



# Halley House School

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## Newsletter

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
2020

Web: [www.halleyhouseschool.org.uk](http://www.halleyhouseschool.org.uk)

Tel: 020 7504 0548

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

We have a packed newsletter again this week, with lots of information about current news, as well as some insights into what we have planned for the next academic year – whatever that might hold! We had a fantastic week in school last week, welcoming back some more of our Reception and Year 1 children. They were so excited to be back, and really impressed us with their mature understanding and acceptance of the changes they experienced. We know that our YR and Y1 children still at home also continue to work really hard and showcase their positivity – we are looking forward to seeing you all in school when we can! A huge well done to children in all our other year groups, including those children who have regularly been coming into school since 23<sup>rd</sup> March, who have likewise consistently displayed our HALLEY values and amazed us with their efforts. As always, my heartfelt thanks go out to our brilliant staff team and all of our community's wonderful support for everything you have done, and continue to do, as we navigate our way through such unusual circumstances.

*Claire Symes*

### Punctuality and Attendance

Thank you to everyone for their cooperation with punctual drop off and collection of children at allocated times. Children must be dropped off at their allocated time so that we can limit any interchange with different groups of children and adults. As a reminder, all siblings should arrive at school together at the **earliest time**.

**In extreme circumstances, we may have to ask families to return home for the day if you arrive late and compromise our health and safety arrangements.** Please continue to inform the office by 9.30am if your child is not in school for any reason. You must also immediately inform the school office if your child or a family member is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 so that we can advise you and the wider community of any next steps. Thank you.

## SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	22/05/2020	05/06/2020
<b>Reception</b>		
Comet	Karter	Selah
Eclipse	Oscar	Leah
Quasar	Amalya	Kiylah
Galaxy	Benoit	Emir
Hawking	Yen	Mon'Ay
Herschel	Joshua	Keziah
Einstein	Yvonne	Alanna
	Sultan	Kairon
Theo	Isla	Martha
Lizzie	Joshua	
Enya	Jayden	Eleanor

**Well done to everyone for being such good role models by showing our school values and trying your best!  
Remember to check our Stars of the Week Purple Mash blog to see our special video assembly each week!**

### School Counsellor

James Smith, from R-U-N, has worked with Halley House School since June 2018 and is in school on Mondays providing play therapy, support for parents via a parent drop-in service and staff supervision. He has worked with young people and supported families for over 20 years in various roles, and is a qualified and accredited Counsellor with the BACP. James is able to offer 40-minute sessions to parents and carers to discuss and address the social and emotional challenges that are present in child development, group dynamics and school life. Telephone and Zoom sessions can also be arranged on request. If you are interested in finding out more, or would like to book a session, please contact the school office.

We know you will have been shocked, dismayed and angered by the death of George Floyd. Please see the statement below from the Mayor and Cabinet, which is endorsed by Hackney Learning Trust. [Statement from the Mayor and Cabinet about the death of George Floyd](#)

As a school we will always actively stand with Hackney against racism, discrimination and hate, working within our wonderfully diverse community to ensure our current and future generations have the opportunities, knowledge, skills and understanding to succeed.

## Class names

The results of our Purple Mash survey to name our Year 5 and Year 6 classes are in! Children and staff voted overwhelmingly for Mae Jemison (45% of the vote) and Katherine Johnson (20% of the vote) from our 7 choices for our Upper Key Stage 2 class names. Our runners up, Helen Sharman and Mary Somerville, will be the names of classes in the instance of a bulge year.

