



DIGGLE STARS

Sam Shaw-Woodall - for being super helpful and working hard all week!

Matilda Morris - for a spectacular effort and improvement in her spellings!

Lucy-May Grange - for super story writing!

Kamron Sorensen - for a much improved attitude to his learning and behaviour in class.

Bella Calverley - for trying hard in lessons and listening to instructions well

Elizabeth Bardsley - for being a more consistent worker and putting in extra effort.

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

It feels like we have only just got back into the swing of school and we are finishing for a holiday. However, at least for these next two weeks you can all relax and enjoy the time, with no google classroom to intrude on some quality family time. This feels like it has become a regular message but can I once again urge you to stay vigilant over the holidays. Should your children show any symptoms or test positive over the holidays then please let me know as soon as possible. It is my responsibility to carry out the test and trace for school cases even over the holidays so i will be checking me email regularly.

head@diggle.oldham.sch.uk

Parents evening will be held the week beginning the 17th May via Zoom. Staff will use Google Classroom to ask you to book an appointment. The appointment booking will be put on line from the 4th May so look out for it.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 1st April – school closes for Easter

Mon 19th April – school reopens for summer term

Parent's evening: week beginning 17th May via Zoom.

Thurs 27th May-School closes for May half term

Effort grade cards will be sent before May half term



Happy Easter

to all our families and wider community.

We wish you all a wonderful Easter break, and hope that the weather makes it possible for you to reconnect with friends and family outdoors, making the best of the new rules.

Class R

This week, Class R have been thinking about Spring and Easter. We have been involved in tons of activities such as life paintings of daffodils, making Easter cards, chocolate nests and the Easter Bunny even hid some eggs for us to have our own Easter Egg hunt! The children particularly enjoyed listening to the Pete the Cat story about Easter, where he met the Easter bunny. In Maths, we have been practicing our addition skills with eggs. Which really helped us during the Easter Egg hunt. Finally, we practiced all our set 2 Phonics Sounds and red words - which we have also brought home to practice over Easter.



Have you seen our Forest School work on our Facebook page this week

Class 1

This week we have been re telling the story of Dogger in our own words. We have written a small part of the story each day this week and then looked for ways to improve it. In Maths we have been continuing our work on addition and subtraction and applying it to solve word problems. In Theme we looked at the differences between old toys and modern toys and thought particularly about the materials they were made of and the types of colours on them. We enjoyed looking at and playing with some examples of older toys as well as ordering them according to age. In science we tested a range of materials to see which would be the best to make an umbrella for Ted.

Class 2

This week we have been busy finishing our story writing with our versions of Little Red Riding Hood. We wrote our starters last week, so this week we have concentrated on writing the main part of the story and a good ending. We were pleased with the results. Our sunflower plants have really started to grow now (it must be all the lovely sunshine we have had). We have taken them home this week. We have been finding out how to care for them as they are only seedlings at the moment. We need to care for them well so they will grow into fantastic sunflowers! In maths work we have completed all our learning checks and played some games to help with number and place value.



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

Class 3 had a great orienteering session in the Spring sunshine this week.



Class 4's Ollie Blair played for Oldham Athletic at the weekend. What an achievement. Keep up the hard work Ollie. We're all proud of you!



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

Class 3

This week in Maths, we looked at the relationship between addition and subtraction using the inverse and formal operations to help check calculations. In Games, we enjoyed a sunny afternoon orienteering to identify partial photos of objects, locate them, then plot them on a map. We used the atlases in Geography to locate the highest mountains and the longest rivers as part of our Around the World in 80 Days theme which follows on nicely from our Europe theme. We have designed a new vehicle, complete with gadgets and special powers, to help capture the giants in The BFG and also imagined what lands they would pass on their way to Giant Country. We wrote about the countries they passed and made a key for each as we drew them and enjoyed watching the film at the end of our novel.

