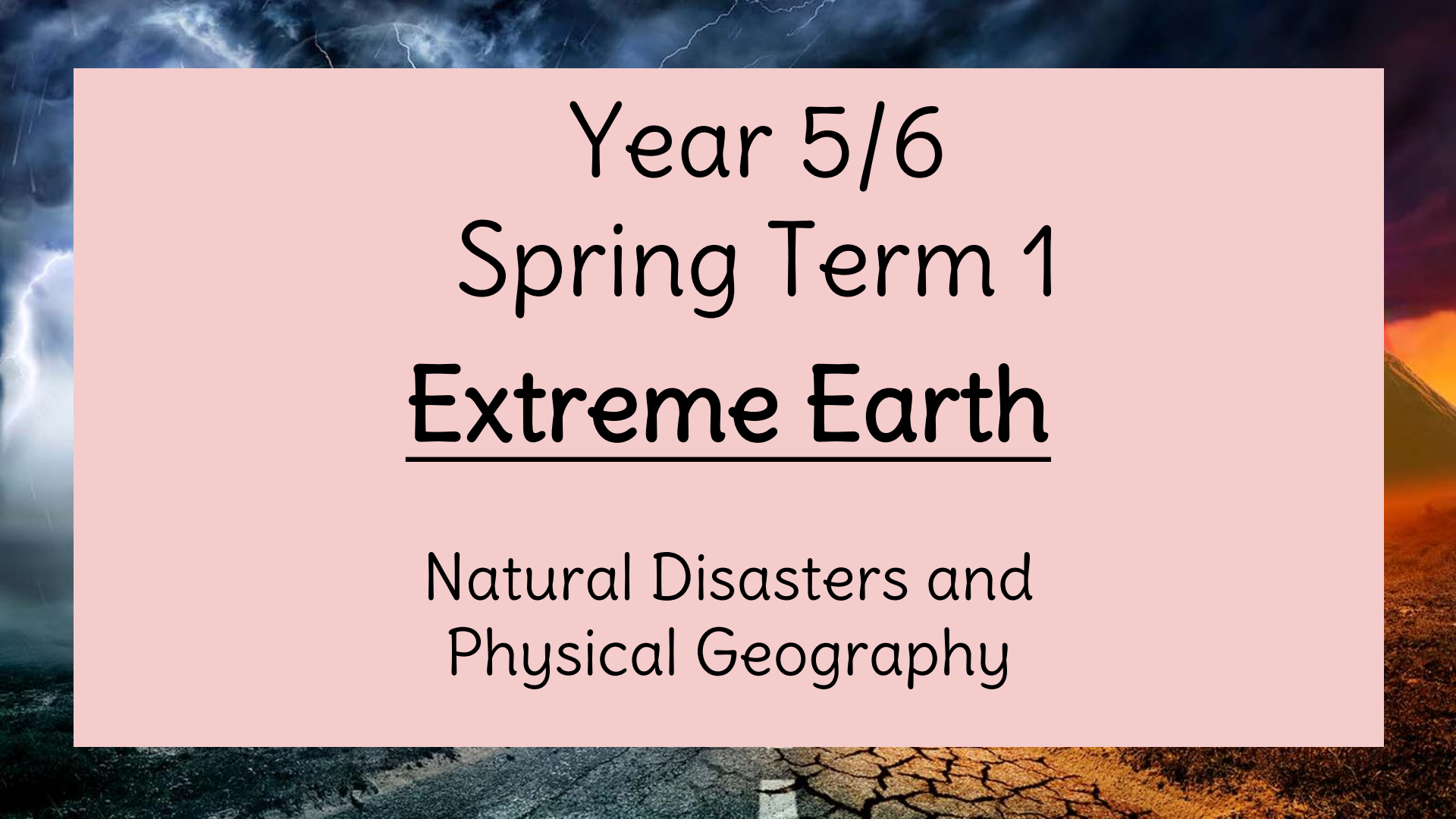


Year 5/6
Spring Term 1
Extreme Earth

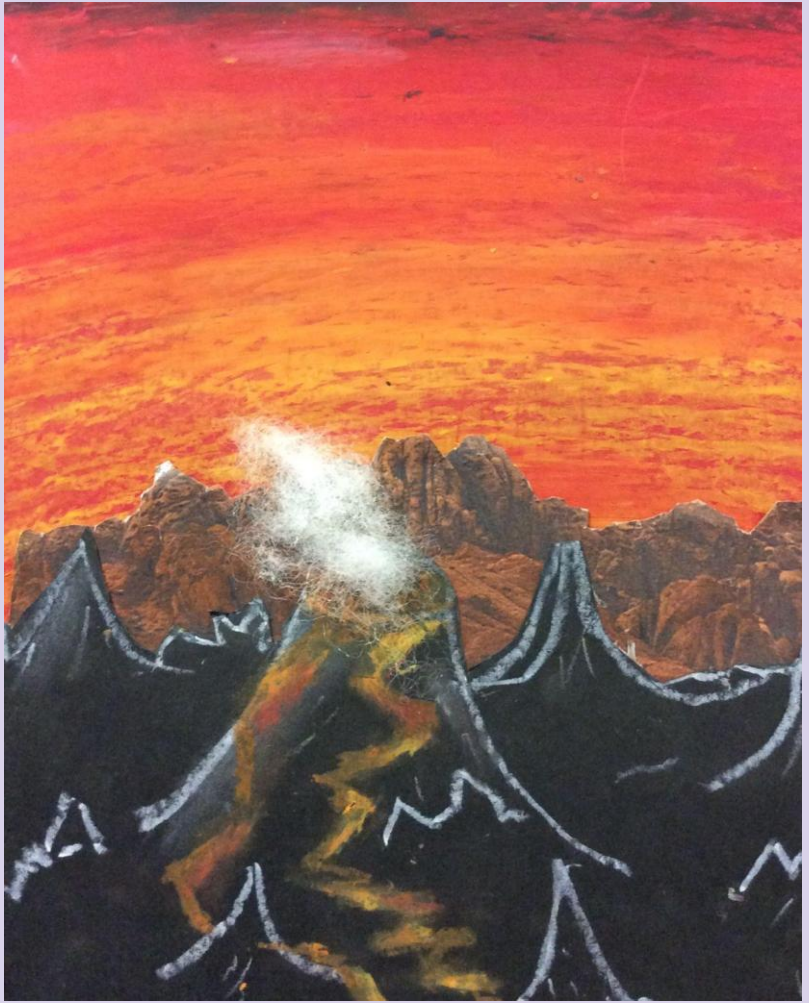
Natural Disasters and
Physical Geography

Geography

As part of our Stunning Start day we focused on many different physical features of the earth. We created topic maps to begin with to show what we already knew about 'Extreme Earth'.