Well done everyone for casting your votes! Please see the table below for details of all our class names:

Year Group	Class 1	Class 2 (if bulge year)
Reception	Comet	Asteroid
Year 1	Eclipse	Quasar
Year 2	Galaxy	Cosmos
Year 3	Hawking	Herschel
Year 4	Einstein	Newton
Year 5	Jemison	Sharman
Year 6	Johnson	Somerville

## Class teachers next year

Year Group	Class	Teacher
Reception	Comet	Ms Debbie Ashley
Year 1	Eclipse	Ms Mahmuda Khatun
Year 2	Galaxy	Ms Ruby Muir
Year 2	Cosmos	Ms Natalie Andrew
Year 3	Hawking	Ms Michelle Clarke
Year 4	Einstein	Mr Sam McDonald
Year 5	Jemison	Ms Nathalie Haupt



We are delighted to have completed a successful recruitment process to appoint Ms Nathalie Haupt as our new Y5 teacher. Nathalie joins us with experience of working in primary schools in Hackney, and in Upper Key Stage 2. We were really impressed with Nathalie at her interview (conducted via Zoom, involving some of our Y4 pupils, too!) and are assured she will be a great asset to our team. We look forward to Nathalie being able to visit the school and meet with our staff and families when it is safe to do so.

## Classes next year

Current Year 1 classes will be mixed ahead of Year 2 due to an imbalance of numbers and need in each class. New class lists will be distributed before the end of term. Our current Year 3 classes will combine to a single class going into Year 4.

## INSET Day

Our planned INSET Day on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June** will still be going ahead and school will be closed to all pupils on this day. Staff will predominantly be using this essential time to plan and prepare for the next academic year. Pupils eligible to attend school will return as usual on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**.

## Fruit and vegetable contributions

Thank you to all the Reception and Year 1 parents for their generous donations into our enrichment fund to date. This will enable us to continue to provide healthy fruit and vegetables for the rest of the school term, while the government has temporarily ceased funding for schools. If you would still like to make a donation to the school, you can do so at any time through our enrichment fund on SchoolsBuddy. We are hugely appreciative of your support!



## Reception and Year 1 in school

If you are considering your child returning to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, you must inform the school office (by telephone or email) no later than this Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June. This includes those families who previously indicated a later return on our recent survey. This is so we can appropriately plan for the next wave of children returning to school. **If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child is not returning on this date and will not make in-school provision for them.** At this stage, current home learning timetables will continue for children in these year groups still at home. Many thanks.



## Wider re-opening – Years 2, 3 and 4

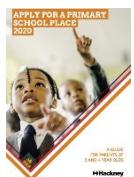
We continue to cautiously monitor and review our first wave of reopening, which saw just over 50% of our Reception and Year 1 cohorts successfully returning to school last week. The next year group we are expecting to be able to return is Year 4, followed by Years 2 and 3, all on the proviso that it is safe to do so. The earliest we expect this to happen is w/c Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. In anticipation of a wider re-opening, we are now asking all families of children in years 2, 3 and 4 to complete a short survey (link sent by email). Please complete for each child by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June. **Updates on wider re-opening will be shared directly with families in the upcoming weeks.**

## BPET Annual Survey

All parents and carers have now been sent a link to our annual BPET Survey. Please take a few moments to complete it by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. We really value your feedback and comments, and look forward to your responses.

## Admissions

We are delighted that once again we have a full complement of 30 Reception children expecting to join us in September 2020. We also currently have a considerable waiting list of families hoping we may yet have a vacancy. We have a staggered Welcome Evening this Friday for small groups of families of children due to start Reception in September – if you are able to attend as an existing parent to share your views and experience of Halley so far, please do let the office know. Thank you!



## SchoolsBuddy bookings and payments

If you require breakfast club or after school sessions please ensure that you book and pay through SchoolsBuddy. This will ensure that we can provide the correct staff to pupil ratios and food. Please note that if you have any outstanding debts for after school clubs these will need to be paid **immediately**. Failure to do so may result in your child not being able to attend any of our Extended Schools provision when your child is due to return to school. If you have any questions or concerns, or any difficulties making payments, please do contact the office as we are here to help.

