



DIGGLE STARS

Thomas Russell - for a responsible attitude and for making good decisions

Eve Hall - for super hard work and really listening to the teacher.

Ralph Tann - for excellent effort in Phonics.

Zara Rangwala - for a fantastic attitude to learning this week.

Felicity Drake - for a fantastic effort in her English work this week.

Max Zaman - for always having a positive attitude and being considerate of all those around him.

Toby Parker - for trying hard with his writing and working more independently.

Annie Marland - for settling back into school and trying super hard with her learning.



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS



Welcome back, I hope you all managed to enjoy your Christmas and New Year.

We are currently looking to recruit a new parent governor. Attached to this email is a letter explaining what skills we are looking for, what the commitment is and how to apply. This is a fantastic opportunity to support the school and help to ensure that Diggle School continues to go from strength to strength.

Unfortunately, we have come back to school and within the first week have had to put Class 1 into a bubble due to an outbreak of COVID. This is not surprising as the Saddleworth area has a very high number of cases at the moment. What would be really helpful is if all families could do regular Lateral Flow tests. The classes who have cases have been asked to do daily Lateral Flow tests and these are vital as they are picking up the asymptomatic cases.

Because of the high levels of infection we have decided to hold off restarting extra curricular clubs as these involve classes mixing. We are hoping to be able to start again after February half term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2022

Fri 18 Feb - break for half term

Mon 21-Fri 25 Feb - Half term

Mon 28 Feb - return to school

w/c 4th April - effort grade cards issued

Wed 6th & Thurs 7th April - Year 3/4 production during afternoon session - times tbc

Fri 8th April - finish for Easter

Mon 25th April - return to school



Class R

This week in Literacy Class R have started a new topic, Woodland and Forests. We have been exploring the forests at school, using magnifying glasses to get a closer look. We have also discussed woodland animals allowing us to make homes for them to hibernate in throughout winter. We even made sure they could camouflage to hide from their predators! Finally we sang woodland animal songs, acting out a sly fox, sleeping bunny and a wriggly worm. In Maths, we have been focusing on one more and one less, discussing if the number gets bigger or smaller. We have also made stampines focusing on the number 5. In Phonics, we have learnt some new sounds, 'ay', 'ee' and 'igh'. We have also learnt some tricky red words, 'I' and 'the'. In RE, we have been discussing who is special to us outside of our family, we decided a Teacher because they help us to learn, a Postman because they deliver our letters and a Fireman because they save us from fires. We wrote our special person a certificate and explained why. In PE, we have been pretending to be winter themed characters, practicing our balancing, running and jumping. This week Class R started Word Aware, we have introduced our new word of the week working wall. This week we have had two new words, surprised and stroll. We have been discussing what makes us surprised, what we might do when we are surprised, what a stroll is and acting it out. What a busy week!

Class 1

This week in English we have started to read our new class text Beegu. We have made predictions about what might have happened to Beegu, written about how she might be feeling and what sounds she might have heard coming from the city. In Maths we have been working on time. We have used the vocabulary of morning, afternoon and evening to describe when everyday events happen. We have used the vocabulary of before, after, next, first, then and finally to describe the order of events. We have also practised the days of the week and used the vocabulary of today, yesterday and tomorrow. In Theme we started our new topic Communication Then and Now. This week we found out about early writing systems and in particular the ancient egyptian hieroglyphics. We practised writing our names in hieroglyphics and then in art we started to make a cartouche out of salt dough and used tools to carve our names in hieroglyphics.

Class 2

Class 2 had fun this week finding out about the Man on the Moon. His name is Bob. He wrote us a letter and sent us his book so we could find out all about his job and the things he gets up to every day. (We even think we spotted a few cheeky aliens). We had to find clues from pictures to learn more about Bob, predicting based on what we could see. We also used the pictures to learn how apostrophes for possession are used, by writing sentences about Bob's things. Finally we compiled a list of questions for Bob to check if our predictions about him were accurate. In maths work this week we have been working with empty number lines and using them to add a multiple of ten to a 2 digit number. It proved tricky at first but we are being resilient and improving each day. We have learned more about the place value of 2 digit numbers and how to add tens from any number more accurately. In phonics and spelling we have learned how to spell words beginning with kn, gn and wr and also worked on some of our Year 2 secure spellings. We have decided to make a real effort with our handwriting this half term and are learning the importance of slow and steady so we can be proud of the presentation of our work.



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.



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Class 3

This week in English we started our new book 'Escape from Pompeii' linked to our Roman theme. We used the illustrations to draw out information about life in the Roman times and shared our ideas and opinions with the class. We also produced storyboards to tell the myth of Romulus and Remus in theme.

