St. George's Junior School

'Working in partnership to educate, nurture and empower'

FEBRUARY 2022

UP-COMING

3rd March—World Book Day

Week commencing 7th March parent consultations with teachers

16th March—Year 5 Viking day

18th March—Red Nose Day

23rd March Author S F Said—virtual visit with Year 5

From 30th March—Year 3 Stepping Out Training

6th April—Year 4 Romans at Shrewsbury Museum

8th April PD Day

25th April pupils back in school after Easter

Year 4 & 5 start swimming during the school day after Easter

A note from the Executive Headteacher

We have celebrated a number of collaborative activities across the two schools this half term. Both pupils and staff have participated in strengthening these positive relationships which enable us to work together to offer the best support for your children whatever the changes, and events we face.

Earlier in the half term, the PTA's from both schools have reviewed the setup and would like to form a joint PTA moving forward. Watch out for a planned Easter event which will be advertised shortly. The PTA are always looking for volunteers and helpers, if you would like more information regarding this, please contact either of the school offices. For those PTA members who are moving on, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the commitment and dedication you have given to funding the many fun events and learning resources for our pupils.
I wish you all a very restful break and look forward to the lighter times ahead.

Head of School

A very busy and productive spring half term. Pupils have started the year off with positivity and worked well in all areas across the curriculum. Our Mental Health week last week saw pupils making connections in how wellbeing supports them in being focused and having a positive mindset to support learning. Exercise, reading, dance and gardening were some of the many activities planned by staff across both schools. It was a pleasure to watch pupils enjoying music and dancing during their break times.

Staff updates



Welcome back to Mrs Johnston who is returning from maternity on Thursday 17th February**. Mrs Johnston** will become the job-share with **Mrs Howarth** and will teach in Wrekin class on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Johnston will also be the teacher in Haughmond on a Monday and Tuesday morning. Having worked in year 5 and 6 prior to maternity leave, Mrs Johnston is very experienced and will be a welcomed addition to the Year 5 team.



Miss Merrifield is back working in the office—welcome back.

We welcome new staff; **Mrs Smart** who will be a teaching assistant in Year 5 and **Ms Prescott,** a teaching assistant working in Year 6.

Welcome to Kensa who is a new addition to our team. She has been introduced virtually to pupils and it is hoped she will be able to spend more time in school. More information will follow.

YEAR 3

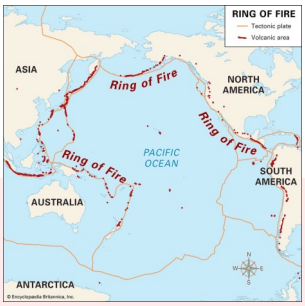
Geography

HOT Topic...Volcanoes









This term we have been looking at volcanoes and earthquakes. We have learnt that 75% of volcanoes and 90% of earthquakes are located on the ring of fire, which is around the Pacific Ocean.

We have really enjoyed using the atlas' and finding out about the different hemispheres. We have looked closely at South America too. We found out that some parts of South America are really hot because they are close to the Equator and others can be really cold because they are near the Tropic of Capricorn.







PSHE and E-Safety

Be kind online

In this half term, we have been focussing on bullying. We started by defining bullying as a repeated negative behaviour that is intended to hurt or upset someone. We looked at different scenarios and discussed if they were bullying or not. In each class, we came up with ways we could deal with bullying and made a poster with our top tips! During e-safety week, we thought about cyber bullying and how to make sure we are staying safe online and being nice to others.