## SEND Information

Please see attached the May SEND newsletter from Hackney Learning Trust with updated information on HLT's Covid-19 services. If your child is on our Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) register and receives in-school SaLT support, please see the below links for a parent/carer and child satisfaction survey. If you would like to provide feedback to the SaLT team, please complete the surveys at your earliest convenience. Any feedback is really useful for the SaLT team to ensure they are meeting the needs of our pupils and school community.

### Parent/Carer:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FJ1Q8G/>

### Child/young person:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Z8STYC/>

## Reception

What a 'Super' week we have had in Reception as we began our topic 'Heroes'. Children at both home and at school have been using the story 'Supertato' to support their learning; designing traps and wanted posters for the Evil Pea, writing speech bubbles for different characters and creating their own Super-Vegetable. In maths everyone has been thinking about 'estimation' and making sensible guesses about how many items they can see, before counting to check. We finished the week by playing maths games designed to consolidate our knowledge of numbers to 10 and 20 using ten frames and a die!



## Year 1

What have we been up to at home and at school? At home, some of us have continued to access our learning through Purple Mash and Zoom sessions. We have been busy creating friendship recipes, Eid cards, self-portraits and optical illusion pictures. At school, we have enjoyed seeing our friends in class. Staff have been delighted at how calm and positive children have been returning to

## Year 1 (cont.)

school. We have created posters to promote hand washing and begun to explore the continent of Africa through the text 'Meerkat Mail' and in our topic lessons. In maths we have been having fun exploring capacity and volume! In art we have been using clay to sculpt our own creations. We have been busy!



## Year 2

Year 2 continue to have fantastic success with their home learning. Their writing is going from strength to strength and I have loved the surge in creative presentations, videos and models being made! The children's resilience continues to be inspiring to us all. Over the coming weeks we will be changing the format of work set on Purple Mash. We are going to take a more project-based approach to mix it up for all involved and purposefully utilise the amazing skills the children have developed. We will be studying Peru – From Amazon to Andes. There will still be a regular focus on maths and literacy skills, however tasks will also include elements of history, art, geography, philosophy and Spanish language. I would like to encourage children to be creative with their presentation and share as much as possible with their peers on Purple Mash and Zoom. We welcome any ideas or feedback and I can't wait to see what the children produce!



## Year 3

Over recent weeks, Year 3 have been actively participating in a range of Zoom sessions. They have been sharing their descriptions of a cheetah's pursuit of a wildebeest, mind-mapping stories, discussing our feelings about home-learning, and even recently played "Simon says" or hangman. We are so proud of Year 3 children's continued resilience, determination and quick adoption of this home-learning format.

