

Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023



James Dixon
Primary



STRENGTH THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Pupil Principals

Hello! This week was extremely fun because of the fact that we had an exhilarating smore campfire in Forest School.

We also had a fun time showing around the interested parents for next year. See you next week.



Hi JD, this week has been amazing as we got to show parents around the school for new students as well as eating smores at Forest School. Overall this week has been so fun, see you next week!



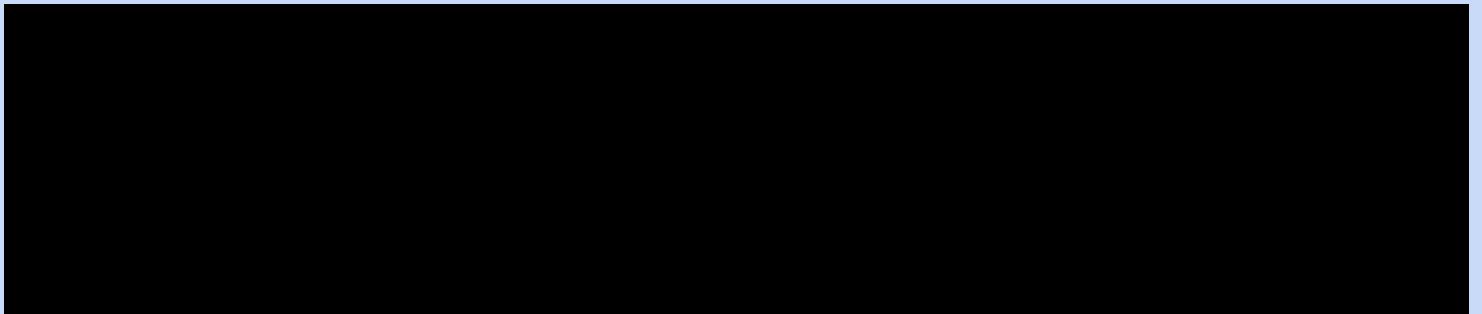
Year 3 to Chislehurst Caves

On Thursday of this week, Year 3 went on the train and visited Chislehurst Caves. This was a belated visit and supported the work the children had already done on the stone-age.

Chislehurst Caves are in fact a series of man made tunnels and caverns that cover 22 miles. They were originally created from the mining of flint and lime-burning chalk. Over the years they have been famous for a variety of uses as well as the original mining. During World War I, they were used as an ammunition storage dump that was associated with the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich. In the 1930s they were used for mushroom cultivation.

When the aerial bombardment of London began in September 1940, they were used as an air raid shelter. Soon they became an underground city accommodating up to 15,000 inhabitants who each paid a penny to enter. They were fitted with electric lighting, toilet and washing facilities and even a hospital.

The caves have also been used for some famous music events and have hosted concerts by David Bowie, Pink Floyd and even American artists such as Gene Vincent and Eddie Cochran.



Year 3, photographed in the caves after the lights had been turned off.

Year 5 Victorian Day



On Friday, Year 5 got to experience life in a Victorian school for the morning as part of their topic on the era.

They were greeted with a curriculum of reciting arithmetic and poetry, plus plenty of handwriting practice! They even got to sample some gruel.



In the afternoon, they became piece workers in the Victorian slums, tasked with earning their weekly rent.

Each family with skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers needed to avoid being sent to the workhouse.



Curriculum focus - Maths

At James Dixon, we aim for all children to become confident, fluent mathematicians with an enthusiasm for problem solving.

We aim to give the children real life maths experiences so they understand why they are learning certain areas of mathematics.

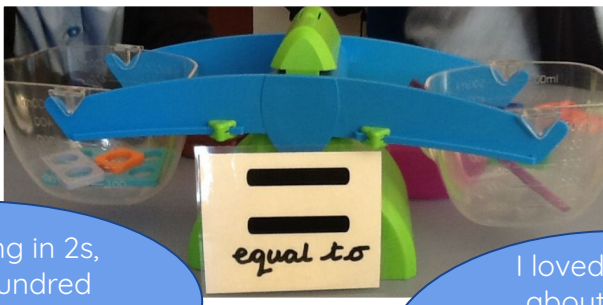
We also try to take learning outside of the classroom where we can.