In science, we recorded light sources we already know in our pre-learning for our new science unit 'Light and Shadows' as well as writing our own definitions for what we think a shadow is. We will find out over the next few weeks whether our ideas change.

In maths we have been extending our knowledge on place value and had great fun in PE when we had the **Command Joe** equipment out to help us solve a mission.

Class 4

It has been a busy week for Class 4. We began our new class text *Escape from Pompeii* and thought about the character of Tranio and what life was like in Roman times. We started our new science unit 'States of Matter' by looking at solids, liquids and gases. In theme we learnt the myth of Romulus and Remus and in maths we have done some brilliant work with Roman numerals. We continued with football on Friday and we are glad to have Chiara back from City In The Community.

Class 5

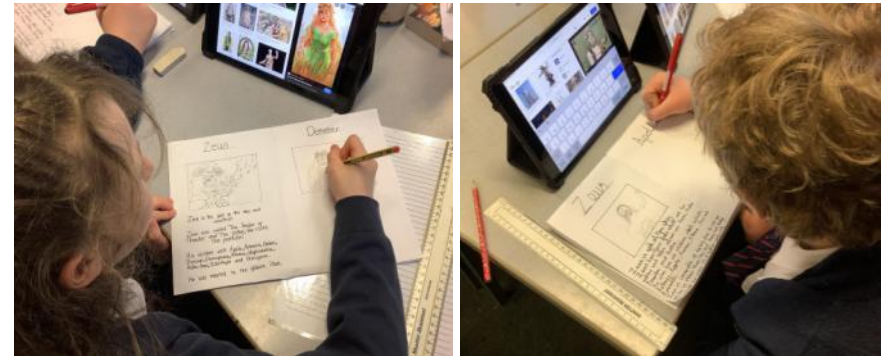
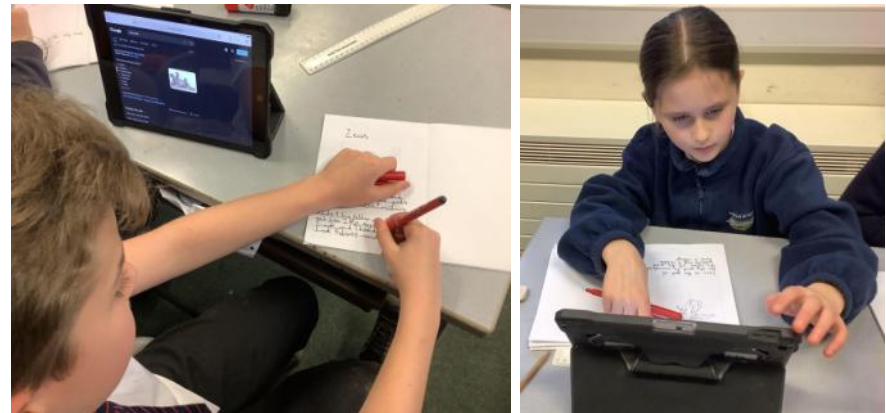
As an introduction to different Greek myths that we will be focusing on in English this half term we have read the story Pandora's box. We have thought about how it would feel as Pandora to be given a gift that she has been told not to open. We have also summarised the text and created descriptions for the box to make it sound enticing, making the reader feel tempted to opening the box. In maths we have been using negative numbers and answering questions in context and understanding the value of the number decreases the further away from zero it is.

In Theme we have tested out geography skills to find Greece on a map of Europe and also identify as many other countries in Europe from memory. We have also ordered significant events in chronological order to make a timeline.

Class 6

In English this week, we summarised the myth of Pandora's Box which we read last week and then used this to create a comic strip of the story. We have also read the myth of King Midas which we will be working on next week. In maths this week, we have been using rulers and protractors to draw 2D shapes accurately with given dimensions. We have also been consolidating our knowledge of long division. In theme, we have created our own books about the Greek Gods. We had to research the gods to find out information about them before presenting them in a book. We have begun a new science topic of Evolution and Inheritance. We looked at the Royal family and the Beckhams to identify characteristics that the children had inherited from their parents.