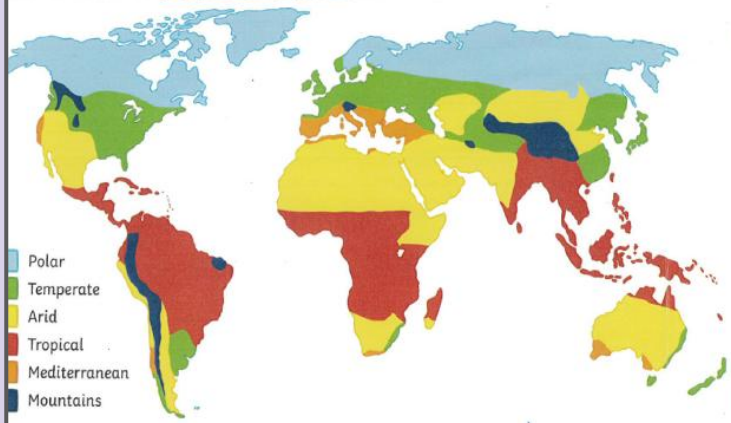
Throughout the day, we had a lot of fun creating earthquake-resistant buildings, learning about how to prepare for an earthquake as well as creating beautiful pieces of artwork depicting a volcanic eruption.

All of the activities made us really excited about our topic, and prompted lots of questions that we wanted to explore this half term!

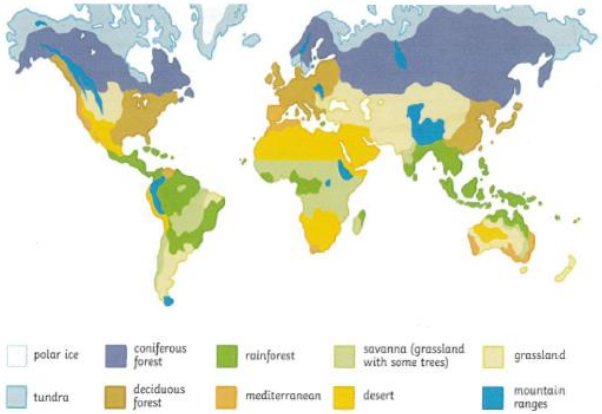


I can explain the differences between the world's biomes and climate zones.

Climate Zones



Biomes



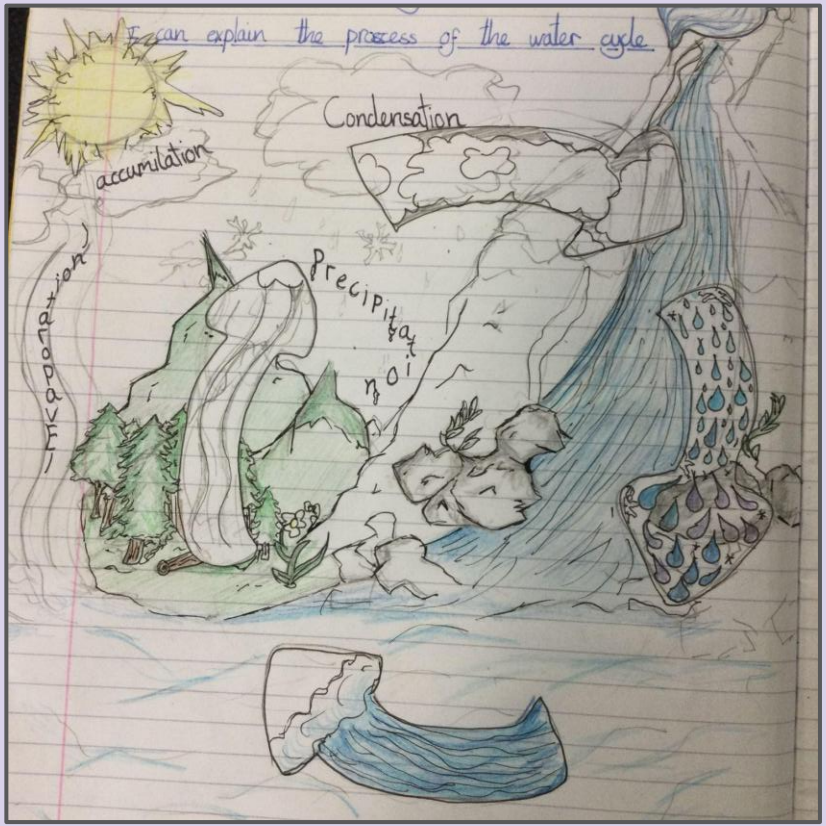
Climate Zones = Similar weather patterns and Landscapes

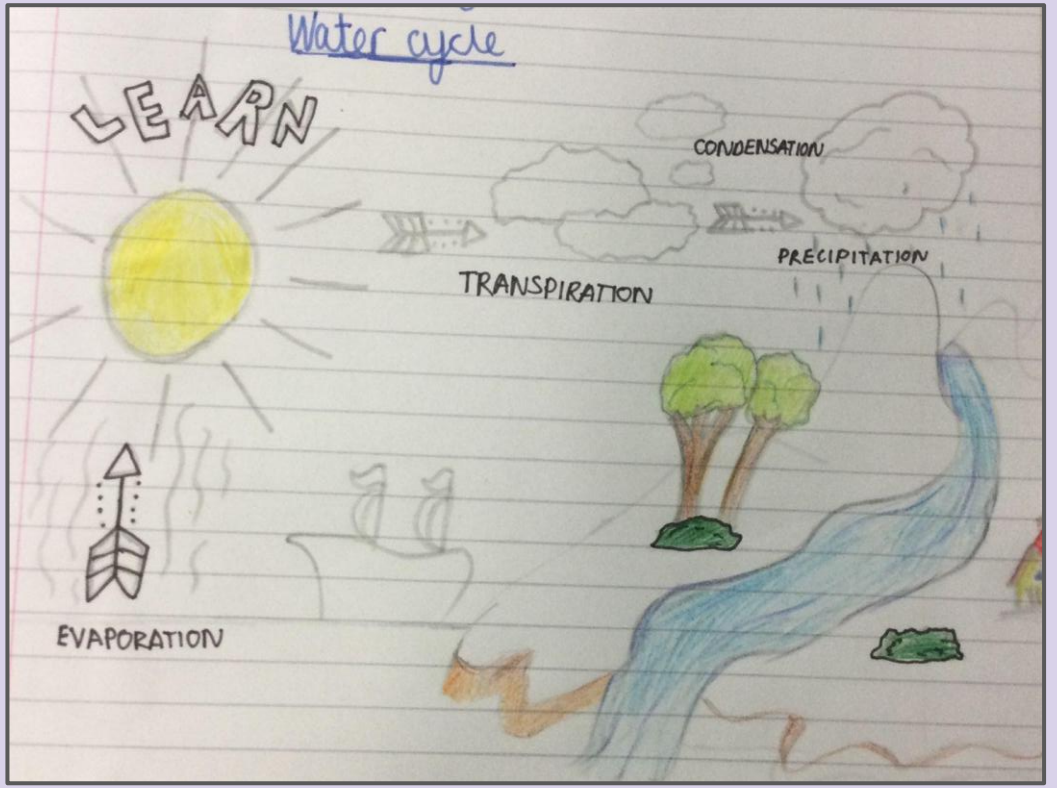
Country	Continent	Climate Zone	Biome
Iceland	Europe	Tundra	Tundra
Cyprus	Europe	Mediterranean	Rainforest
England	Europe	Temperate	Deciduous forest
Japan	Asia	Temperate	Deciduous forest
Canada	North America	Polar	Tundra
Egypt	Africa	Arid	Desert
France	Europe	Temperate	Deciduous forest
Phillipines	Asia	Tropical	Rainforest
Brazil	South America	Tropical	Rainforest
Mongolia	Asia	Arid	Grasslands

Biomes = Similar climate zones, vegitation and sometimes animals.