I like using songs in maths to help me learn my times table. My favourite is the 8s.
Jack, Y4



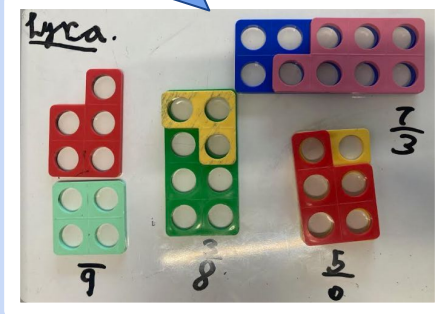
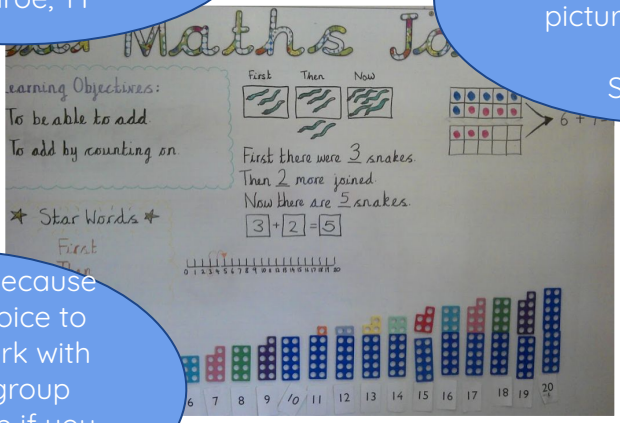
I like counting in 2s, We use a hundred square to help us.
Monroe, Y1



I loved learning about column addition, we used pictures to help us learn.
Siena, Y3

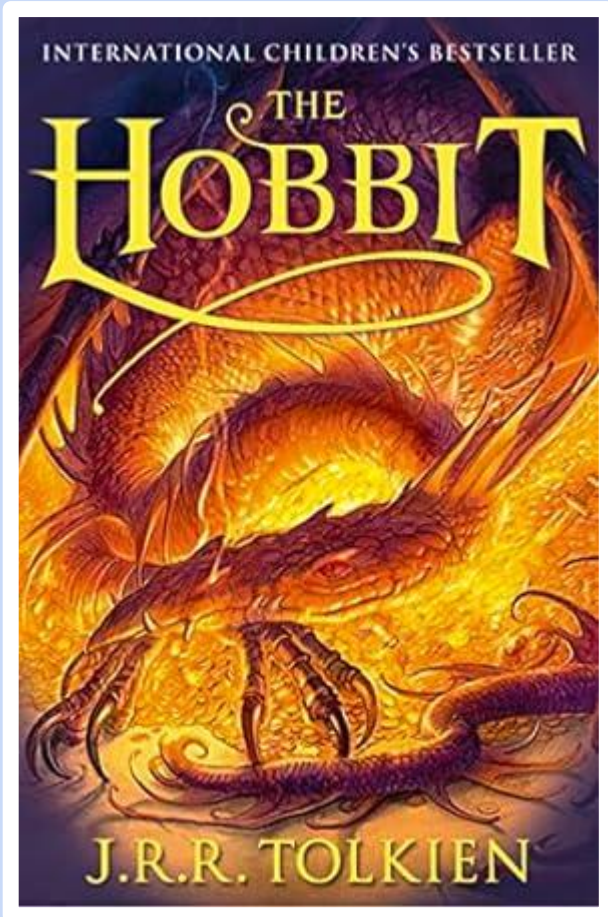


I enjoy maths because you get the choice to think freely, work with a partner or group and ask for help if you need it.
Eddie, Y5



We use a range of resources during our maths lessons which allow the children to work practically and understand new concepts in a visual way.

Mr Coxley



I can still remember the day I first heard the opening line from this book - *“In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit. Not a nasty, dirty, wet hole, filled with the ends of worms and an oozy smell, nor yet a dry, bare, sandy hole with nothing in it to sit down on or to eat: it was a hobbit-hole, and that means comfort.”*

I was 10 years old and my Year 5 teacher had decided to read it to us. He was a fantastic storyteller (did the voices and everything!) and listening to him reading this book to us woke something up inside of me. I became desperate to know what happened next. So much so, that I asked for the book for Christmas that year and spent my Christmas holidays reading it. It was like nothing I'd read before...

The Hobbit is set in Middle-earth and follows home-loving Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit of the title, who joins the wizard Gandalf and thirteen dwarves that make up Thorin Oakenshield's Company, on a quest to reclaim the dwarves' home and treasure from the dragon Smaug. To quote the author himself, J.R.R. Tolkien, *‘This is a story of how a Baggins had an adventure, and found himself doing and saying things altogether unexpected. He may have lost the neighbours' respect, but he gained—well, you will see whether he gained anything in the end....’*

“It was at this point that Bilbo stopped. Going on from there was the bravest thing he ever did. The tremendous things that happened afterward were as nothing compared to it. He fought the real battle in the tunnel alone, before he ever saw the vast danger that lay in wait.”