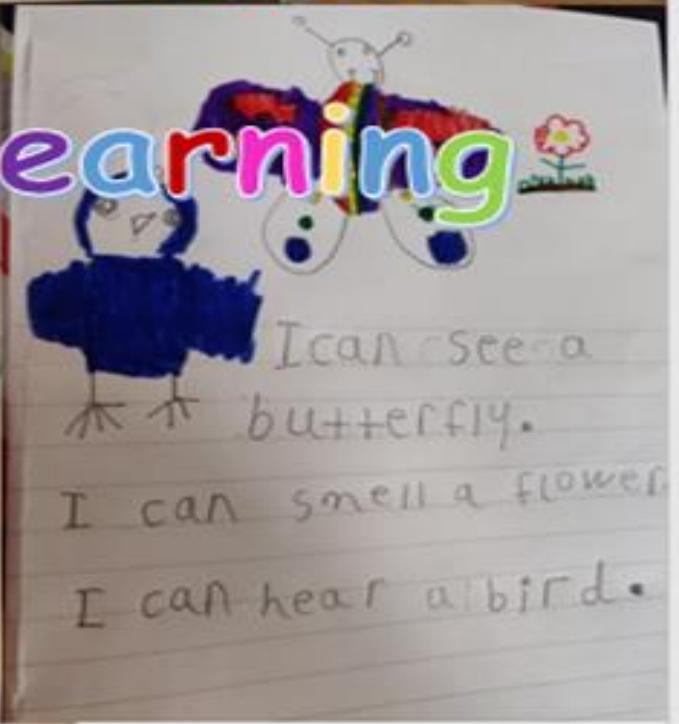
## Year 4

Einstein have started our new topic 'Explorers and Adventurers' and kicked off by thinking about what being an explorer or adventurer means, what motivates people to become one and what skills you would need. This week we are learning about the navigation skills you would need as an explorer by testing our own map reading skills and applying our learning other areas our curriculum. It turns out, in Y4 we have some budding computer coders who can create some amazing maze games on Purple Mash! As our topic continues, we will learn about different famous explorers including maritime, aviation, and space adventurers, consider the positive and negative impact of exploration and look at what the future holds for exploration. Einstein have been working incredibly hard with their writing during the pandemic. They have been writing creative stories, diary entries and a number of reports. Please keep emailing me your wonderful pieces!



## Comet Class

## Home Learning



# Year 1

## #SELFIE



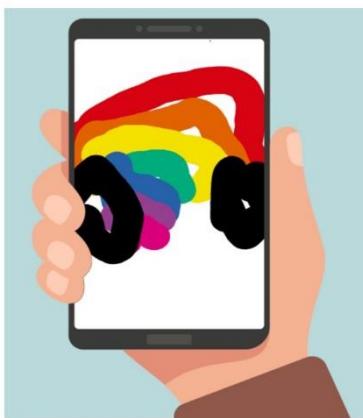
Ella



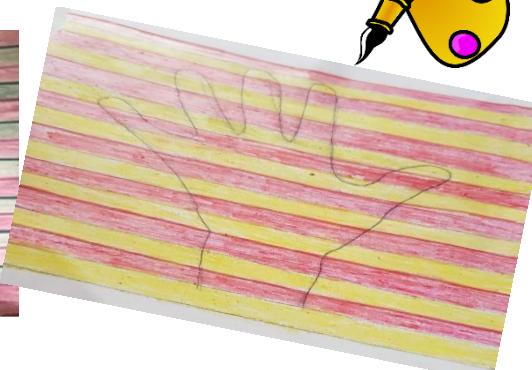
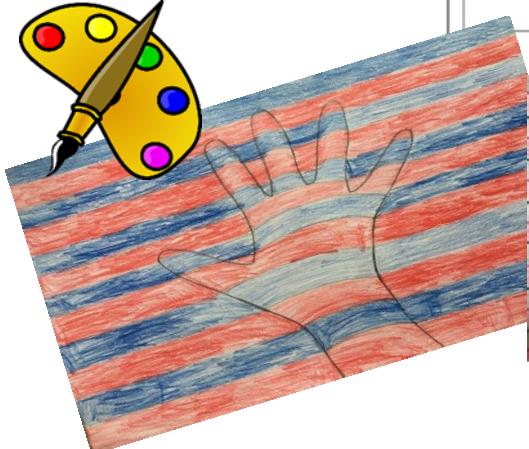
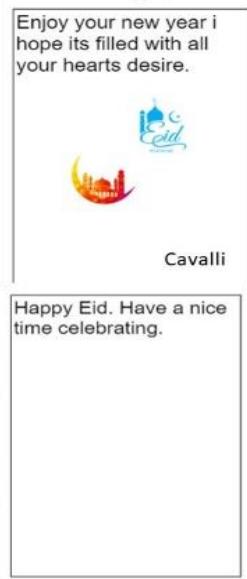
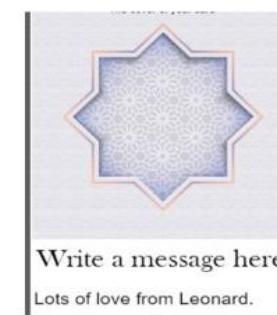
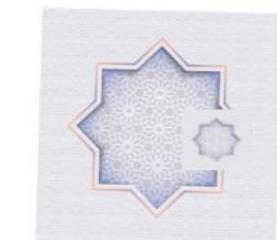
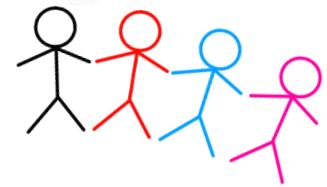
Tyler