I learnt that Saudi Arabia was previously a rainforest and has converted into a desert climate zone. I assume that this is due to the affect of deforestation and climate change.

Then, in our next lesson, we used atlases to find and compare different biomes and climate zones across the world. We worked hard to locate places on a world map and use an atlas with confidence.



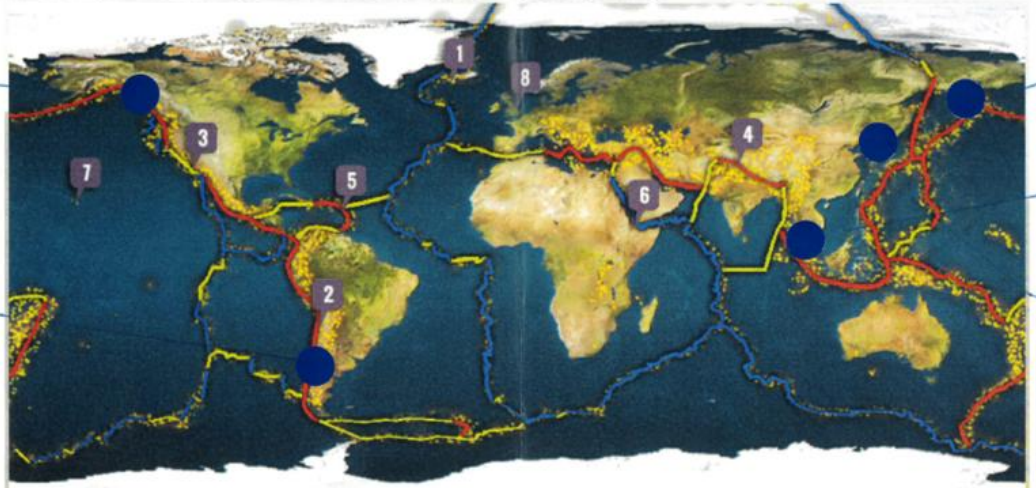


Our next geography task was to look into the water cycle. We used the key vocabulary whilst drawing and annotating our own water cycles, as well as setting up a 'water cycle in a bag' experiment in our classrooms that we were able to monitor and observe over the next few weeks.

LI: I can analyse data, drawing conclusions to identify the risk of earthquakes.

M9.2
1964 March 28
Prince William
Alaska

M9.5
1960 May 22, Chille



M8.9 2011 March 11
Near the

M9 Kamchatka
1952 November 4

M9.1 off west
coast of Norther Sumatra
2004 December 26

Should we prepare for earthquakes?

After analysing the earthquake data, I think that only certain areas of the world need to prepare for earthquakes. As the map shows that the major earthquakes happen on convergent plate boundrys, so I think that only people around those boundrys should prepare. However, people living around those areas it would be a good ~~idea~~ idea to be prepared for them as they can be life-threatining.

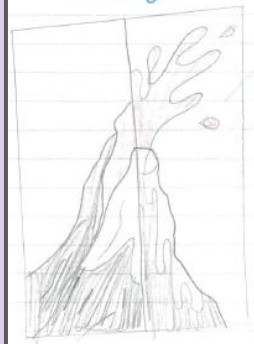
Here, we analysed USGS (United States Geological Survey) data to find where the largest earthquakes in recorded history have occurred. We drew conclusions and realised that we're pretty safe from serious earthquakes in the UK. What do you think - should *we* prepare for earthquakes?

We enjoyed exploring the physical process of a volcanic eruption. We considered the human impact of these events, looking at both the positives and negatives. We weighed up our arguments to decide whether we thought volcanoes were ultimately harmful or helpful.

VOLCANOES

A benefit about Volcanoes is that when they dry up, they can be good for crops. *(It is good for crops because when the ash falls, the healthier plants become!)
When a volcanoe is erupting, it is best not to get too close. As when the volcanoe is active, lava can flow dangerously.

Another good thing about old volcanoes is that they can be so old and ancient, that people mine in them! (Not when the volcanoe is erupting)



When you see a volcanoe, it's very interesting. Sometimes you can't even recognise a volcanoe! They are just mountains, really. Except the ground beneath them explodes with fire and it transforms into a volcanoe! Scientists capture this information, which is a good thing.

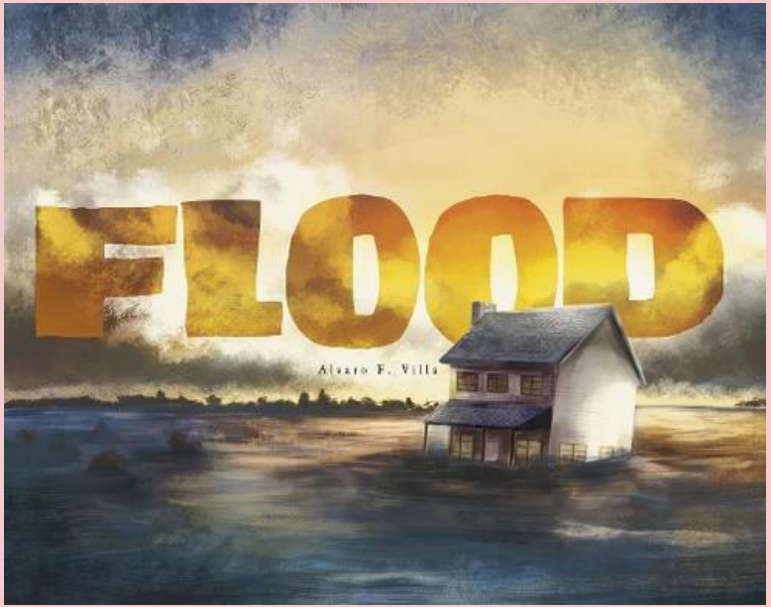
The Negative

Some volcanoes are terribly dangerous. Many can destroy villages and wildlife! The lava flows down like a boiling river, and burns places like paper.

Ash is bad for humans. When it gets into our lungs, it could be deadly!

Toxic gases can cause acid rain. This is a problem as acid can burn. And the flakes can fly anywhere! They can burn houses down with 10,000 flakes and they burn skin!

Writing - Y5



Fennx

One of the largest creatures in the snowy mountains of Russia, the Fennx is a difficulty to handle. This chapter will help you take care of this majestic creature.

A Fennx' skin is completely poisonous emerald to ward of predators.Its weird placed eyes help it hypnotize its prey. For its love of snow, it has got a beak to dig down to this beasts home. Incredibly this beast can fly on completely ice wings.