— J.R.R. Tolkien, The Hobbit



James Dixon PTA



DATES FOR THE DIARY

EVENT	DATE
PRELOVED UNIFORM EVENT Drop off uniform donations to the School office. All items are free or donate £1 to the PTA. 	Friday 12 January 2024, 3:15pm
 KIDS MOVIE NIGHT – After school	January/February 2024
 QUIZ NIGHT – Parents & Carers	February 2024

- Over the School Holidays please consider putting aside any outgrown school uniform to donate to the Uniform Event in January.
- Please store any clean empty jam-jars and small unused toys over the holiday period for the Jolly Jars in 2024.



HOW TO SUPPORT THE PTA

- ▶ To give your time, expertise or ask a question please email: JamesDixonPTA@Gmail.com
- ▶ To support our children, please donate: <https://localgiving.org/charity/JamesDixonPTA/>
- ▶ EasyFundraising - www.easyfundraising.org.uk



This is a brilliant, free way for the PTA to gain donations through your online shopping, ordering food delivery, getting taxis etc. Sign up (very simple: <http://efraising.org/Tv3rXV77Un>) and then via the free app on your phone or donation reminder on your PC/Mac, those companies pay a % of your spend to the PTA. EasyFundraising holds none of your payment details, just email and name, as they redirect you to the site you want e.g. Just East, Boots, Sainsbury's John Lewis, Not on the High Street, or Uber, and you continue from there.



Follow The Star

Join the Song



YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US THIS CHRISTMAS:

Carols, Mince Pies & Mulled Wine - - Sunday 10th December 6:00pm
St Paul's Church Anerley, Hamlet Road, SE19 2AW

Christingle Service* - - Sunday 17th December 4:00pm
Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER

Messy Christmas Crafts, Fun & Food* - - Thursday 21st December 4:00pm
Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER

Dress-up Nativity Services* - - Sunday 24th December 10:30am
St Paul's Church Anerley, Hamlet Road, SE19 2AW
& Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER



Carols, Mince Pies & Mulled Wine - - Sunday 24th December 6:00pm
Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER

Midnight Service - - Sunday 24th December 11:00pm
Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER

Christmas Celebration Service - - Monday 25th December 10:30am
Christ Church Anerley, 197 Anerley Road, SE20 8ER

** Particularly suitable for children*

For more information:

 www.anerleyteamministry.org.uk  **020 8778 7014**

Weekly Attendance

Be here every day, all day!

94%

Year Group	Attendance
Curious	95 %
Energetic	95 %
Expressive	90 %
Reflective	96 %
Resilient	91 %
Considerate	98 %
Kind	96 %
Capable	96 %
Cooperative	94 %
Caring	96 %
Successful	89 %
Adventurous	95 %
Confident	93 %

James Dixon
Primary



Dates for your diary

Monday 11th Dec.	<u>Foodplus Bromley hamper donations (all week)</u>
Tuesday 12th Dec.	<u>KS1 Christmas Production 1.30 pm (Parents from Reflective and Expressive only)</u>
Wednesday 13th Dec.	<u>Reception Christmas Production 2.00 pm</u>
Thursday 14th Dec.	<u>KS1 Christmas Production 1.30 pm (Parents from Resilient and Energetic only)</u>
Friday 15th Dec.	<u>Save the Children Winter jumper day</u> Children to visit Christ Church in Anerley Christmas lunch

Benjamin Zephaniah 1958-2023



Benjamin Zephaniah, the dub poet whose work often addressed political injustice, died yesterday aged 65. He was one of Britain's most celebrated poets after publishing his first book at the age of 22. His first book for young readers was called *Talking Turkeys* and included the poem of the same name which the children listened to in assembly today. Benjamin won the BBC Young Playwrights award and has been awarded no less than 16 doctorates including one by the University of North London.

Benjamin was born in April 1958 in Handsworth, Birmingham, which he thought of as a "cold suburb of Kingston, Jamaica." He began performing poetry locally in his early teenage years. He had dyslexia and left school aged 14. He was also a vegan and an animal rights activist. His work appeared in the National Curriculum and his poetry often responded to historical and current events. R.I.P. Benjamin.

