



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

I hope you are remaining positive as we head into our final week of Spring 1. We are expecting at least two further weeks of remote learning after the half term break, with announcements expected in early Spring 2 to determine what next steps may be. As one comment in our recent parent survey succinctly put it, home learning is "just not the same" and we will join you in being thrilled when we can welcome everyone back into school! Until then, we need your continuing, collective fortitude and enthusiasm! Thank you for all our responses to our survey; we know this is a very busy time for everyone. You can read some of our summary results in this newsletter, as well as some of the actions we are already taking to hopefully improve things even further for our children and families. You can share your suggestions, comments and compliments at any time, via your child's class teacher or the main school office – we always like hearing from you! I do hope you all have a very well-deserved break over the half term.

Claire Syms

Remote learning – Week 6

We've nearly made it to the end of Spring 1! A huge, heartfelt thanks from all of our staff at Halley for everything our children and families continue to do at this time to enable our community to stay safe and keep learning, enjoying and succeeding. We intentionally have an ambitious curriculum that we are determined to deliver in the best way possible, despite the many challenges with which we are all faced; the only way we can keep doing this is with your unfailing positivity and commitment – which we have seen in abundance! We also know it's not easy trying to juggle school, home and work, and we do understand when it's just not possible to get **everything** done. Please do remember we are here to help – whether that's for technical advice, curriculum or timetable support or just a listening ear because it's been one of *those* days, please do send in an email or call the school and we will do our utmost to make things a little bit easier. We hope you all manage to take a breath and properly relax over the half term break. As always, we are stronger together.



Monday Missions

Reception

Collect as much recycling as you can and make your own model using everyday 3D shapes! Will you create a robot, a castle or maybe even a boat!

Year 1 Next term, we will be beginning our new Science unit 'Out of this World'. Can you start to collect some interesting facts about Space and be ready to share them.

Year 2

Can you explore measure at home? What can you find that is taller than a metre and shorter than a metre? Can you find anything that is exactly one metre tall?



SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	29/01/2021	05/02/21		
Reception				
Comet	Nyrah	Etienne	Leila	Simon
Key Stage 1				
Eclipse	Elias	Abraham	Eli	Kaidy
Cosmos	Jahmil	Ella	Akira	Tyler
Galaxy	Orlando	Rae	Sebastian	Oscar
Key Stage 2				
Hawking	Xavier	Beniot	Julia	Emir
Einstein	Keziah	Kauther	Ebube	Arthur
Jemison	Alanna	Hailey	Tiger-rose	Sumayyah

Well done to everyone for being such good role models by showing our school values and trying your best!

Tips for staying safe online

With the continuation of lockdown restrictions and online learning, it's likely that children (and adults!) will continue to spend more time online over the next few weeks. Whether it's for schoolwork, connecting with friends or playing games, Net Aware has everything you need to know to help keep them safe. The best way to help keep your children safe online during lockdown is to continue having conversations around online safety, regularly check phone and app settings together, and manage time online. But it's also a challenging time. If you're usual rules and routines around online safety have stopped or changed, then be kind to yourself and think why. It might

8 tips for keeping your kids safe online during lockdown



be that they just don't work during lockdown. Remember that it's ok to adapt and make the right changes for you family. Please follow the link to find the top 8

ways to help at home. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/8-tips-for-keeping-your-kids-safe-online-during-lockdown/>

Bad weather

Inclement weather is due for the remainder of this week, so please do ensure children are wrapped up warm with extra layers, and suitable coats and shoes if they are attending school this week. The heating remains on throughout the building, and in line with our Covid-19 risk assessment, ventilation continues to be a priority. Planned opening of doors and windows throughout the day ensures air is refreshed and adequate circulation is maintained, whilst not causing plummeting temperatures in teaching spaces. Although we have only had a sprinkling of snow over the weekend and today, roads and paths very quickly become icy and slippery, so please do take extra care. And of course, send in your fun snowy photos!