Diet

The Fennx has a very difficult diet which creates struggle for their trainer. Their diet includes rubies and other gems. These incredible creatures love diamonds from the caves of Russia. You must follow its diet or it is known to strike and leave you to die! Accept when a volcano explodes anywhere in the world its dinner changes to troll ears. So be sure to have a secret store of troll ears.

Habitat

If you want make your Fennx joyful, you need to make sure they are living in a perfect habitat. This creatures home will be more difficult than you think. Incolder periods, this beast must have snow and caves to survive.

As part of our 'Extreme Earth' topic, we have produced some wonderful writing including a narrative based on the picture book 'Flood' by Alvaro F. Villa.

We have also been reading Harry Potter and have made of ouwn handbooks which explain how to look after your magical creatures.

Writing - Y6

As part of our 'Extreme Earth' topic, we have produced some wonderful writing including a descriptive narrative using the story 'Escape From Pompeii' as our focus. The children wrote 2 wonderful pieces: one when Pompeii was a peaceful city and the other after the Vesuvius eruption amidst all the chaos.

Perfect Pompeii

It was a typical morning for the twins, Mario and Luigi. They left their house and walked into the cobbled streets of Pompeii. The two of them entered their friend Bobetta's street and found her ready, waiting for them. Together, they set foot into one of the busiest marketplaces in Pompeii.

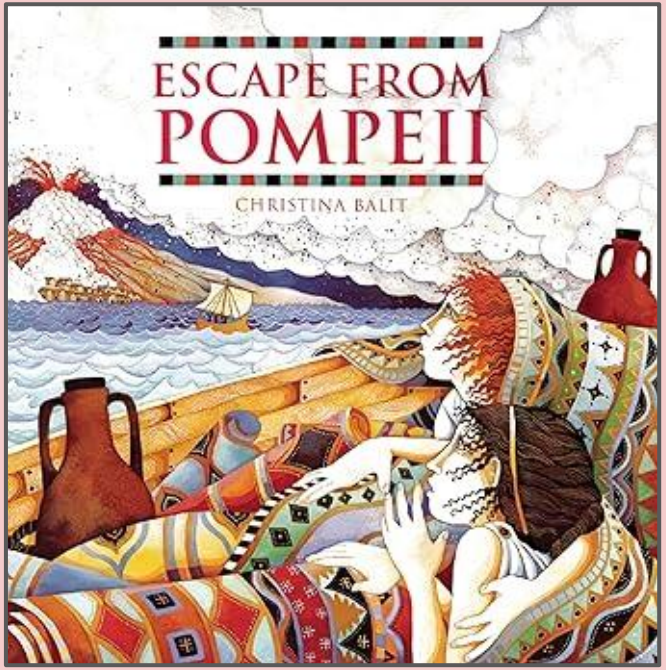
As the three of them entered the marketplace, the aroma of freshly baked bread surrounded them. Mario couldn't help himself and went to buy some as it was only a quarter of a denarius. He walked over to where Luigi and Bobetta were stood, near the street performers. They were performing a traditional Roman carol. The sky was clear and the sun was shining as birds flew by. In the distance, Mount Vesuvius Stood quietly in the shadow, unnoticed by most people. It was covered in green vines, looking more like a gentle hill than a danger.

Pompeii In Peril

Suddenly, the ground trembled vigorously. Everyone sprinted. Mario looked around, a confused look on his face. Birds shot into the air, screeching loudly. Abruptly, an ear splitting boom echoed across Pompeii. At first, everyone fell silent and paused but not for long. People burst out screaming and ran in all directions like scattered ants. The twins and Bobetta sprinted and went to hide in Bobetta's house. Pompeii was pure chaos.
"Thank goodness you're safe!" cried Bobetta's mother, tears rolling down her cheeks, "Hurry up and get inside all of you!"

Unexpectedly, Pompeii broke into ominous darkness. The deadly obnoxious gas made the people fall as their lungs filled with toxic smoke. The citizens of the popular city realised the volcano was the cause of the catastrophe. Everyone was struggling to breathe as the ash clouds grew bigger. Slowly, the screams grew quieter until Pompeii fell silent.

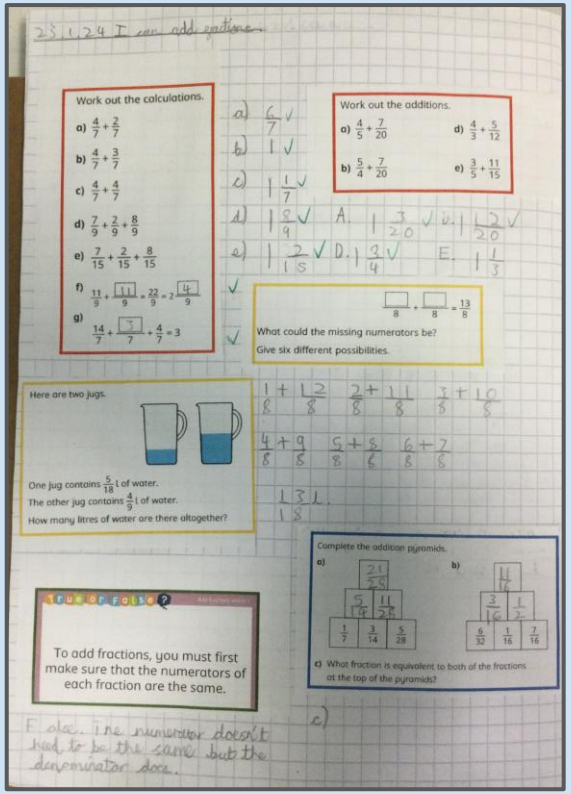
Now Pompeii is one of the world's most famous archaeological sites, attracting millions of tourists every year.

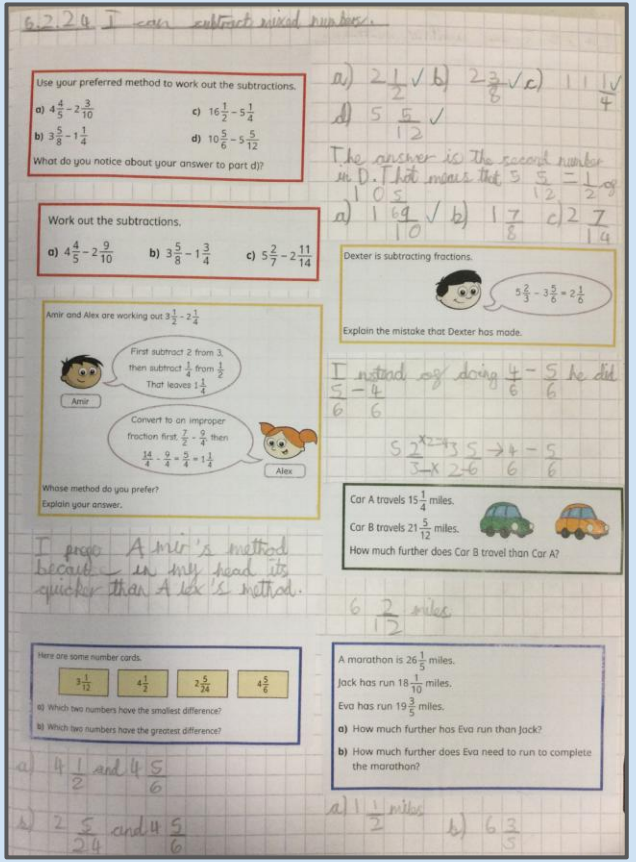


Maths - Y5

In maths Y5 this term we have been exploring fractions. This has included finding equivalent fractions as well as ordering, comparing, adding, subtracting, multiplying fractions.