Tazio



Leah

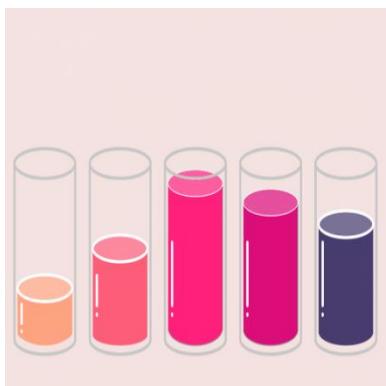


# Year 1

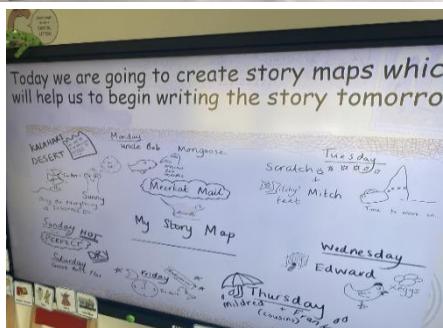
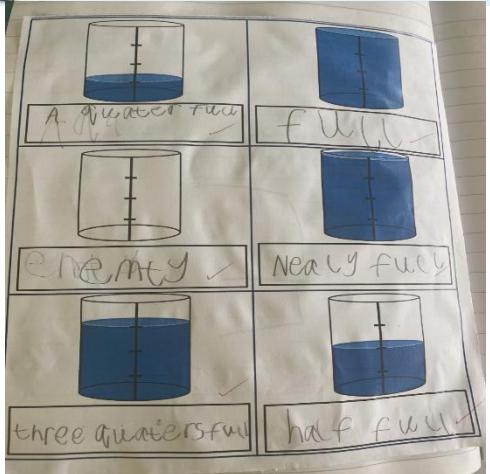
Use as 1 unit.

item	prediction	capacity (the capacity is about _____ units.)
big jug	7 units	15 units ✓
Medium jug	4 units	7 units ✓
Little jug	1 units	2 units ✓
tube	1 units	Half a CUP units ✓

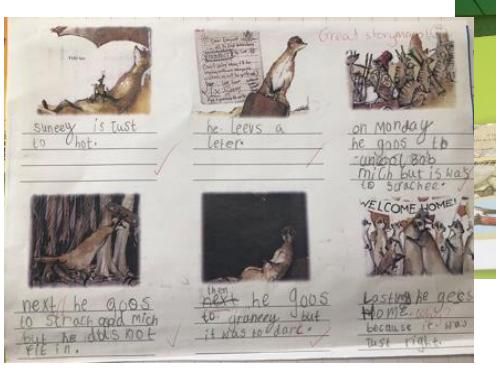
The big jug has the greatest capacity.  
The tube has the smallest capacity.