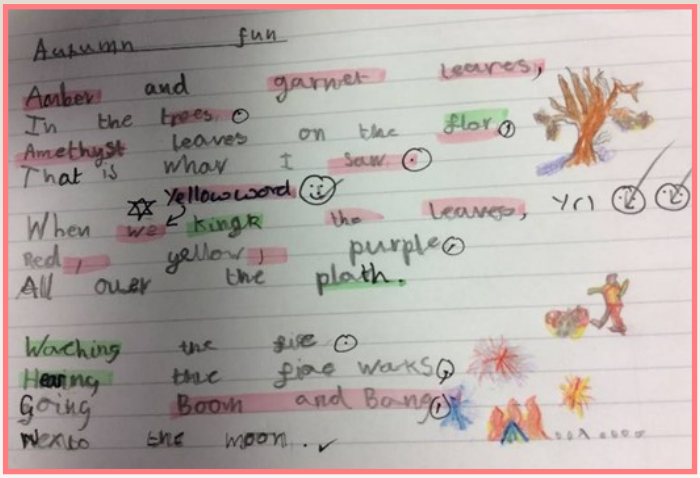


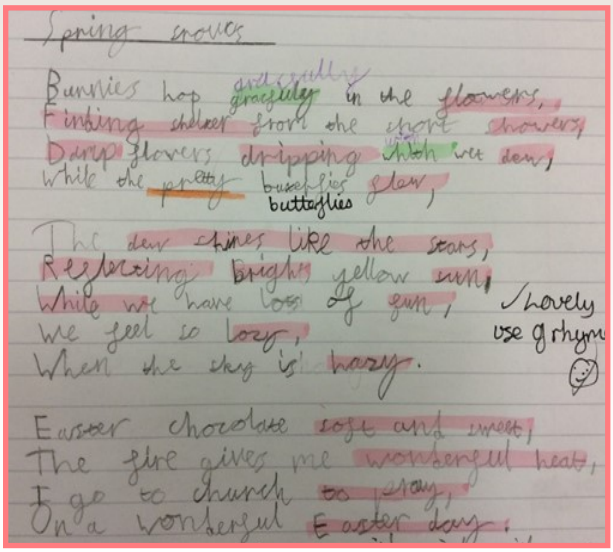
Maths in Year 3

We have been learning about money this term in Year 3. Money lessons always involve lots of practical elements, such as finding the correct coins, practising buying more than one item and giving the correct change. In this particular lesson, the children had to choose two or three items from our "Class shop" and add them up. Then they had to find the correct change that they would use to buy these with. Natan was very lucky to pick up an Ipad for just £5.01.

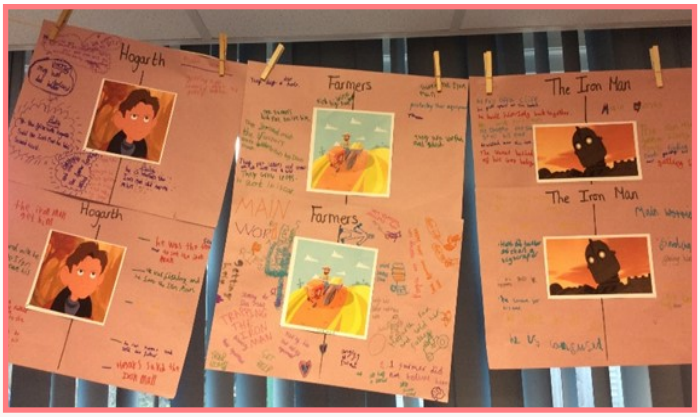
Seasonal Poetry

YEAR 3





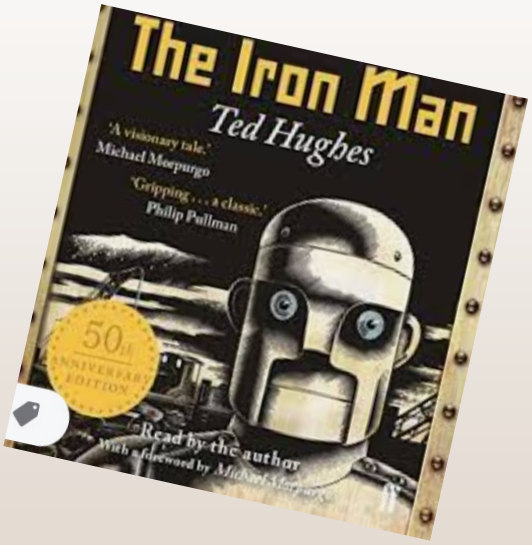
This term we have been writing seasonal poetry. Pupils read and performed some winter poems. They then developed vocabulary banks and practised poetry techniques to created their own beautiful seasonal poetry. We definitely have some budding poets in year 3



Reading skills

- Summarising
- Predicting
- Clarifying
- Questioning
- Retrieving

We have also been reading the Iron Man by Ted Hughes. We have been using our retrieval skills to find out what has happened to each of the characters. We then used our inference and retrieval skills to think about how the characters were feeling and consider what their biggest concern was. We figured out that the Iron Man's biggest concern was finding food but the farmers and villagers were most concerned about protecting their property and families. We are looking forward to finding out what happens next.