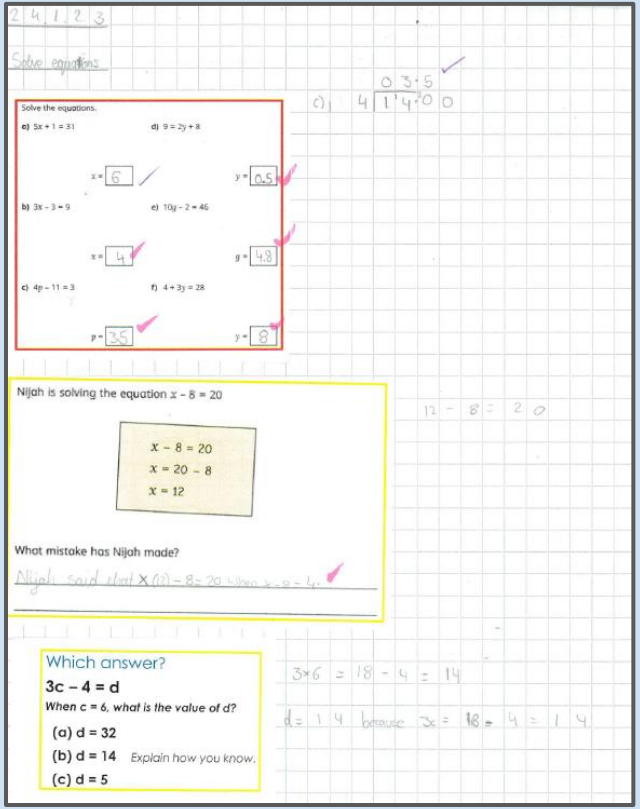
We have continued to practise converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions and now feel much more confident in this skill.

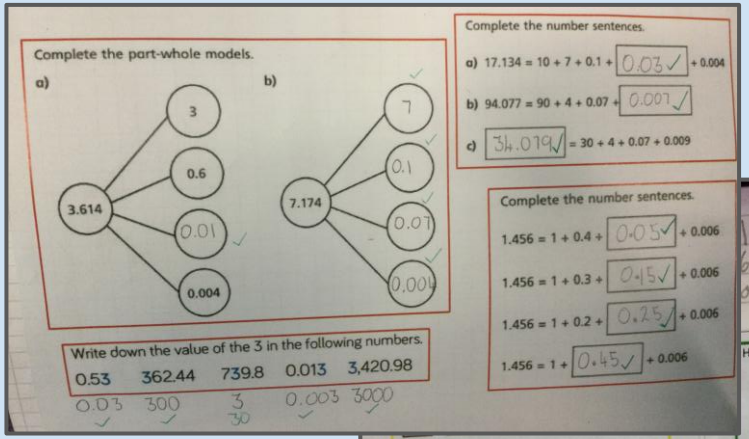


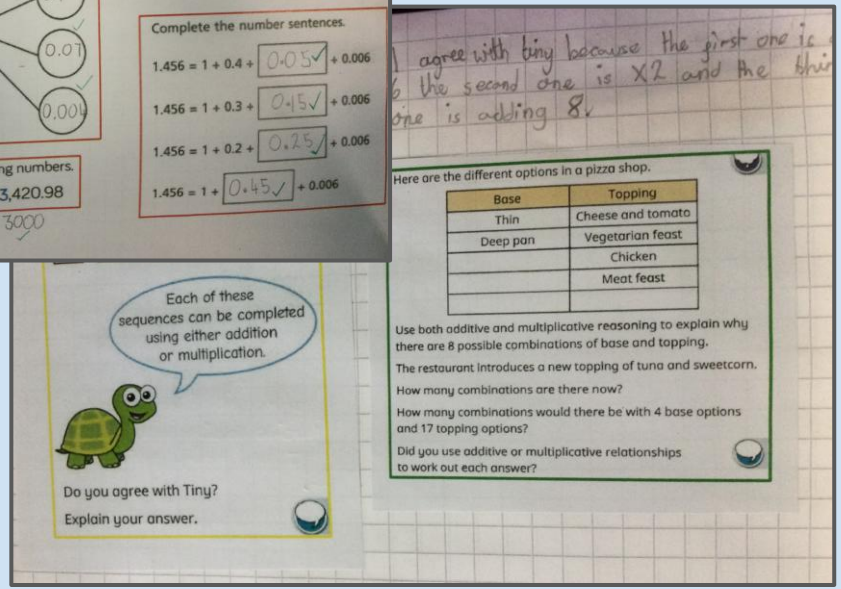


Maths - Y6

Year 6 have been working their socks off this term with all of their final learning before they do their SATs. This has included exploring decimals, ratio and proportion and (the not-so-scary) algebra!