Class 4

We studied some the longest rivers and tallest mountain ranges in our theme topic Around the World in 80 Days this week. We used atlases to plot them on a map. In maths we completed our final two assessments and in English we completed the big spelling test. Most of the children made improvements again which is really encouraging to see. We continued orienteering in PE by using maps to find hidden anagrams which we then had to unscramble. A very productive end to a very productive half term. Enjoy your holiday Class 4!

Class 5

This week we have almost finished reading our Class text 'The Boy with One Name' and created a number of texts ready for the Class display, these include; a Slap Dust recipe, a description of an abandoned house, a class book all about witches and a newspaper report about the missing Ruby Jenkins. The children have really enjoyed reading this book and the work they have produced both at home and in school shows this. In Maths this week we have looked at Area and perimeter and continued with Mini Maths; the children scores are improving each week and they are growing in confidence when answering the different types of questions.

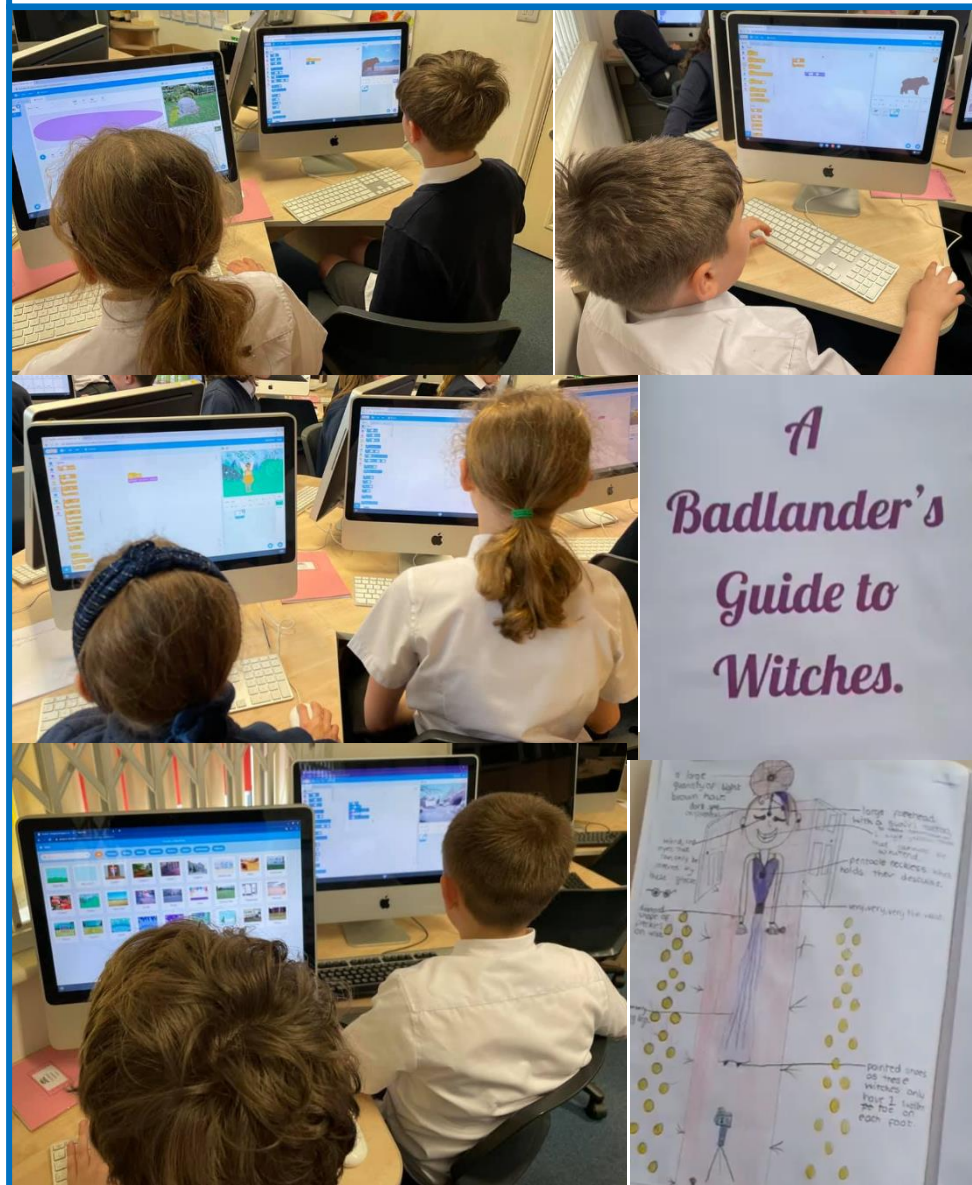
Have a look on our Facebook page for a video of the work we have done creating 'A Badlanders Guide to Witches'