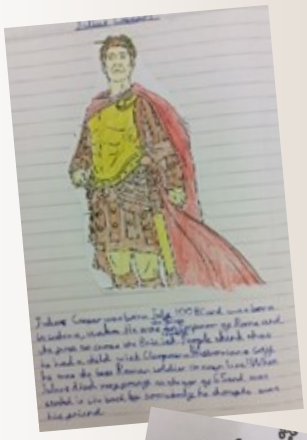
YEAR 4

Romans





This term in Topic we have been learning about the Romans. We have learnt lots of interesting facts linking to the Roman invasion and how it changed the way people lived, traded, and socialised. One of our favourite aspects of learning about the Romans was finding out about Boudicca and her rebellion. The children were keen to find out more about her and how the rebellion affected lives for years to come. Linking our PE lessons into topic we created freeze frames of the Romans and incorporated them into our dance. Year 4 created some great freeze frames and used very stern expressions when pretending to be Boudicca. The children also enjoyed plotting on a map where the Romans created roads and using google maps to see if we could locate them, they found it interesting to see how the roads were made then and how they are different to today





Human Body

Electricity

Science





Science: In science, we started the term by finishing our Human digestion topic. Before we began our electricity topic, we had a wonderful science trip to Techniquest X-plore in Wrexham. Pupils loved the interactive activities and enjoyed the challenge of creating their own solar powered fairground ride. We have now started our Electricity topic and are looking forward to exploring circuits, insulators and conductors even more next half term.

YEAR 4

Lessons on keeping safe

Computing: Through our Project Evolve E-safety lessons, we have learnt about staying safe online, having safe experiences online and what is meant by the term 'respect'. With have also explored the intriguing world of 'Debugging', investigating algorithms both online and offline, and attempting to provide the necessary fixes.

PSHE: Our PSHE lessons have linked well to our E-safety lesson this term as we have looked to understand and manage risks . We have even explored basic first aid practices just in case we find ourselves as the first person present at an accident

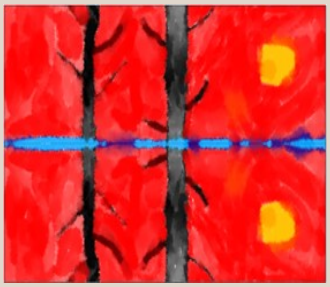
French: In French, Year 4 have been learning to count in multiples of 10 to 100. Through our topic, 'Raconte -moi une histoire', we have learnt to use simple adjectives, learnt to read a known story in French and learnt a well-known French children's song 'Sur le pont d'Avignon'.















Art: Primary and secondary colours. Landscapes. Reflection. Put it all together and you get beautiful pieces of art

YEAR 5



Would you rather be around in Roman times or Anglo-Saxon period?

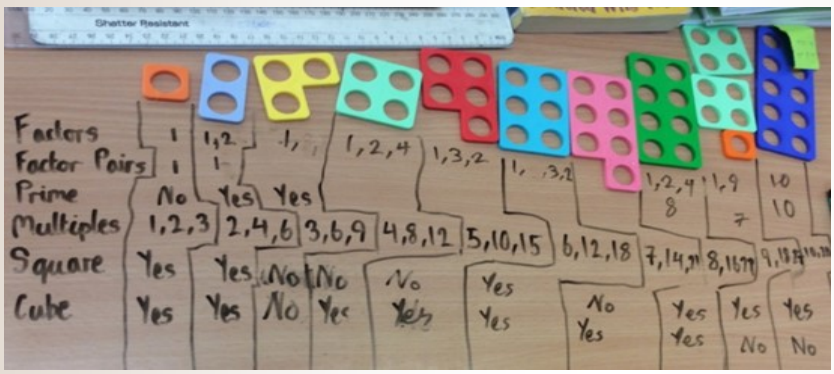


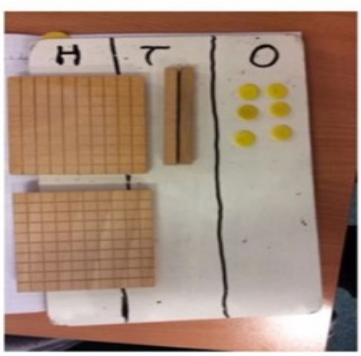
This half term, Year 5 have been studying the Romans and Anglo-Saxons as part of their topic work. Using their understanding of chronology, children have been placing key events on a timeline and have been looking at how different events have occurred at the same time.