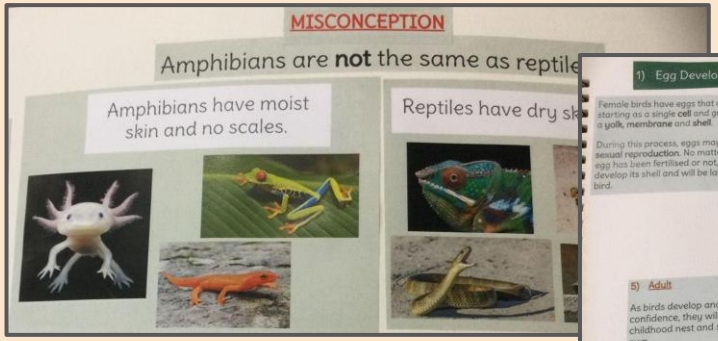


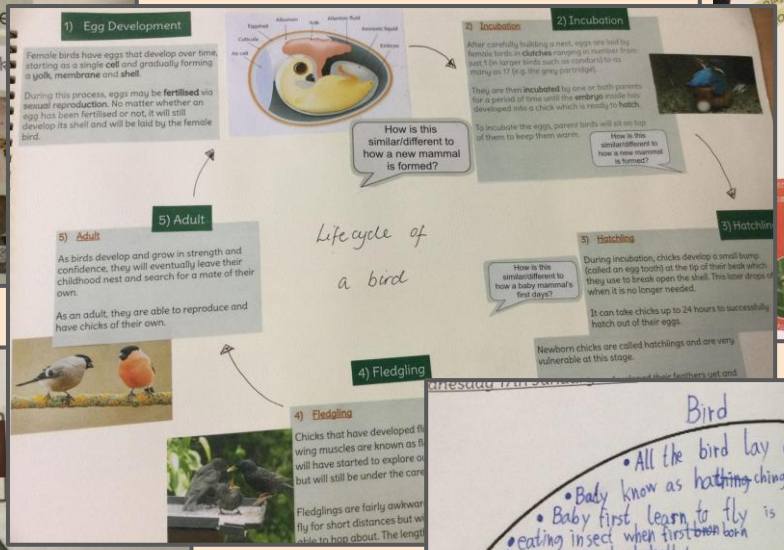


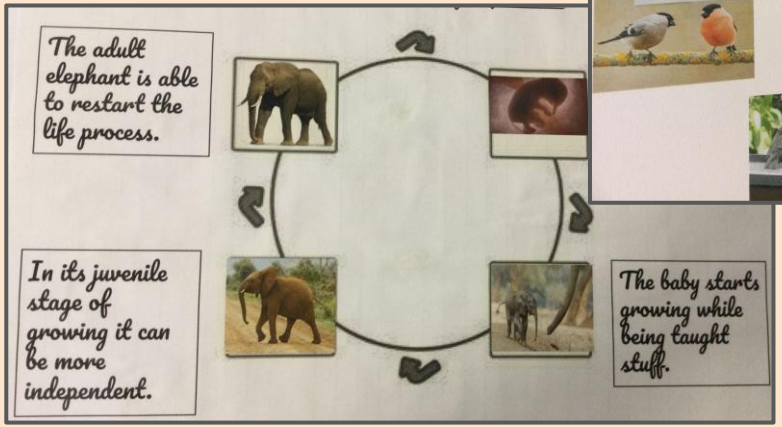


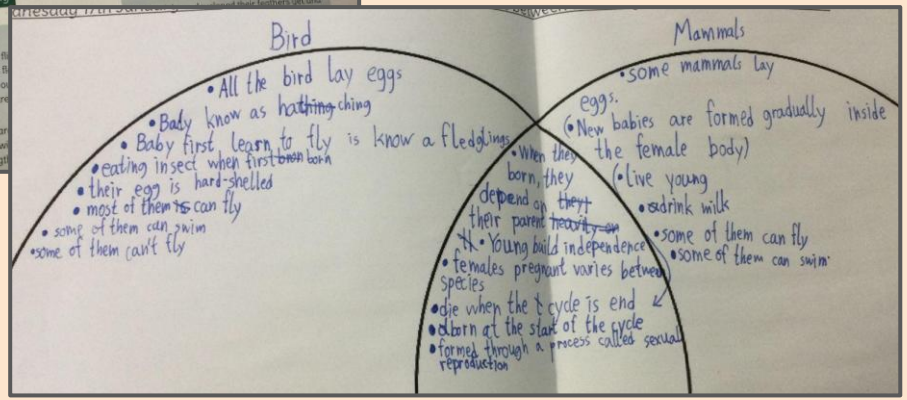
Science

In science we have been comparing the life cycles of different living things such as plants as well as the many different classes of animals. Here are some examples of the life cycles we investigated:



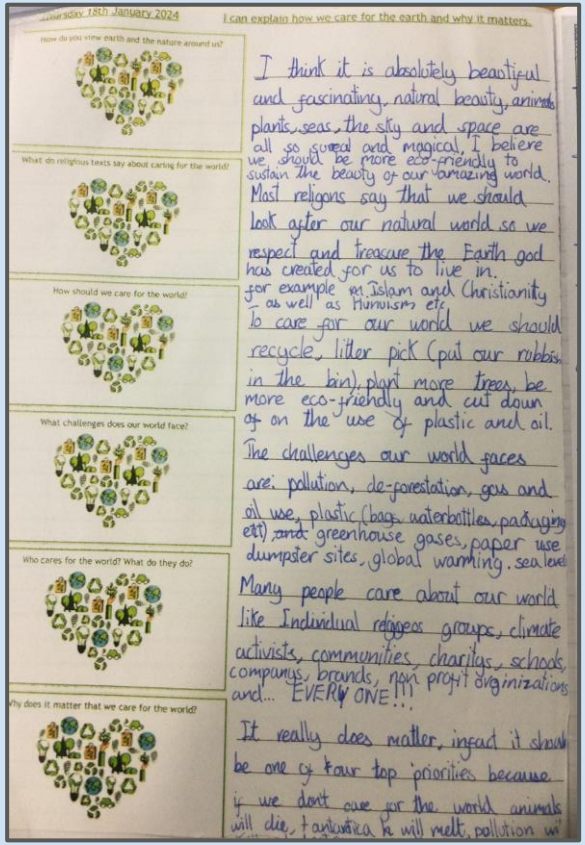


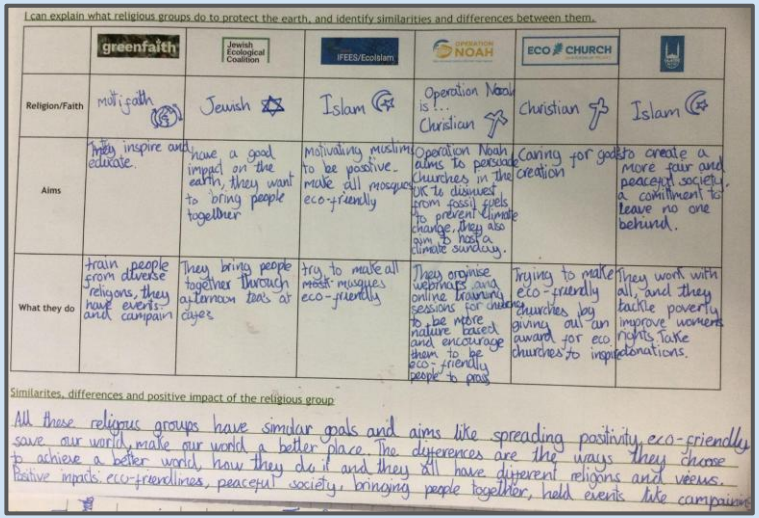




R.E

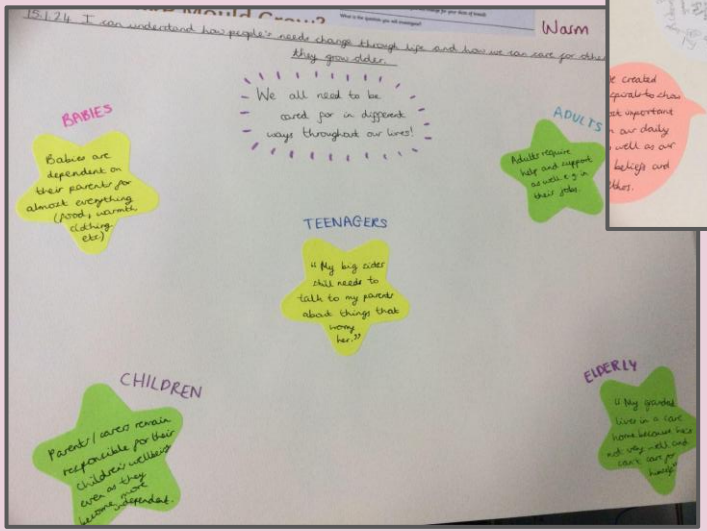
During our first lesson on 'Green Religion' we have considered many questions about our Earth. We worked in teams to answer these questions and link our ideas to religious teachings and stories we have previously learnt about. Next, we researched religious projects and organisations who are doing things to help the environment. We presented these ideas as presentations and posters for the rest of the class to see. After this we then pulled together our learning so far and created some environmental collages which include images and important religious texts and quotes. These we created after learning more about climate justice, activists and influential people.