## Volume and capacity

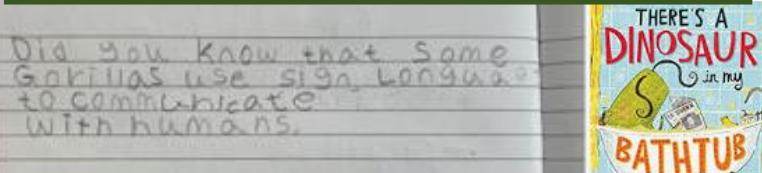


## WASH YOUR HANDS

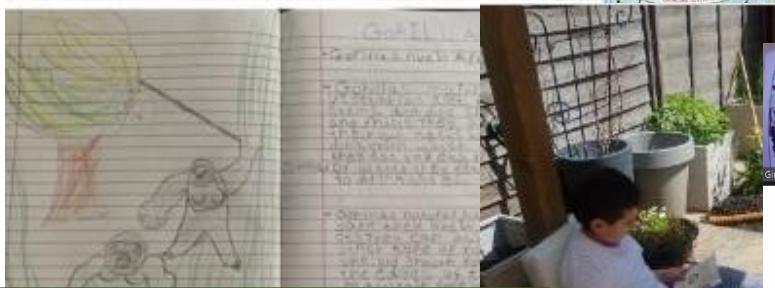


## Year 2

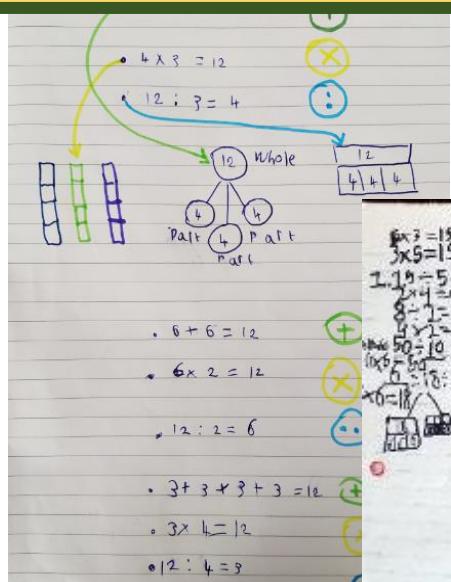
In literacy, we have been making fact files, enjoying doing lots of reading in the sun and retelling our favourite stories. See Purple Mash for some fantastic video dramatisations!



We have been getting very creative in Ms Kate's zoom lessons. So far we have done masks, zoom self-portraits and hedgehog stories.



In maths, we have been working on multiplication and division. We have been representing equations in different ways and getting creative making maths board games and number posters.



We have been enjoying STEM pursuits, testing appropriate materials to build boats, making amazing model structures and giving fantastic online presentations.



Great work everyone! Keep it up!

# Year 3

Dear parents

This letter will explain the reasons why a velociraptor would make great pets. First of all (you may not agree with this but) I think a velociraptor could help out around the house. I mean, why not train it to fetch snacks for us while we're busy. Also I believe tail feathers would make quite an efficient duster! It could eat a roast chicken (raw) eat and for treats it could have tinned sardines. If we collected boxes we could turn them into a chamber for it to live in. I hope you agree with my ideas.

Signed: A



Ebube Lolia  
Nwanze

Why I should keep my velociraptor

Dear mom and dad,

Hello mum! And dad! Even though you two thought it was an extremely ridiculous idea on keeping a wild velociraptor in the house I still insist on it. My very first reason is because it makes me feel special, nobody else has a pet dinosaur and it was a gift from Santa! Imagine how he would feel if we threw it out like that. It also might have been really hard to get a wild dinosaur in a factory.

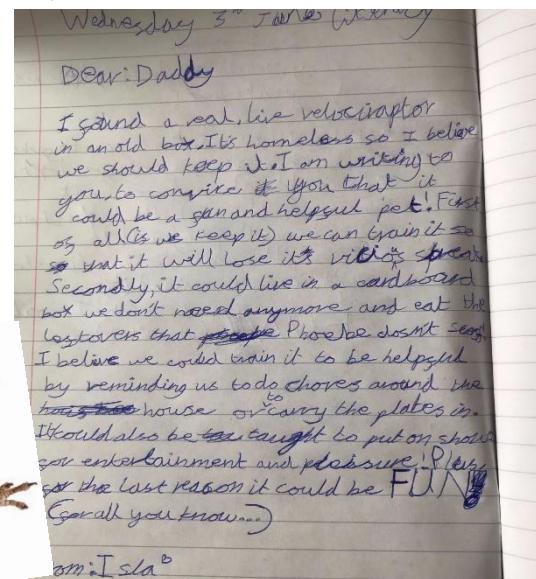
I already know what your thinking good thing I have that covered! Your thinking: "where is it going can easily go and get those dog houses and we can go and see how it's doing every once in a while, my next idea is very well thought about. I know you would not want a velociraptor in the kitchen, the bathroom, the Landry room, you know I've decided he can stay in my room!"