Maths in Year 5

Year 5 have been working hard recapping their understanding of multiplication and division and exploring various methods through concrete, pictorial and abstract representations. We have built on their understanding of formal multiplication from year 3 and 4 to the formal short multiplication method. Children have used their knowledge of exchanging ten ones for one ten in addition and have applied this to multiplication using concrete resources.

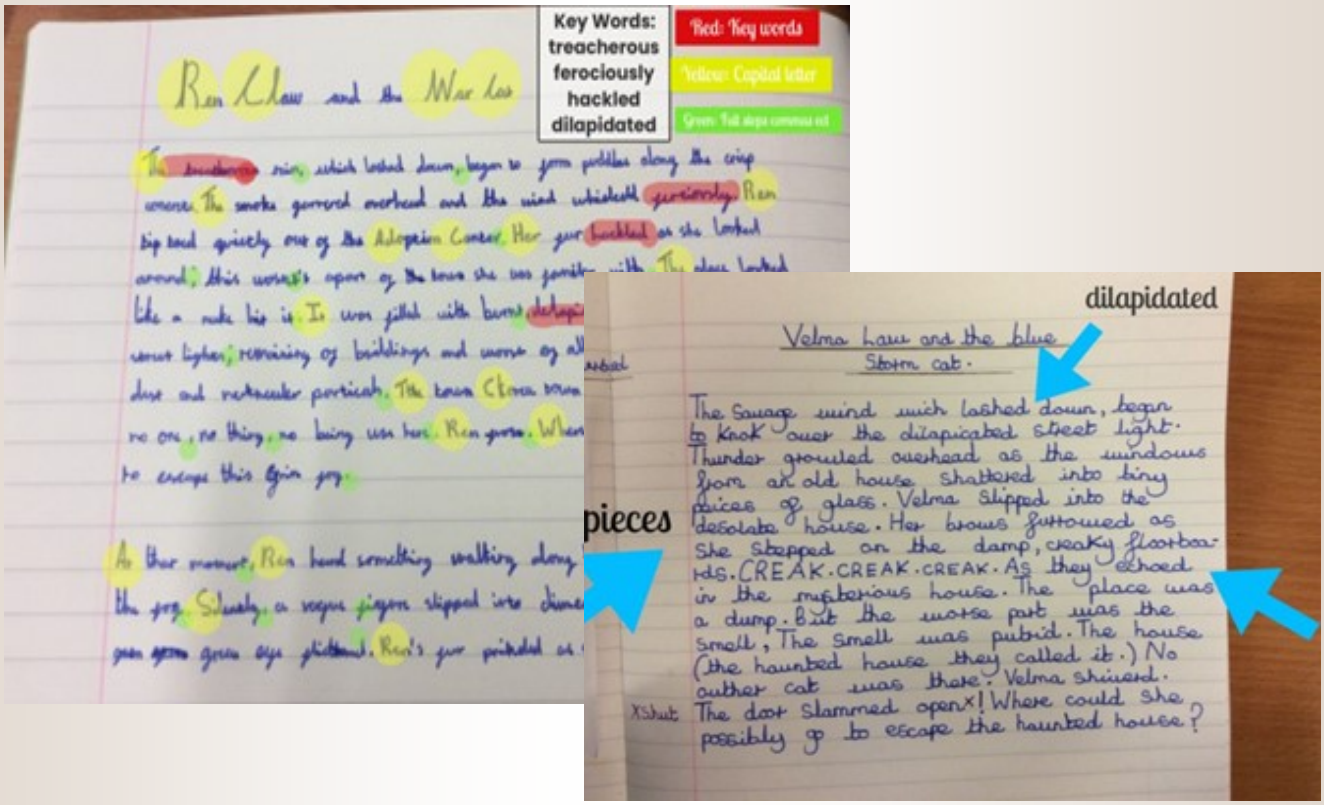
Year 5 have been able to model their deepened understanding through reasoning and problem-solving questions and have been using seesaw to explain their thinking and capture their models