Absence reporting

If your child is attending school during lockdown, please do continue to inform the office as per our usual procedure if they are absent. Please can all parents also be reminded to update the school if there are any instances of symptomatic cases and/or positive Covid-19 tests in your household, regardless if your child is attending school. Many thanks.



BRAND NEW - National Online Safety Mobile App It's time to get #OnlineSafetySavvy.



Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. But with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know? Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application.

Created by experts, developed by us. With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks – anytime, anywhere.

The world's most comprehensive online safety app, it's packed with insightful courses, explainer videos, webinars and guides on topics that will help you protect the kids you care about when they're online.

For a short video and further information, please click on the link below or search in your app store.

<https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/mobile-app>

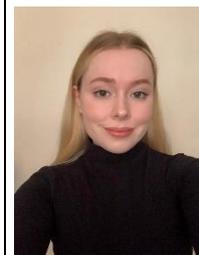
Year 6 Class Teacher Advert

It seems incredible that we are talking about Year 6 already, and I am sure it will feel the same for many of our Year 5 children and families, including our founding ones who attended open evenings in Hindle House and walked around the shell of our building back in 2015 before we had even opened to our first cohort of Reception children! Time really does fly when you are having fun! We have recently advertised for a Year 6 class teacher position for September, and had an overwhelming response. We are interviewing short-listed candidates over the coming weeks, and will keep all our families updated with progress.



Music Support Assistant

As you may recall from an earlier newsletter this term, one of our talented music teachers, Sarah Berresford, is leaving Halley this Friday, 12th February, to pursue exciting composition work with a music studio. Sarah has very kindly offered to voluntarily continue supporting aspects of our provision, and has promised to keep in touch longer-term!



We are delighted to share that **Ms Madeline Taylor** has been appointed to the role of Music Support Assistant. Maddy formally started her role in January and will be taking over the lead of music lessons for some of our year groups after half term. Maddy is a very talented singer and brings a wealth of skills and passion to the role. You may also recognise her as one of our volunteer teaching assistants, a role she will also be continuing this academic year. Welcome (formally!) to the team, Maddy!

Schools' reopening

We imagine, much like us, you are all crossing everything and keenly awaiting confirmation (or otherwise) of schools' reopening after the half term break in March. At this point, the **earliest** date given by the government for school reopening remains **Monday 8th March**. We are expecting further details on or around Monday 22nd February, and will of course provide a school-level update nearer the time. In the meantime, we are planning for at least two further weeks of remote learning, from 22 February – 8 March, and hope to know more after the half term break.

In school therapist – James Smith

Don't forget that James, our fantastic in school therapist and trained counsellor is also available for parent sessions if you would like to chat. These are open to all parents and carers, are free to attend and confidential. Please get in



touch with James directly on jsmith@r-u-n.co.uk / 07956 360 661 to schedule a telephone appointment or alternatively, contact our Inclusion Manager, Soozii Lim, who will pass on your contact details with your consent.

Mindfulness Activities to do at home

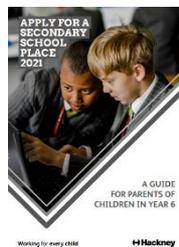
Rain Maker: Pour some uncooked rice into a plastic bottle. Now close your eyes, tip the bottle and imagine that you are in the rainforest. Can you hear the rain? How are you feeling?

Make-believe balloons: Imagine that you are blowing up a big balloon and filling it withal of your worries. Tie a knot in your balloon the let it float away.... Do you feel better? There are also some lovely resources for you to explore on the Cbeebies website; from calming sounds to exploring a mindful garden

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/mindfulness-for-children>

Secondary transfer

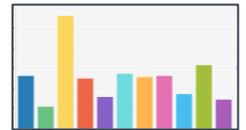
No sooner have we mentioned a Year 6 class teacher than we are talking about secondary schools! A brief guide from HHS will be emailed to all Year 5 parents and carers as you continue to prepare for the process for selecting secondary schools for your child/ren. Applications open on 1 September 2021 and will **close on 31 October**. Hackney have a useful overview of the process, which is well worth a look [here](#). Secondary schools will be able to provide more information about open mornings and evenings (including whether these can be in person, or held virtually) over the coming months. Please do speak to a member of the HHS Senior Leadership Team if you have any questions at this stage.