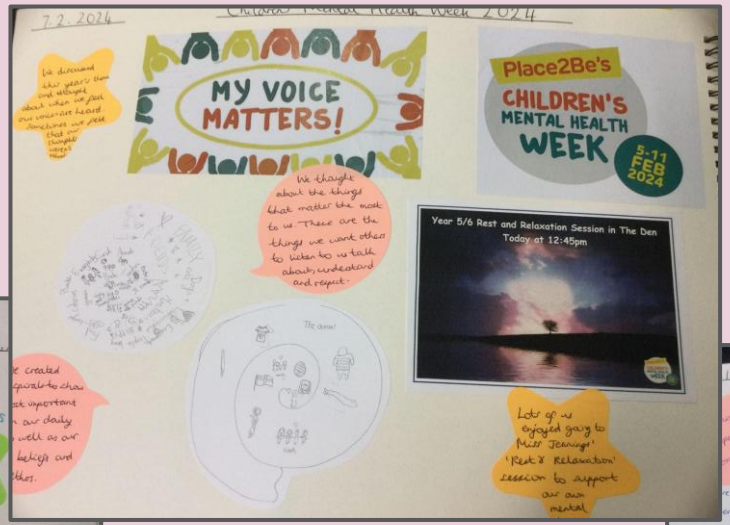




RHE

In RHE this half term we have been thinking about care and responsibility. In our first lesson we thought about care needs people have and how they can change as we grow older.





We really enjoyed celebrating 'Children's Mental Health Week' where we considered the ways in which we can ensure that our voices are heard. We thought about the people we have in our lives who support and advocate for us.

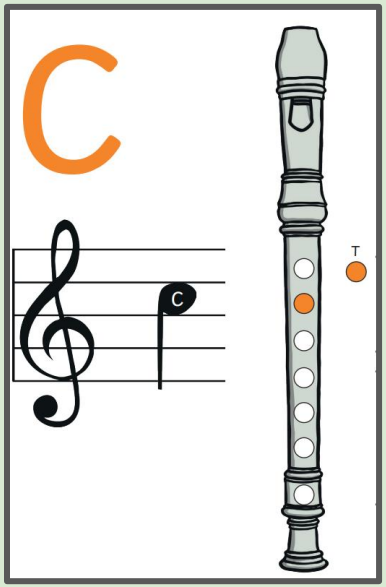
PE

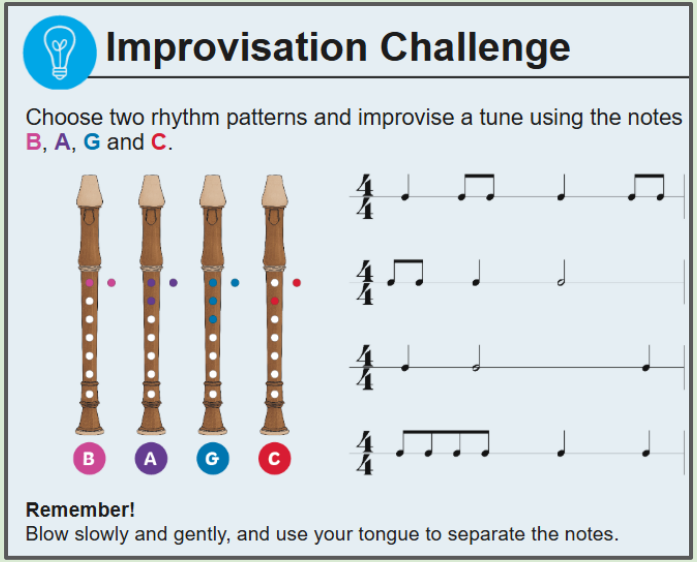
This half term we learnt and practised the skills associated with Kurling. Over the weeks, we have improved our accuracy and even managed to 'kurl' whilst blindfolded. Snowy and Barn Owl classes finished the term with a bit of friendly inter-class competition.

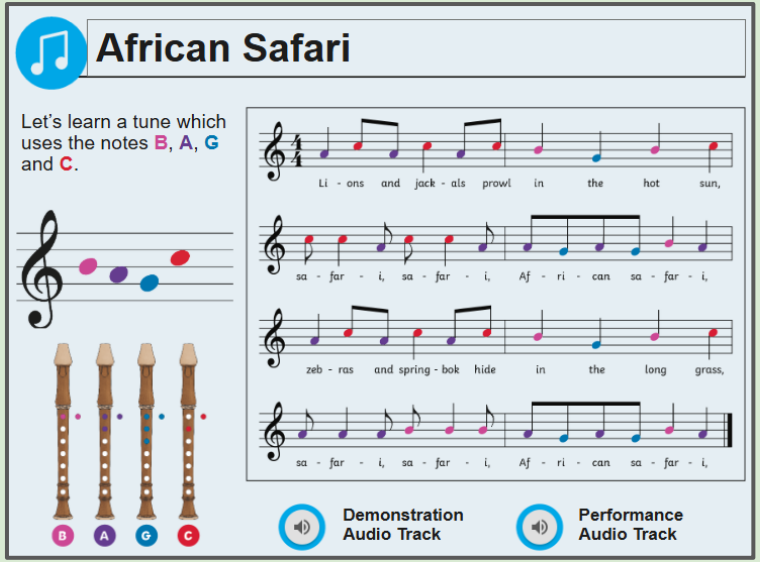
Music

We have been we have been learning to play the recorder for the first time. We started by ensuring that we knew how to hold the instrument correctly, including the placement of fingers for different notes.

After learning to play four notes (C, B, A and G), we improvised our own melodies. This gave us the freedom to experiment with different sounds and to become more confident in performing in front of others.

