Half Term Highlights

Autumn 2 - 2025

Happy New Year to you all. The children found the first few days tricky getting back into routine, especially with the weather. You can see the children have been busy with all our curriculum areas. Please be reminded there is an inset day on Friday 13th February 2026.

Regards

Mrs Sankey

Don't forget you can recycle your electrical items here. The bin is located just inside the main gate.

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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

Reception have been busy learning about lots of different celebrations including Diwali, birthdays and Christmas. The children planned a wonderful birthday party for the class teddy. They wrote invitations to their friends, made decorations and wrote a list of things they needed. The children had a fantastic time at the party, wearing their party hats and playing different party games.

The children also went on their first school trip to the local post box to post an invitation home. They were very well behaved and enjoyed talking about lot of different things they saw on the way.

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 1

Last term Year 1 had an exciting topic all about Australia. We learnt about the climate, the Christmas traditions and we even were able to create some aboriginal art. We also worked hard on our Year 1 Nativity performance. Thank you to all the grown ups that came along.

We had a busy term in Year 2. We learned about the 1969 moon landings and wrote about Neil Armstrong and his mission.

The children really enjoyed using sticky shapes to create 'space' pictures.

We learned about seeds and bulbs and about how plants begin to grow. The children planted bulbs in the well-being garden and will check on their progress through the year. We had lots of keen gardeners!

Year 2 enjoyed practising and performing our Christmas songs for the festive sing-along!
The children made sleighs with their shoe boxes and decorated with Christmassy designs.

Year 3

Year three had a very busy half term full of fun activities.

We made Christmas tree decorations out of salt dough and painted these to decorate a Christmas tree for the festival at Upminster Methodist Church.

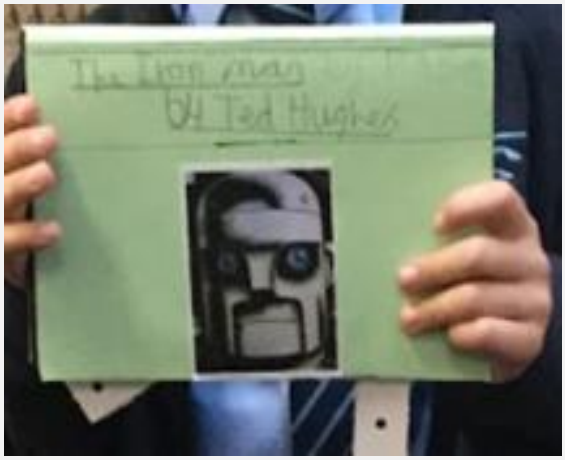
The theme was 'Small World' so we painted different flags, mini Earth planets and wrote greetings in a variety of languages. We also spent time learning Christmas songs and creating bunting and items for the residents at The Oaks.

On Wednesday 3rd December, year three walked to Upminster Methodist Church and had a great time performing Christmas songs to our families. Before coming back to school, we stopped at The Oaks and sang to the residents who all looked very pleased with our fantastic singing. In addition to all of our Christmas tree decorations and gifts for The Oaks, we also spent time making reindeer food as part of our enterprise for the Christmas Fayre. We really enjoyed pouring the oats and magical glitter mixture into the cones and were very pleased with how well they sold at the fayre.

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 4

This half term year 4 have been very busy in class. In PE, the children have been enjoying creating their own movements for different characters from Alice in Wonderland. In History, year 4 have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons and enjoyed a school trip to Kent Life. The children enjoyed taking part in Michael Rosen Day and making up their own silly food poems. In DT, the children enjoyed making Iron Man pop up books which they all worked really hard on.



Half Term Highlights

YEAR 5

During the autumn term, Year 5 has truly excelled in demonstrating resilience, creativity, and problem-solving skills across subjects. The children embarked on an exciting project to create DT cam toys, where they designed, measured, sawed, and assembled wooden components. This hands on experience not only fostered their independence but also encouraged them to embrace trial and error, leading to innovative designs and solutions. In maths, year 5 were focused on understanding fractions. They made excellent progress on their weekly arithmetic, maths bot.

English lessons were particularly festive as students engaged with a John Lewis advert to inspire their descriptive writing. This activity not only enhanced their writing skills but also infused the classroom with a joyful spirit, allowing them to express their creativity.

In PE, teamwork was at the forefront as children collaborated in groups to choreograph a dance. They explored techniques such as unison and cannon, showcasing their ability to work together harmoniously while expressing their individual creativity.

The school organised a delightful trip to St. Luke's, where some of our Year 5 choir members performed beautifully. This experience highlighted their dedication and talent. Overall, Year 5 has shown tremendous growth this term, and their hard work and enthusiasm are truly inspiring.

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 6

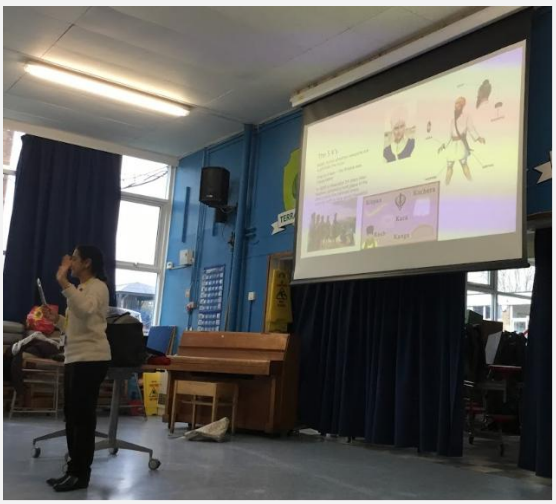
As we wrap up another exciting term, we wanted to share some of the wonderful experiences Year 6 enjoyed over the last half term.

In our English lessons, we had a lot of fun writing instructions on how to 'steal Christmas,' inspired by the Grinch, and crafting suspense narratives based on 'A Christmas Carol.' We had the pleasure of attending a pantomime, generously supported by our EPFA, which brought A Christmas Carol to life and further inspired our writing. This activity sparked our creativity and really helped to enhance our writing.

In PE, we learned a jive related to our WW2 history topic, which we can't wait to showcase in our end-of-year performance. We also celebrated Michael Rosen Day by writing food-themed poems, raised funds through our Bric-a-Brac sale while honing our maths skills, and participated in a valuable moneysense lesson led by one of our lovely volunteers, where we discussed budgeting and managing a bank account.

We were also delighted to welcome a Sikh teacher, who shared insights about her faith, enriching our understanding of our Sikhism unit in RE.

We are looking forward to another term of learning and fun!



Our Sikhism talk

- We said a fond farewell to Miss Austin, who decided on a career change. We wish her luck and happiness for the future.
- Mr Cracknell replaces Miss Austin. Mr Cracknell met and worked with the children before the Christmas break to ensure a smooth handover. We are pleased to welcome him as part of the Engayne family.
- Congratulations to Mrs Watkins, the Office Manager on her recent 20 years service working at Engayne. Mrs Watkins joined the school in 2006 when her own two children were pupils here and has seen well over 2400 children come and go through the gates during that time!
- On the 20th December, Miss Williamson got married at Apton Hall and had a wonderful day. Many congratulations to the happy couple!

Outside Achievements

Congratulations to Cooper, Jenson, Advaith and Atharv from year 5 who competed in their club swim gala championship, they all did so well!

Between them they got 4 bronze, 1 silver and 3 gold medals! It was also Jenson's first gala competition and he did amazingly to come away with two medals.

We were very proud of the boys and wanted to let you know how well they had done.

Well done Henry, Year 6, what an amazing thing to do!