Lastly, your thinking what will he eat? Well mum, I know you would hop into the shop regularly and pacifically go to the butchers, luckily, I did research and found out a velociraptor is a carnivore so it will eat meat! You can easily get some chicken for it and not even have to cook it or wash it!

Thank you for reading my reason for why I should keep me velociraptor.

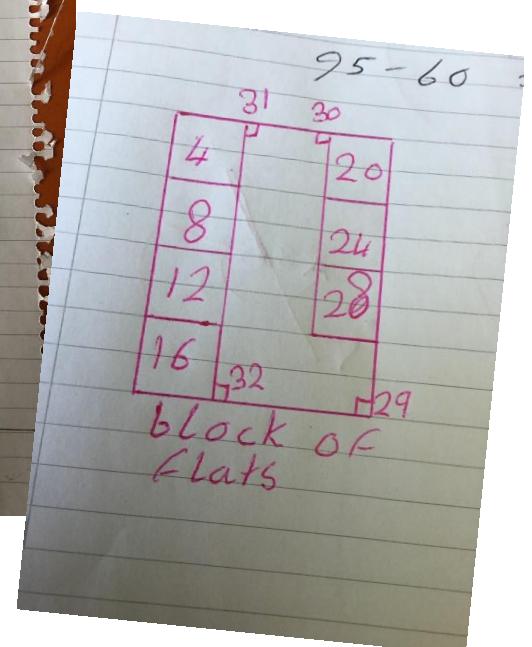
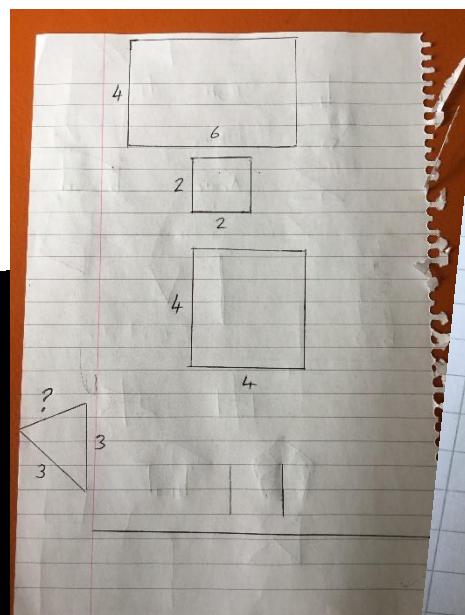
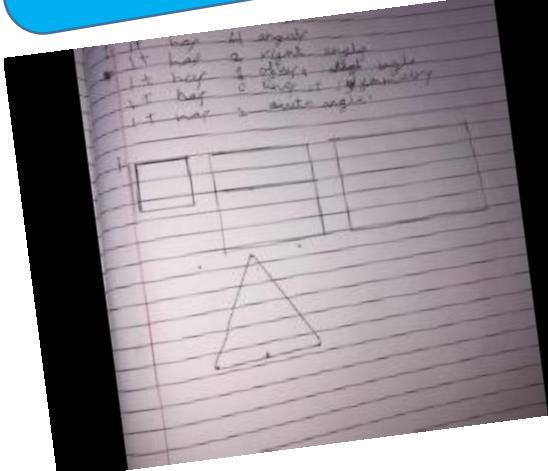
Sincerely,