YEAR 5

Reading and Writing combined



Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat

Short sentences, empty words, sentences of three, showing not telling – a collection of tools year 5 have been using to create their own suspense stories. An adapted version of Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat was used as the model text to introduce the children to our focused genre. Our theme of 'suspense' also links to our class book 'Varjak Paw'; having two similar plots, genres and characters across both reading and writing lessons, have supported children in their creativity when writing their innovation and invention stages. Before whole class feedback, children used Seesaw to read their work out loud to check for clarity and cohesion. Some children have been using dictation to orally structure sentences and ideas in preparation for their invention.

YEAR 6



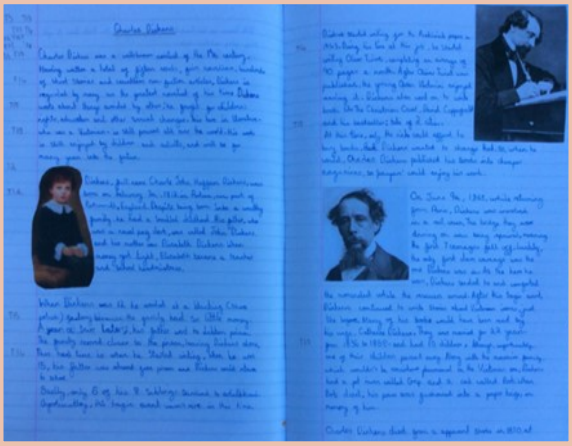
History and Science links

In science, we have been studying the work of another famous Victorian- Charles Darwin. Children have been learning about theories of adaptation, evolution and natural selection and identifying them in the wider world around us. We also used the work of Mary Anning (a Victorian palaeontologist) to think about how fossils have helped us understand the evolution of many species of animals we see today.

Our local area has also been a focus of our geography learning. Year 6 have been studying the Industrial Revolution with a particular focus on our locality and the types of industry which occurred. Children have also been studying transport routes by mapping rail and canal links in order to understand how the Industrial Revolution shaped our local area and community.

History and Science links to English

Children are still enjoying our learning about the Victorians this term. Our work on biographies has meant that Year 6 pupils have been able to dive deeper into the lives of some important Victorian figures including Charles Dickens, Grace Darling and even Queen Victoria! Using all of our writing skills, children have written some wonderful biographies and have applied our class toolkits to compile some fascinating biographical writing.

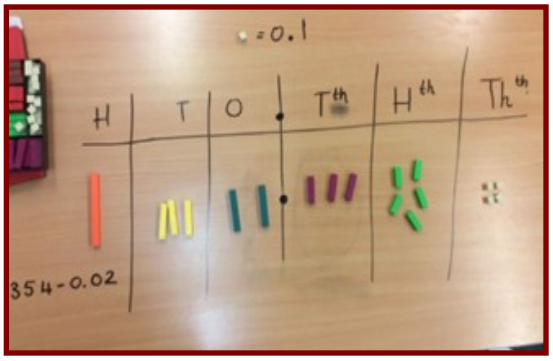


Reading widely

Our focus author this term is Malorie Blackman. We have been enjoying reading her books and learning about her life both in and outside of school. Children have been enjoying exploring the work of Malorie Blackman, listening to her advice as she is interviewed and thinking about what inspired her as a writer. Our story time book- 'Pig-heart Boy'- has us thinking about medical science and the recent advances in heart surgery.

Marvellous Maths in Year 6

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In maths, Year 6 have been learning about fractions and decimals. We have been using concrete resources to think about different ways we could express fractions and decimals. Children have also been enjoying practicing these skills in their fluency challenges and have enjoyed applying their learning to our science learning too.

Personal Development in Year 6



Following our Christmas Carols using British Sign Language, pupils have been enthused and motivated to learn more.

Year 6 have been very enthusiastic about running a British Sign Language club once a week. During these sessions, Sign Language ambassadors teach children- and teachers- useful phrases and words which could help communicate with others who use BSL.

