WEEK!

Every Friday, we celebrate the wonderful achievements and qualities of our pupils through our Star of the Week awards. These special certificates recognise children who have demonstrated exceptional effort, kindness, perseverance, or progress in their learning.

This week's stars have been chosen for a variety of reasons – from showing remarkable improvement in their reading, to displaying outstanding friendship skills, or tackling challenging maths problems with determination. Some have been recognised for their helpful attitude around the classroom, whilst others have shown creativity in their writing or bravery in trying something new. Each child's achievement is unique and valuable, and we're incredibly proud of all our stars. The joy on their faces when receiving their certificates reminds us why celebrating individual successes, both big and small, is so important in building confidence and encouraging a positive approach to learning.

Congratulations to all of this week's stars – you should be very proud of yourselves!



Attendance Winners of the Autumn Term!



Regular school attendance is one of the most important factors in your child's academic success and personal development. Each day at school offers unique learning opportunities, social interactions and experiences that cannot be replicated at home. When children attend consistently, they build strong relationships with teachers and peers, develop essential life skills and maintain the momentum needed to master complex concepts.

Missing school, even occasionally, can create gaps in learning that compound over time. Children who attend regularly achieve better grades, develop confidence and stay engaged with their education. Beyond academics, school provides a structured environment where children learn vital social skills and teamwork abilities.

Congratulations to Saturn Class for having the highest attendance last week! As our attendance winners, they will enjoy an extra 10 minutes of playtime as a reward for their excellent commitment to being in school every day.

We encourage all families to prioritise school attendance and to contact us early if challenges arise. Together, we can ensure every child has the best possible chance to thrive and reach their full potential.

Jupiter Class: 91.7%

Saturn Class: 100%

Mercury Class: 90.2%

Mars Class: 93.4%

Important Dates, Events and REMINDERS:

- * **Friday 23rd January - Para-Athlete Event!**
- * **Monday 26th January - Individual and group photos!!**
- * **Tuesday 10th February @ 15:45-18:00 - Parent Consultation Evening 1**
- * **Wednesday 11th February @ 15:45-18:00 - Parent Consultation Evening 2**
- * **Thursday 12th February - End of Spring Term 1**
- * **Friday 13th February - Non-pupil Day**

Pawsome Reader of the Week

Well done to this week's Pawsome Reader for their brilliant reading sessions with Jaffle! You read with wonderful expression and confidence, and Jaffle loved listening to every story. Keep up the fantastic work!



*Love:
Jaffle xxx*