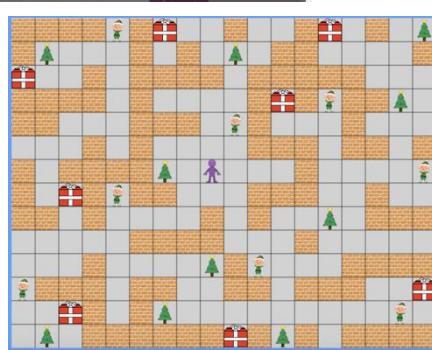
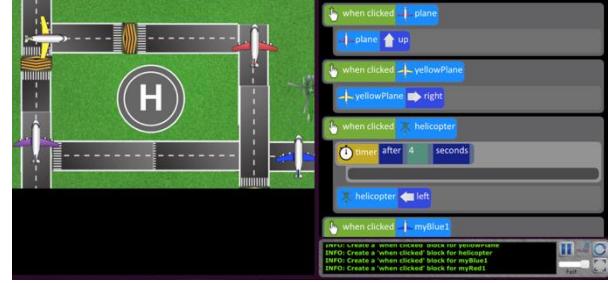
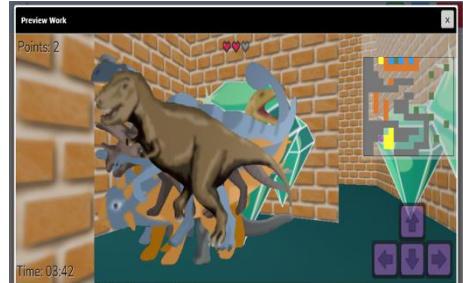
Timmy.



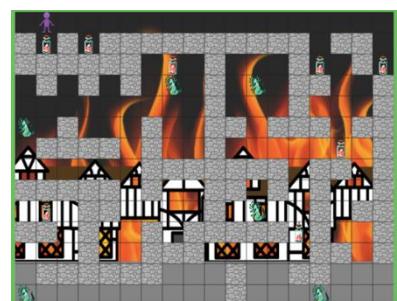
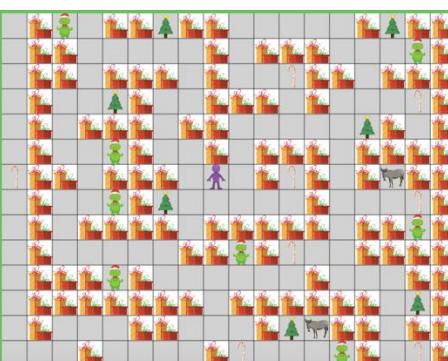
We had to write a letter to our parents convincing them why a Velociraptor would be a good pet!

We have been recapping fractions and shapes.





# Einstein go coding mad!



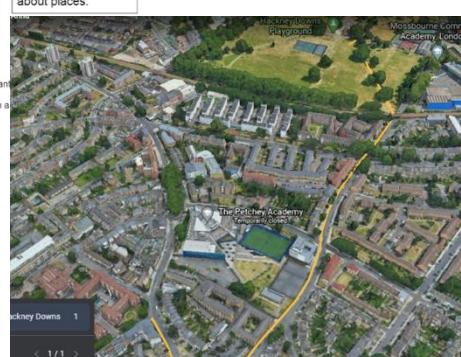
What motivates an explorer or adventurer?



What skills would be useful to have and why?  
You would be able to speak different languages so other people can understand or learn languages easily.  
Remember to pack equipment.  
Good at photography to record discoveries.  
Curious to wonder about places.

Why would they want to go on an expedition?  
TO find new places and things to make business. TO make a new discovery e.g. an animal or plant of rainbow sugar fairies.

Maybe to explore an find out about the past e.g. finding a new fossil or lost cities or treasure from a To learn things about culture that people do now or in the past.



BOW DOWN TO ME PEASANTS! TWO METRES APART! TWO METRES APART! I SAID TWO METRES APAAAART.