Remote Learning survey

Thank you to all the families who completed our recent remote learning survey. We really value your feedback and will use your responses to improve our provision further. It isn't always possible to act upon every suggestion, but we do appreciate all of your comments, and thank you also for the kind words and compliments that were shared. Here are some of the headlines:

- 85% of our families described their experience of home learning as positive;
- 79% rated your child's engagement with home learning as good;
- 85% said the level and amount of work provided was right for your child/ren; and
- 89% supported the use of Purple Mash as one of our main platforms



"I think it's absolutely amazing how efficiently the teachers and admin staff have pulled this all together so quickly. The offer from Halley is top notch in terms of content covered, and how the teachers present work and truly care for the kids"

"We are extremely happy with the provision provided. Well done Halley House."

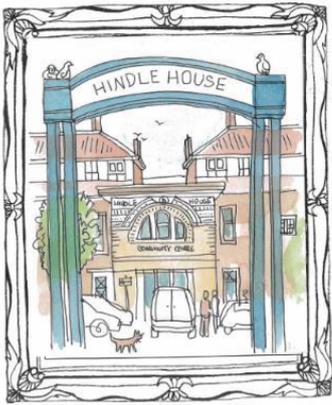
"The Zooms are a pleasure to hear. The instant and encouraging feedback on Purple Mash is really motivating and means a lot."

"We really appreciate all the time and energy that has gone into providing quality teaching, interesting resources and activities. The daily PSHE session to start the day is particularly valuable for connection and starting the day well."

- We noted that some families are still finding links or platforms difficult to access. **We will** check all our year group blogs and information for parents to ensure it is accurate and streamlined so as not to be overwhelming.
- Some comments indicated that submitting work from home was difficult on Purple Mash. **We will** send out further child and parent Purple Mash guides to help; we also continue to welcome work submitted via email.
- **We will** look at ways to add even more flexibility to home learning timetables, including trying to avoid sibling clashes with live sessions on Zoom (Zoom sessions have been overwhelmingly positively received!)

As a reminder, hard copy homework packs are available from school if you need them – please do ask your child's class teacher or the office if you need to collect any materials. We have loaned out several devices to children and families now and we hope these are making a positive difference. If you indicated on the survey that you wish to request a device, and/or receive support with connectivity, please do contact the school directly so that we can help as soon as possible. Thank you again for all your feedback.

Art Room Zoom



Jane Smith will be hosting a Zoom this Wednesday at 2pm as part of our Arts Award. Children at home and in school will be participating, so please do join if you can. Jane will be delivering the Zoom from her studio, giving the children opportunity to 'meet' her and see her workplace. Paper copy

Arts Award packs can be collected from the school office, or posted to families, if you need a hard copy (please just ask). Thank you!

Year 2 Learning

We would like to start by saying a huge thank you for the continued support from all parents and carers as well as all your kind words, they mean so much!

It has been another busy and successful fortnight for Year 2. Through our literacy lessons we explored the 'Dirty Beasts' collection of poetry, creating our own Dirty Beast poems which we performed on Zoom and writing newspaper reports using the poem 'Porcupine' for inspiration. We are now reading 'Patrick' and have already designed and made our own magical musical instruments.

In maths, we have greatly enjoyed our *Statistics* unit where we created and interpreted tally charts, pictograms, scaled pictograms and block diagrams and solved some tricky data problems.

In our history lessons, we have explored many useful inventions and arranged these chronologically to create our own timelines! In science we finished our unit on *Materials* by creating Viking longboats that were both buoyant and waterproof. We have explored what makes us feel successful in PSHE and learnt about the Trimurti and made lotus flower offerings for Lakshmi in RE too!