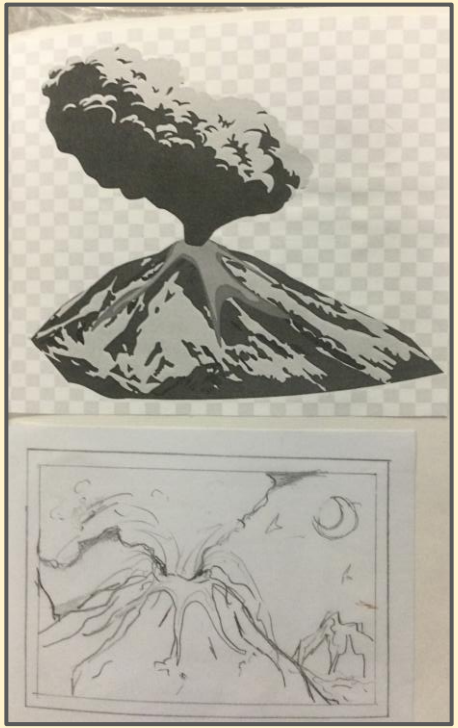


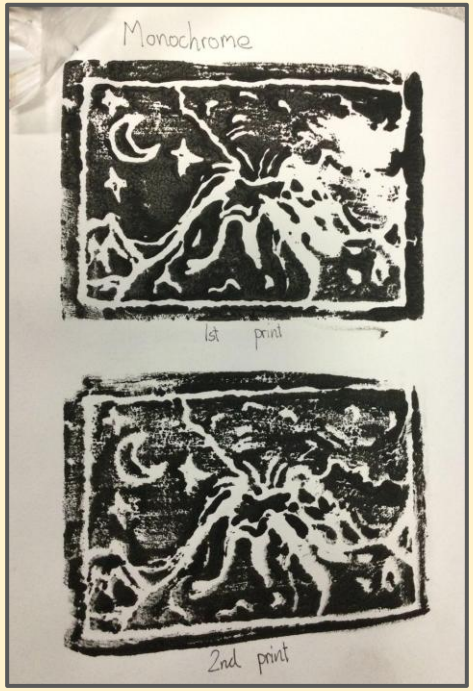


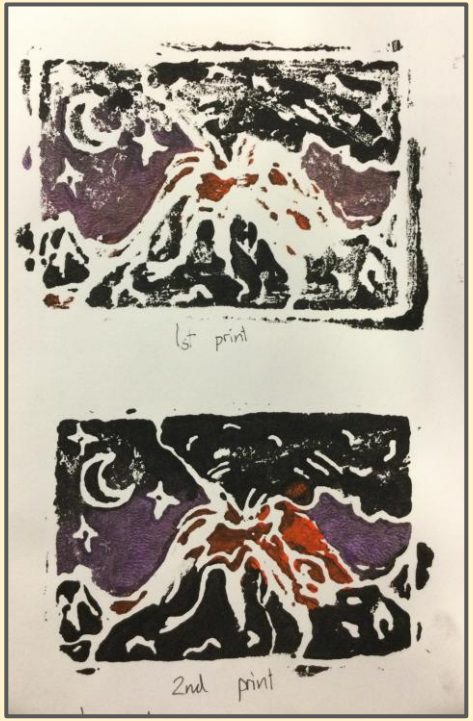


Art

We have been working hard to develop our printing skills this half term! We researched and designed monoblock printing plates inspired by our topic, 'Extreme Earth'. First, we printed in black and white and then we experimented with colour!







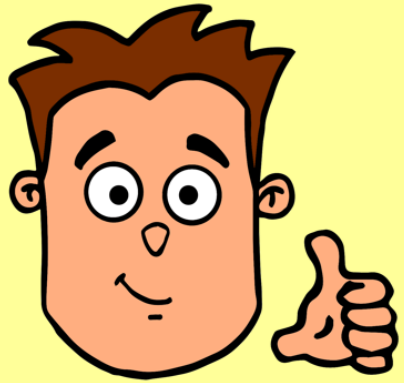
Computing

Coding has been our focus this half term in Y5/6. We have all had to show lots of perseverance and confidence as we have tackled tricky codes and completed many new challenges.

French

We having been getting in touch with the basics in French this year. We have developed our listening and speaking skills whilst learning how to introduce ourselves as well as learning classroom instructions.

Comment ça va?



Ça va bien!

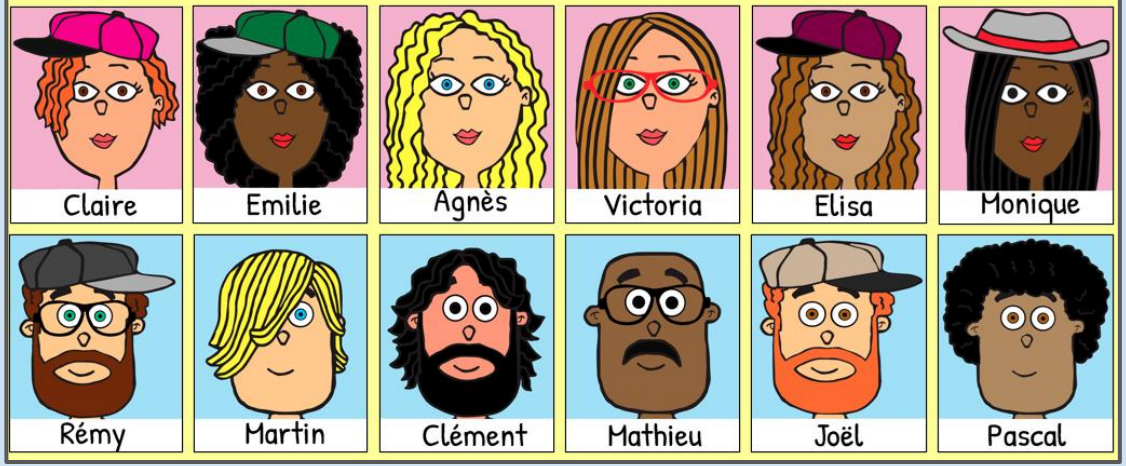
(I'm well!)

Guess who...

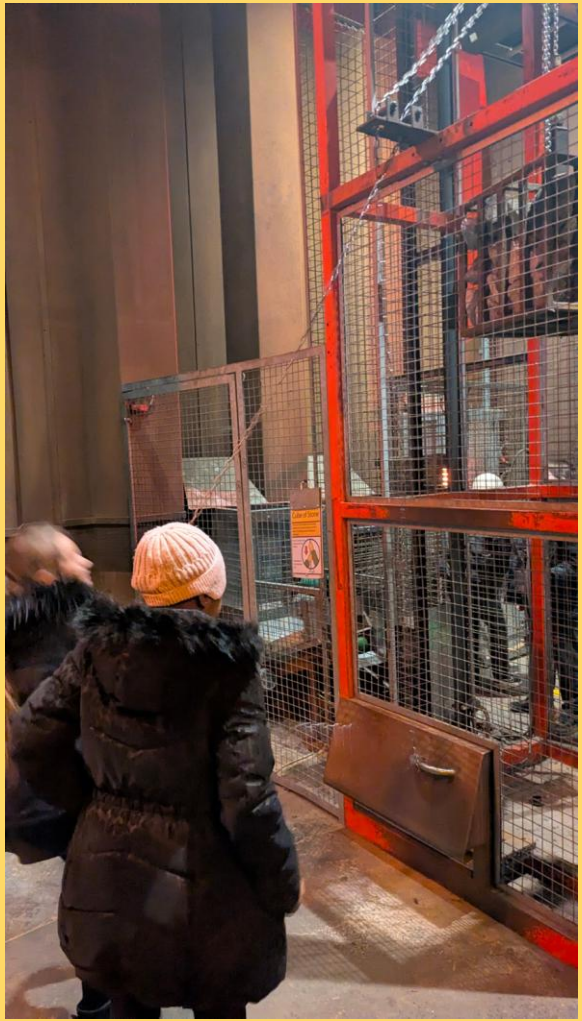
Tu t'appelles _____?

Oui

Non



Magna



We had a great day on our trip to Magna to end our topic.