'Growing Together' Children's Mental Health Week



During Children's Mental Health Week, Year 6 pupils went to Woodfield to take part in gardening and reading with reception pupils. Our Year 6's shone as being role models to the younger pupils and their care, consideration and positive nature was a credit to us all, as part of our theme of 'Growing Together'.



Positive communication online

Our computing focus has been 'Communication'. This has allowed us to learn about the World Wide Web as a communication tool. We have investigated different methods of communication online and linked this to E-Safety in discussing risks to communicating online, as well as part of Safer Internet Day.

Be Safe online: Be kind online

BeeU Children's & Family Mental Health Services

NHS
Midlands Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust
A Keele University Teaching Trust



Bee U is the emotional health and wellbeing service for people, up to the age of 25, living in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Previously known as CAMHS the service offers a range of support depending on the needs of the child or young person. The services you may be offered are described briefly here or you can find out more about what help is available at https://camhs.mpft.nhs.uk/beeu

Beam – phone or face to face



Beam is an emotional well-being service for children and young people under 25 years old who are registered with a GP in Shropshire or Telford & Wrekin.

Beam are currently offering support via:

- Phone
- Virtual face to face (via MS Teams)

You can request support from Beam via our website: https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk//beamshropshire

Young people aged 14 years+ can register themselves.

Young people aged 13 and under will need a parent/carer to register on their behalf.

If you have any questions about the Beam service, please contact us email shropshirebeam@childrenssociety.org.uk

Kooth – online

Kooth provides an anonymous 24-hour online service offering peer support, self-help and have trained counsellors to talk to.

Anyone aged 11-25, living in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, can register to access this service and you don't need to be referred or have an appointment

Whilst the website is available 24 hours, there will be someone to talk to online at the following times:

- 12:00 to 22:00 (Monday to Friday)
- 18:00 to 22:00 (Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays)

For more information visit Kooth: www.kooth.com



Healios

We also work with Healios, an online provider of mental health services www.healios.org.uk

Core Team

The core team work with children and young people who have been assessed as having more serious and ongoing mental health neeeds. Access to this team is usually via a professional who knows what BeeU offers, and knows the young person. Care is provided by a multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, family therapists, mental health nurses, social workers and occupational therapists who can offer different skills and approaches depending on the young person's needs.

Ageless 24/7 Urgent Helpline

0808 196 4501
(option 1 – under 18's; option 2 – over 18's)

This is for help and advice for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis.

In a health emergency you should still call 999 or visit your local A&E department

'Working together, Growing together, Achieving together'



Being online

If your child is online (for example playing games, using Snapchat, Instagram etc), then it's important that we talk to our child about **being kind online**, for example only posting positive comments, don't say anything they wouldn't say in real life and treat others as they would expect to be treated.





Your child also needs to be aware that what they see online isn't always the full picture. People only share what they want you to see and images are often filtered. It is also important that your child knows how to block and report any inappropriate behaviour when they see it.

BBC Own It have curated a collection of videos, quizzes, and tips to help make the web a kinder place: https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/being-kind-online



Further information

https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/feeling-good-on-social-media/

Be Kind online

This is a key message throughout the curriculum when teaching pupils about e-safety and appropriate use of social media. The online newsletters also feature this message too 'don't say anything you wouldn't say in real life and treat others as they would expect to be treated'. School ask that this is extended to our wider community in role modelling this. Positive communications are encouraged and should you wish to discuss any matter, school staff are happy to address this through appropriate channels. Negative comments about staff or school via social media groups are not tolerated or accepted as being mutually respectful in working together in partnership. We actively encourage and promote a positive links between home and school.

Single Point of Access.

This is a single point of contact for parents, carers, public & professionals to access Health Visiting and School Nursing teams. If you require information on child development,

Breast feeding, weaning, sleep, behaviour issues any concerns or worries about your child then please call our Single Point of Access

You can speak to a Health Visitor or sign posted to appropriate services.

Single Point of Access telephone: **0333 358 3654**

Parental Workshops

We are inviting parents to supportive workshops for Reading and Spelling, and a Maths one for Year 4.

Key dates:

Reading and Spelling workshop for all parents. This will be run by our Languages team on: **23rd March at 9.10**

Maths workshop for parents of Year 4 pupils. This will give information, support and resources to support parents and pupils for the year 4 times table check on: **5th April 9.10**