Amazing learning Year 2 we are so proud of you all!

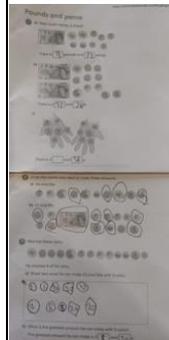


Year 3

First and foremost, thanks to EVERYONE for all the continued support through this time. The children are producing some EXCELLENT pieces of writing, furthering their mathematical understanding and reasoning skills, and also seem to be enjoying our topic, science and African drumming lessons. It has been a challenge, yes, but Hawking class has shown nothing but teamwork and collaboration. It has been another busy week of learning. In literacy this week, we have just finished report writing about *The Twelve Tasks of Heracles*.

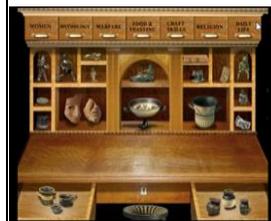
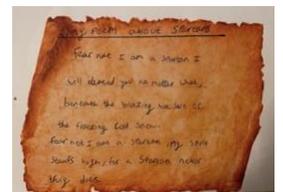


We soon started *Theseus and the Minotaur*. We created some of our own mythical creatures, and had fun doing so!



In maths, we have taken on our *Money* unit and conquered it! This week, we have been adding *and* subtracting amounts of money, in pounds and in pence! Next week we look forward to taking on converting between amounts and solving some tricky money problems. Bring on the money!

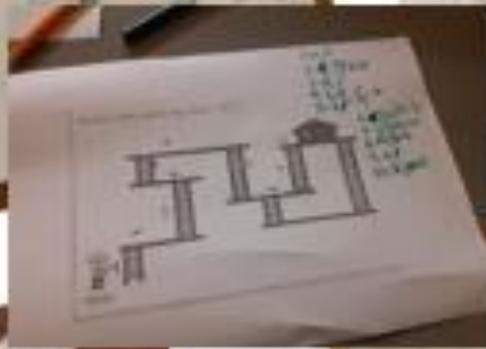
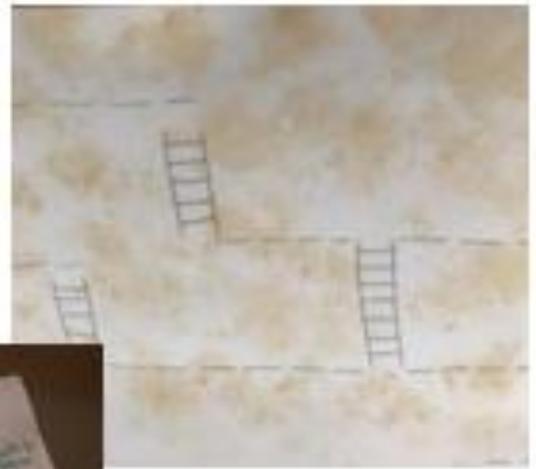
Topic has been a blast! We have been learning about Ancient Greece and the Greek civilisation. Did you know that they lived over **2,700** years ago and thoroughly enjoyed writing poetry.



We [virtually] went to visit the British Museum this week to explore some artefacts using primary resources.

We graduated to become Spartan warriors last week and next week we will be taking on the Persian army. Hopefully we'll be successful and our stories be told on vases. Wish us luck!