Class 6

This week we have read chapter 17 of our book 'The Girl of The Ink And Stars' and created a newspaper report for our English. This week in maths we have been converting Km to miles and miles to Km and have worked on volume of a shape. We have also continued with Mini Maths; the children have improved a lot since the start of year 6 and are getting more confident. In theme we have been researching Death Valley and looking at it's history. We have also begun animating in ICT.

By Emilia and Toby

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

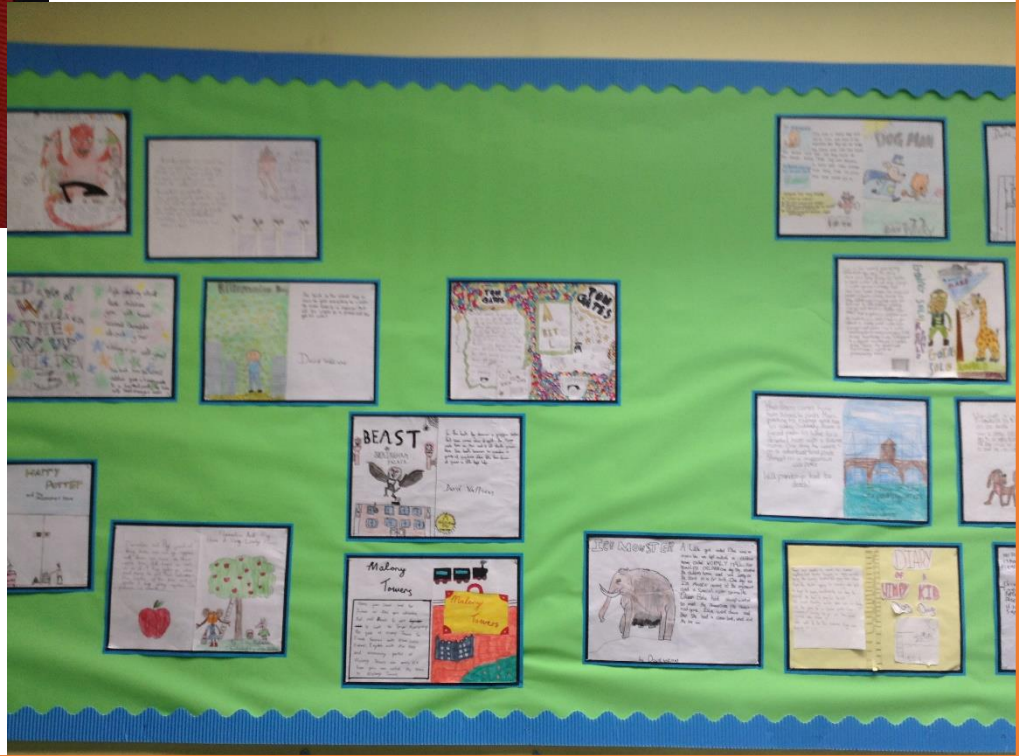


World Book Day Challenge

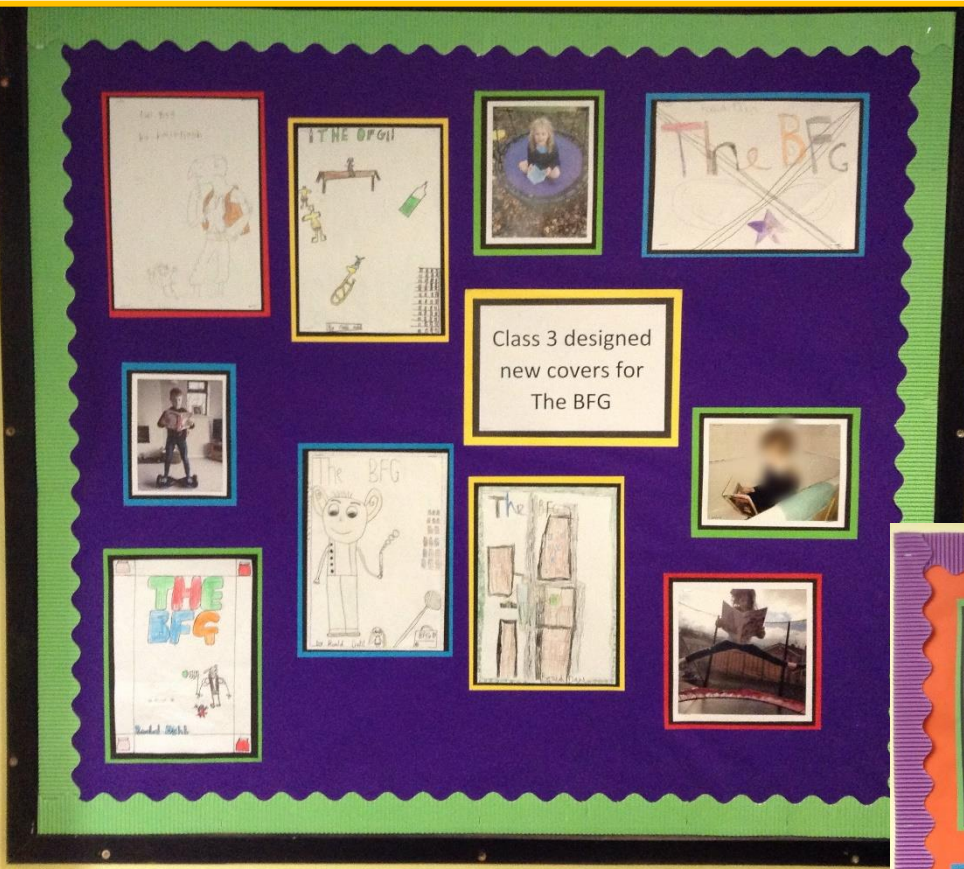
Well done to all the children who designed a new cover of their favourite book, and took pictures of themselves reading in an unusual place in the last week of lockdown. We have some very talented artists, and some very unusual reading locations!!

The staff have done a fantastic job of creating beautiful displays of these throughout the school, and while we don't have any visitors to share them with, the children are certainly enjoying looking at them, and we want to share them with you, too, here in the newsletter.









Have your financial circumstances changed?

In the new world of living with Covid we all find ourselves in, it has affected all of us differently.

For some, Covid has forced a change in role, and for others, employment has disappeared completely.

If your circumstances have changed and you are finding yourself in financial difficulties, there may be help available to help support you and your family.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Do you use BASC but pay direct? With *Tax-Free Childcare*, you'll set up an online childcare account for your child, and for every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider. This can be used on "approved childcare" - like BASC.

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201066/get_money_off_your_council_tax

You may be eligible for help to pay your Council Tax if you are on a low income.

Families may be struggling with utility bills – almost all of the main providers have funds for account holders who are in difficulties which can support with bills and by providing household electrical items. Contact your provider for more information.

Also, British Gas Energy Trust offers grants and schemes that are open to anyone - you don't have to be a customer.