This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page



Year 5 Leadership skills in PE

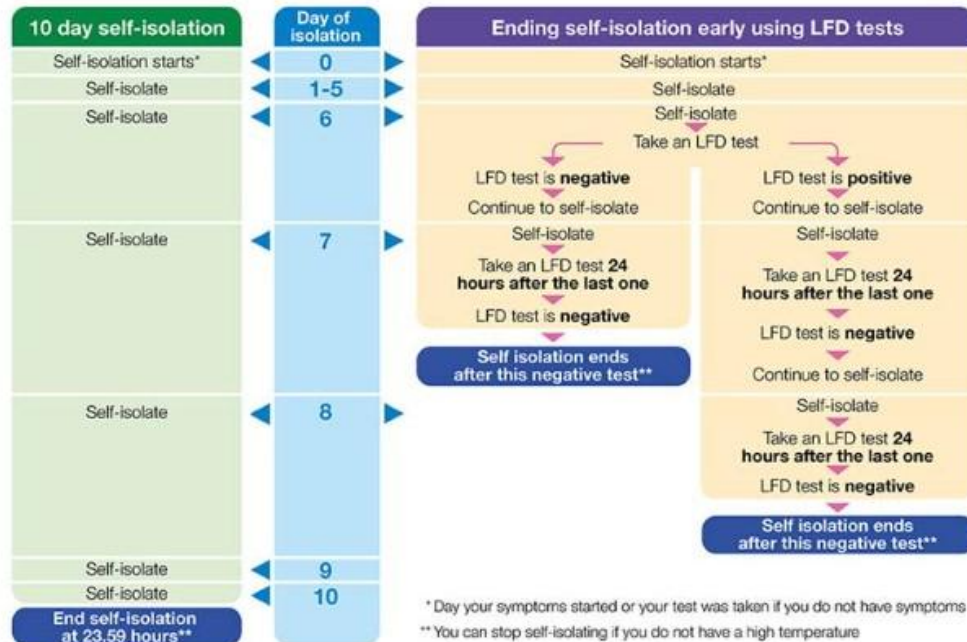
In PE this half term we are going to be looking at using leadership skills within Outdoor Adventurous Activities. One child took the leader in the warm up of the session and had to think carefully about the different activities the children were given to make sure they warmed up and stretched correctly and also increased the heart rate of the other children. The children then worked in teams in a number of activities where they had complete set tasks without talking to each other.



Covid rules summary:

(these are also updated on the covid page of the school website with additional links)

Isolation rules for a positive case:



- An individual must stay at home and self-isolate if they have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19. NB for children, Public Health England in Oldham have requested that any illness be checked with a PCR test - especially colds, headaches, sore throats, and sickness (both feeling sick and being sick).

- An individual should stay at home and isolate if they have had a positive LFD or PCR test result.

- **The date of the test or the day the symptoms started is day 0**, day 1 is the day after and they must isolate for 10 full days following this.

- It is possible to leave isolation early if 2 consecutive negative PCR tests are taken at least 24 hours apart on day 6 & 7 and the person doesn't have a temperature. **NB This may be changing to day 5 and 6 following latest government guidance.**

- If the case still tests positive on day 10, they should not take a test on day 11, but can leave isolation.

Isolation rules of contacts:

The definition of a close contact has not changed (section 4 in this guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>)

- Any unvaccinated contacts must isolate for 10 full days following the last contact with the positive case. They are advised to take a PCR test, but a negative result **does not** allow them to leave isolation early.

- Children between the ages of 5 and 18 years and 6 months and vaccinated adults do not need to isolate, but they are asked to take daily LFD tests for 7 days.

- Children under the age of 5 do not have to isolate and are not asked to take daily LFD tests.

- All adults who have had 2 vaccines are encouraged to have a booster vaccination.

Free advice sessions for a parents in Oldham

A three-session on-line course for parents is being offered for free to Oldham parents.

Children and young people will feel anxious and worried from time to time. Anxiety is a normal or usual response to uncertainty. The way we respond as parents, and deal with our own anxiety plays a significant part in building our children's capacity to develop resilience.

The Covid-19 pandemic has certainly generated lots of uncertainty and changed the way we go about our everyday lives. You may be feeling more worried than usual as you think about the impact on you and your family. Perhaps you are in the midst of a growing cycle of worry and concern that you'd like to unravel. You are not on your own.

This programme is delivered as three, 60-minute online sessions, to explore anxiety in a way that is practical, supportive and will help parents to explore strategies they can try at home.

Fully funded by Oldham Opportunity Area through the Oldham Mental Wellbeing Team. There are 2 options:

Option 1: 1st, 8th and 15th February Tuesday's, 6 - 7pm

Option 2: 4th, 11th and 18th May Friday's, 10 - 11am

See this link to book:

<https://bounceforward.com/anxiety-and-resilience-oldham-parents/>

Class 1's Alien Crash Site

Class 1 started the new term with an exciting discovery on the school field. They went outside to find a strange scattering of metal items that had appeared overnight. There were lots of discussions about what it might be and where it might have come from but most children decided it had fallen from the sky and looked like pieces of a spaceship.