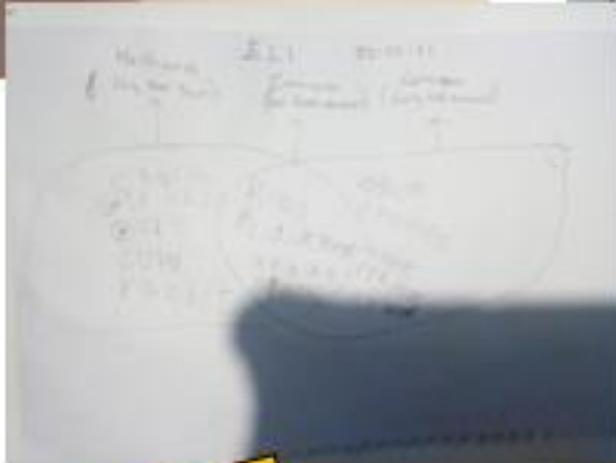
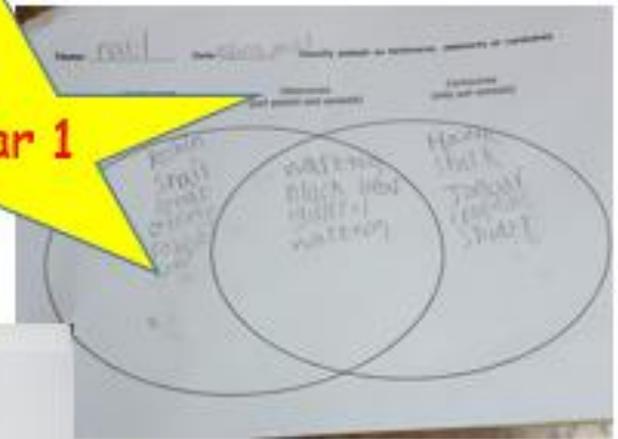
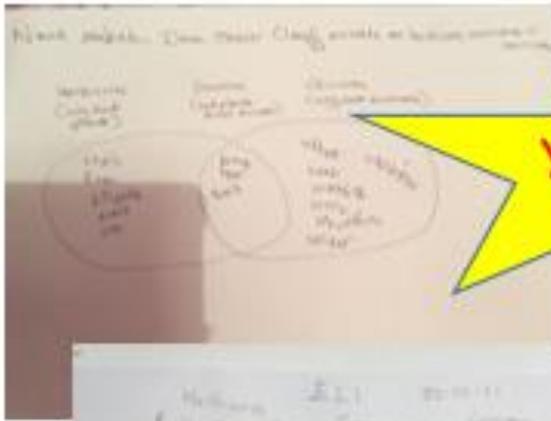


Comet Class



Maps for every occasion!

Year 1



In Science, we have been learning about herbivores, omnivores and carnivores.

Zoom sessions

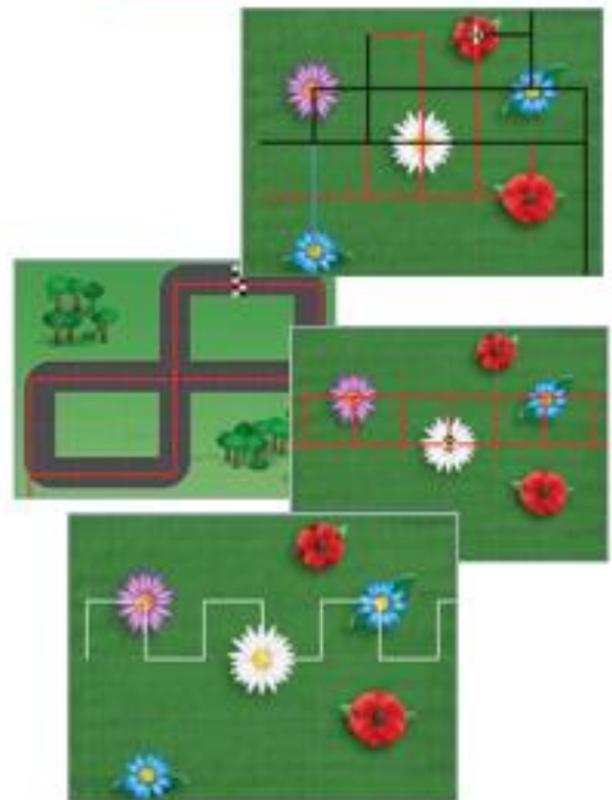


Learning from home has not stopped us from keeping active!