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances

Here you can find information about education grants and allowances

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/> is a charity that helps people in financial need to access welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help

<https://www.family-action.org.uk> Family Action's Welfare Grants programme helps prevent an immediate crisis from spiralling.

Free School Meals

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/grants_and_allowances/161/school_meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You don't need to apply if you are already in receipt or have applied for Housing Benefit or help with your Council Tax as you should be identified automatically by the system, however please let school know so we can chase it up if need be.

See

[Benefits and money](#)

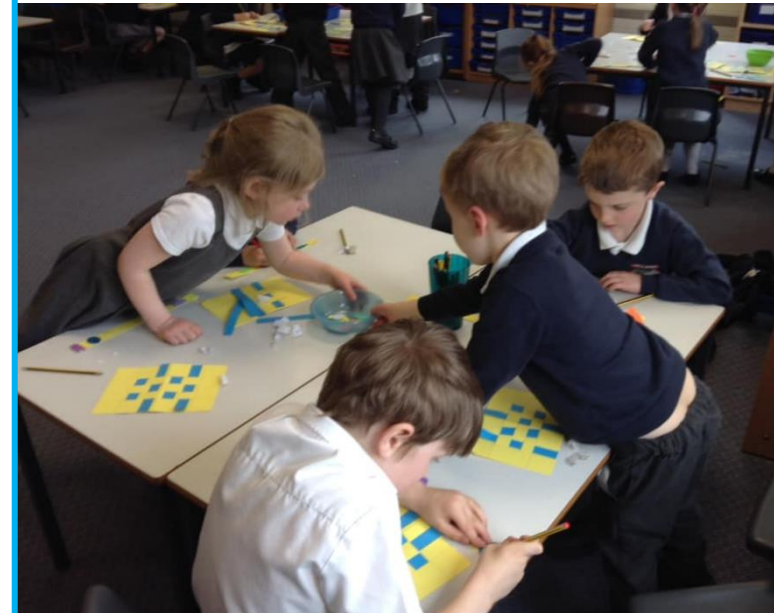
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/100001/benefits_and_money for more information

Class R - have been busy with Easter & spring activities this week.



Class 1

Have made some lovely Easter baskets this week.



BASC Parents

Please can we remind BASC parents they must not bring their cars onto the staff car park when collecting their children. There is plenty of room on the road, and coming into the carpark is not necessary. The car park is for staff only, and as it is private land, should you have any form of accident or damage occur you are likely not be insured as you are on private land without permission.

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

For those of you who purchase through **AMAZON**, please consider choosing **Friends of Diggle School** as your preferred charity on **Amazon Smile**. Every bit of money FODS raises comes back into school, and Amazon Smile is a great way to help just by doing your normal shopping.

If you use the Amazon App on your phone and you registered for Amazon Smile when we first mentioned FODS was a registered charity – **you will need to re-activate the Amazon Smile option in the app**, as it periodically reverts back to normal Amazon – go to the app, the click the three lines in the top left corner by the Amazon logo, then find Amazon Smile in the list and reactivate.



Parking outside school

If you are bringing your child to school in a vehicle, **Please do not park on the zig zag lines between 8am and 5pm**, and given the significant reduction in traffic volume due to the staggered starts, no-one should need to park in the entrance to Heather Way or use this entrance to turn around.



IDLE FREE ZONE
TURN ENGINE OFF



Young Lungs at Work

No Idling Please

Please can we also remind parents not to sit in their cars with the engine running when parked on the roadside. Idling creates a hot-spot of concentrated emissions which the passing children are then breathing in. The Highway Code states: "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road."

With all this in mind, please can we remind parents to aim to arrive for their child's set arrival / departure time. One of the benefits of the staggered timings is there is plenty of room for all parents to easily park, but if parents arrive earlier than needed and then sit in their cars waiting, this is taking up parking space for those needing to come at an earlier time.