Half Term Highlights

Autumn 1 - 2025

Welcome to our `New Look' Half Term Highlights. We hope you like it.

A fantastic start to the academic year! Our children have been learning so much from our wide curriculum. I am so proud of our school community and all we achieve together.

Mrs Sankey

Year 1 Tiger Tea Party

Year 4 playing Tag Rugby

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If your child is successful outside of school, for example in music, sport, etc, please let us know via contact@engayne.co.uk, and we will include this in the next edition of `Half-Term Highlights'

Reception

The children in Reception have had a wonderful first half term at big school. They have made new friends and settled in really well. The topic this term was 'All about me' where the children spoke about things they enjoy, spoke about their families and also made family trees. The children took part in lots of new experiences, including going to forest school for the first 'Welly Wednesday' session and learning about the UK in 'Travelling Tuesday'. We are having so much fun!

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YEAR 1

Year One have been looking at seasons in their Science lessons. We have been looking at how our trees and their leaves change over Autumn and Winter. We have looked for deciduous and evergreen trees to explore how they have changed.

Year One also used the leaves that had fallen to make animal dens and different patterns, looking closely at the colours they noticed.

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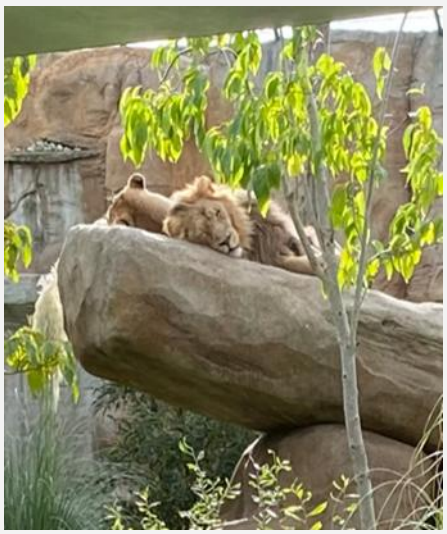
YEAR 2

Year 2 have had a very busy first half term, learning about the continents of the world and different habitats in Geography. We went to Hertfordshire Zoo to learn more about animals and their habitats linked to our Science topic. At the Zoo we saw lots of interesting animals like this lion sunbathing in the sun and the children were so amazed by the size of some of the fish. It was a fantastic day and gave the children lots of inspiration with their descriptive writing. The children used ICT and books to further research about their favourite zoo animals, sharing the fun facts that they had learnt with the rest of their class.



The children have also had lots of opportunities to be creative, learning to paint in the style of Monet and using their imaginations to complete beautiful garden pictures. They have had lots of fun learning a new song and playing in time to the music on a glockenspiel.

Year 3

We have enjoyed our first half term in Year 3. We've already learnt so much. We have found London Landmarks using google earth and found out how to measure the distance between places. In PE we practised our football skills but dribbling, passing and trying to kick a ball through our friend's legs.

In RE we looked at the Hindu faith. We made Diwali cards and learnt how Hindus celebrate the festival of light. Lots of children heard fireworks around Monday 20th October and we talked about it in class, recognising those celebrations in our community.

In theme week, we learnt about Mary Seacole, looking about key people that have changed parts of British History. The children loved creating artwork using different materials and colours. We found her determination, bravery and kindness very inspiring.

We ended our first half term in Year 3 with a trip to Hyde Hall. Not only did we get to see some parts of the plant we'd been learning about like the stem and stamen, we also got introduced to our new topic – Rocks and Soils! We had so much fun. We sketched rocks, did experiments, used clay to make a sculpture, sieved soil, planted cress and lots more. We're now ready to start learning all about Rocks and soils

This term in Year 4 we have been learning how to play tag rugby. We enjoyed working in teams to score tries. We have learned and practised tag rugby skills these include: only throwing the ball to the side or behind, passing three times before you try to score, removal of tag as only contact allowed and not kicking the ball.

In Art / DT, we designed and made our own Anglo-Saxon purses. We used running and blanket stitch to sew the purse together and fabric pens to draw our own Anglo-Saxon patterns. We are looking forward to learning more about the Anglo Saxons in History!

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 5

Year 5 has had an exhilarating term, marked by a delightful visit to Thriftwood, where students embraced nature while engaging in dynamic activities. Their creative enthusiasm flourished through an exploration of onomatopoeia, enriching their vocabulary with words like "bang" and "sizzle" as well as exploring artistic techniques to portray texture found within the natural world and still life. The students delved into the intriguing world of the Vikings, enhancing their historical understanding. They demonstrated the importance of camaraderie and being a good team player through netball. Notably, they produced an imaginative newspaper article inspired by the book Barnabus, and they engaged in discussions about Guy Fawkes, sparking curiosity and critical thinking. A term filled with fun and learning!

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 6

As we enter a new half term, we would like to reflect on Autumn 1. Year 6 have been diligently practicing their SATs to prepare for the real thing in May, and it's been fantastic to see them settling wonderfully into their new classes.

In Religious Education, we embarked on an engaging unit on Sikhism. The children have been busy learning about the ten Gurus and the various ways Sikhs celebrate at the Gurdwara, providing them with valuable insights into different cultures and beliefs.

Recently, we had the opportunity to visit Duxford as part of our World War II topic in History. The trip was both educational and enjoyable, and we were incredibly proud of how well-behaved the children were throughout the visit. They represented our school admirably, demonstrating excellent behaviour and embodying the role models we hope to cultivate.

In our PE lessons, the focus has been on developing handball skills. The students have been honing their throwing techniques while also familiarising themselves with the rules of the game, ensuring they have a solid foundation in both the mechanics and spirit of teamwork.

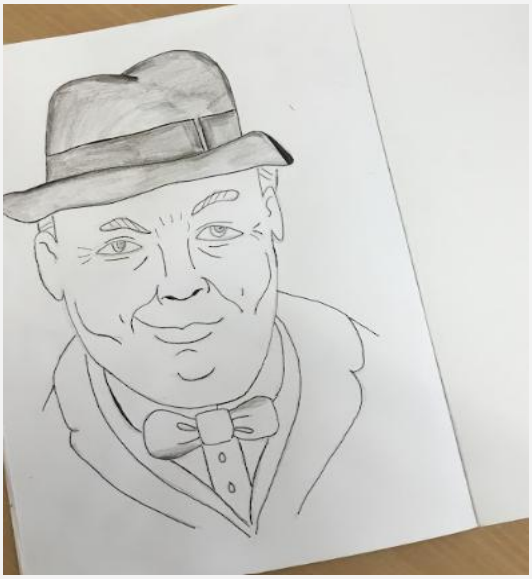
Maths lessons have seen us recapping our knowledge of place value, which has set the stage for our exploration of long multiplication and long division. The students have shown excitement and resilience, grasping these concepts with growing confidence.

English has been particularly lively, with Year 6 producing a variety of writing pieces including diary entries, narratives, and recounts. It's lovely to witness their creativity flourish.

In Science, our focus on light led to a series of thrilling experiments, stimulating curiosity and critical thinking.

To end the half term, the school took part in a theme week, where Year 6 focused on a historical figure. Our focus was Winston Churchill to link with our WW2 theme. We created lovely portraits of him and enjoyed making our scarecrow for the trail.

Overall, it's been an enriching half term, and we look forward to what lies ahead in Year 6!



Huge congratulations to Mr & Mrs Evans on their beautiful wedding back in August. Here is a picture of the happy couple covered in confetti outside St Andrew's Church. "It was the best day!" said Mrs Evans.