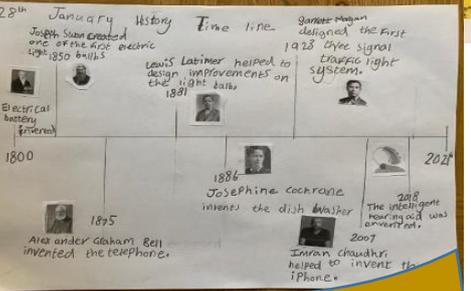
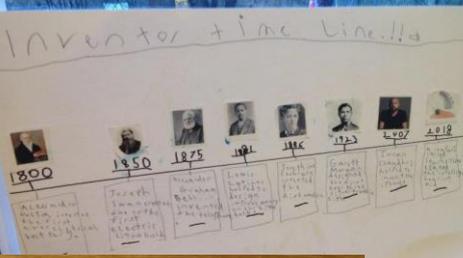
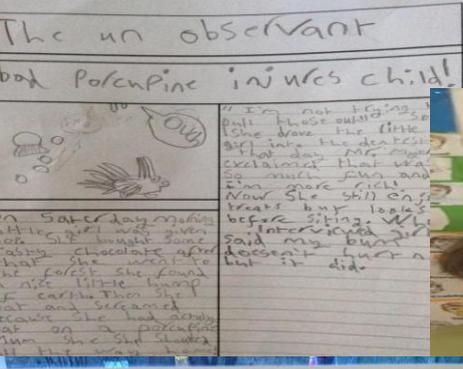
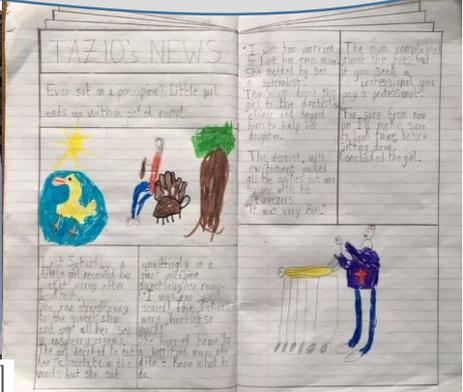
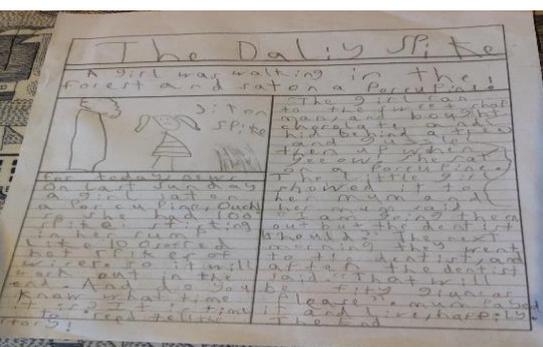
In PSHCE, we created posters saying well done for achieving our goals!

In Computing, we have started our new unit called 'Maze explorers'



'Porcupine Press' newspaper reports

Year 2



Timelines in history



Monday 1st February 2020
predict this story is about a surprise party...
celebration...
instrument is called rainbow shaker...
sounds like stones falling on a pavement



Magical musical instruments linked to 'Patrick'

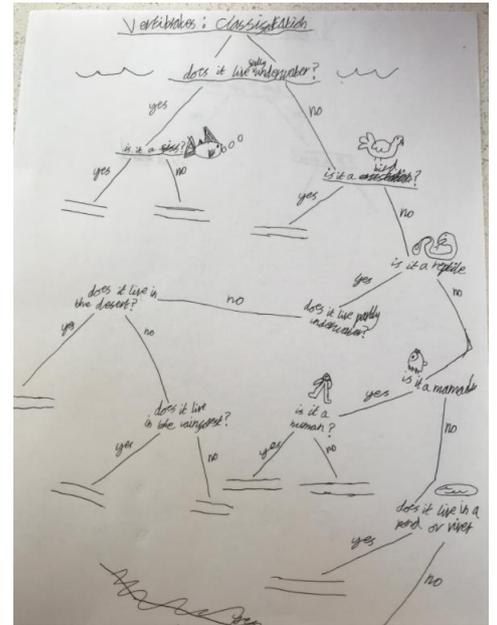
Lakshmi flower garlands in RE



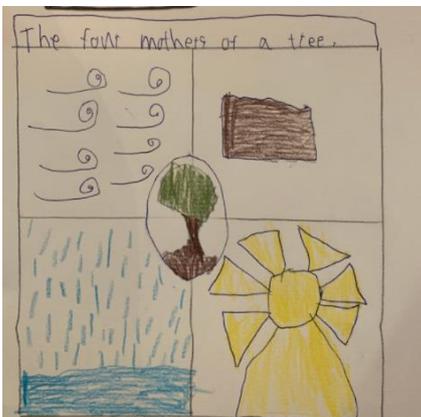


-AR			
Our verb: ANDAR	Our verb: REGAR	Our verb: LIMPIAR	
Yo ANDO	Tu REGAS	Yo LIMPIO	+O
Tu ANDAS	Tu REGAS	Tu LIMPIAS	+AS
El/Ella ANDA	El/Ella REGA	El/Ella LIMPIA	+A
Nosotros ANDAMOS	Nosotros REGAMOS	Nosotros LIMPIAMOS	+AMOS
Vosotros ANDAIS	Vosotros REGAIS	Vosotros LIMPIAIS	+AIS
Ella ANDAN	Ella REGAN	Ella LIMPIAN	+AN

does it have skates?
 no | yes
 does it have gills?
 no | yes
 does it lay eggs?
 no | yes
 does it have fur?
 no | yes
 does it have legs?
 no | yes
 does it have more than 2 legs?
 no | yes
 does it have more than 4 legs?
 no | yes
 I am a polar bear



Year 4



beginning

- Sherlock Holmes is hired to solve Germany war
- Sherlock Holmes is asked to investigate Germany war plans
- Sherlock Holmes goes undercover to investigate Germany plans in bridgecase
- When Sherlock Holmes arrives in German train station but discovers plans have been left on train
- Train suddenly starts moving...

Middle

- Sherlock Holmes tracks down runaway train
- Sherlock Holmes gets onto train
- Finds out that plans are gone and only traces are slimy green marks
- Sherlock Holmes sees bridgecase disappear
- Sherlock Holmes sees some suspicious staff talking to his boss
- Sherlock Holmes tries to prove to German government that his boss stole the plans
- His boss is granted insurance when trial is held
- Sherlock Holmes sees a talk bringing a case to someone

End

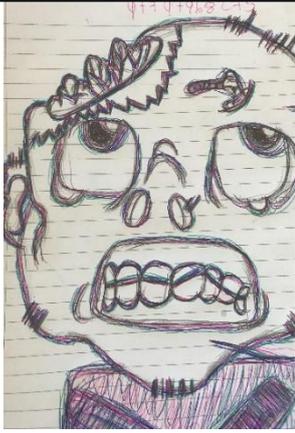
- Sherlock Holmes realizes Germany was innocent and it was his boss who was stealing Germany plans and bringing them to his boss to sell.
- Sherlock Holmes proves his boss guilty
- His boss goes to prison

Romans

1. According to the Romans, there was a big myth and a god decided to sort it out.
2. The most powerful Roman god was Jupiter.
3. They ~~they~~ might have prayed to him when they were in war and he liked war so he might have helped them.
4. They were all helped, in different ways so there for I can't tell you for example is you were a Roman you would pray to Neptune.
5. The Roman gods remind me of the Greek gods especially Ceres because she is like the maize god.
6. One was the sun the other was the moon, one was warm hearted the other was cold hearted.



We have been learning the Spanish words for the different rooms in our homes. Here, Jemison class made educational videos to teach other children that vocabulary!



The class are really enjoying reading Frankenstein. They have created both Victor and the Creation out of a range of mediums.

