

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust you have all had a great week and are looking forward to a restful weekend. Your children continue to be fantastic, and we have had a positive week together at Thorpe. If you need anything or have any questions, feel free to reach out anytime.

Attendance

Please see below the class-by-class attendance break down for the week 19.01.26 to 23.01.26 (last week). Highlighted are all of the classes that have achieved 95% or more during that week. Well done 4-Lewis – top once again!

R Donaldson	96.0%
R Carle	94.0%
Nursery	77.2%
6 Ibbotson	94.0%
6 Blackman	94.3%
5 Walliams	92.5%
5 Strong	93.9%
5 Dahl	93.5%
4 Morpurgo	96.6%
4 Lewis	98.3%
3 Rowling	92.1%
3 Cowell	97.7%
2 Rosen	92.9%
2 Blake	97.9%
1 Murphy	94.3%
1 Grey	95.3%

Next week, you will receive an individual attendance report for your child.

Some Goodbyes

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Plant and Mrs Patel, who will be leaving us at the end of this half term. They have both made a wonderful contribution to our school during their time here. We know the children and families will join us in thanking them for their hard work, care, and commitment. They will be greatly missed by colleagues and pupils alike. We wish them every success in their next steps and look forward to celebrating their achievements with the children before they leave.

Joining 3-Rowling after the half term as the class teacher will be Miss Imtiaz. She will be at Thorpe in the next few weeks, spending some time with the class, ready to take on the class teacher role. I am sure you will make her feel very welcome.

My Happy Mind & Children's Mental Health Week

We are proud to engage in the 'My Happy Mind' programme, as part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE). The programme teaches children skills for positive mental health, resilience, and self-esteem. It focuses on helping children understand their brain, build their confidence and gratitude, develop friendships, and manage emotions through a series of modules:

- **Meet the brain** (Autumn 1) – focusing on understanding my emotions and the emotions of others, children learn to regulate their emotions and develop a growth mindset
- **Celebrate** (Autumn 2) – celebrating who they are and building self-esteem in other children learn to focus on their unique character strengths
- **Appreciate** (Spring 1) – appreciating themselves and others, children develop gratitude and a greater sense of well-being
- **Relate** (Spring 2) – building their relationships and relating to others, children focus on diversity
- **Engage** (Summer 1) – pursuing their dreams and helping to facilitate others' dreams, children learn about goal setting, their accomplishments and how to build resilience

As we approach Children's Mental Health Week (9th – 15th February), we'd love to hear your thoughts on the My Happy Mind parent app or any feedback on how we support your child's wellbeing.

This year's theme is 'This is My Place', focusing on belonging (at home, in friendships, in school and in the wider community) and how this contributes to positive mental health.

To celebrate our Thorpe community, and to offer you the chance to chat with us, learn more about My Happy Mind, or share feedback in person, please join us for our first 'Wellbeing Café on **Wednesday 11th February, 2:45–3:15pm in the Big Hall**.

To mark Children's Mental Health Week and the theme 'This is My Place', all children are invited to wear clothes they feel comfortable in on our **non-school-uniform day, Friday 13th February** (no donations required). Shoes should be appropriate for school (no slippers!).

Work Spotlight – Year 5 and Year 1

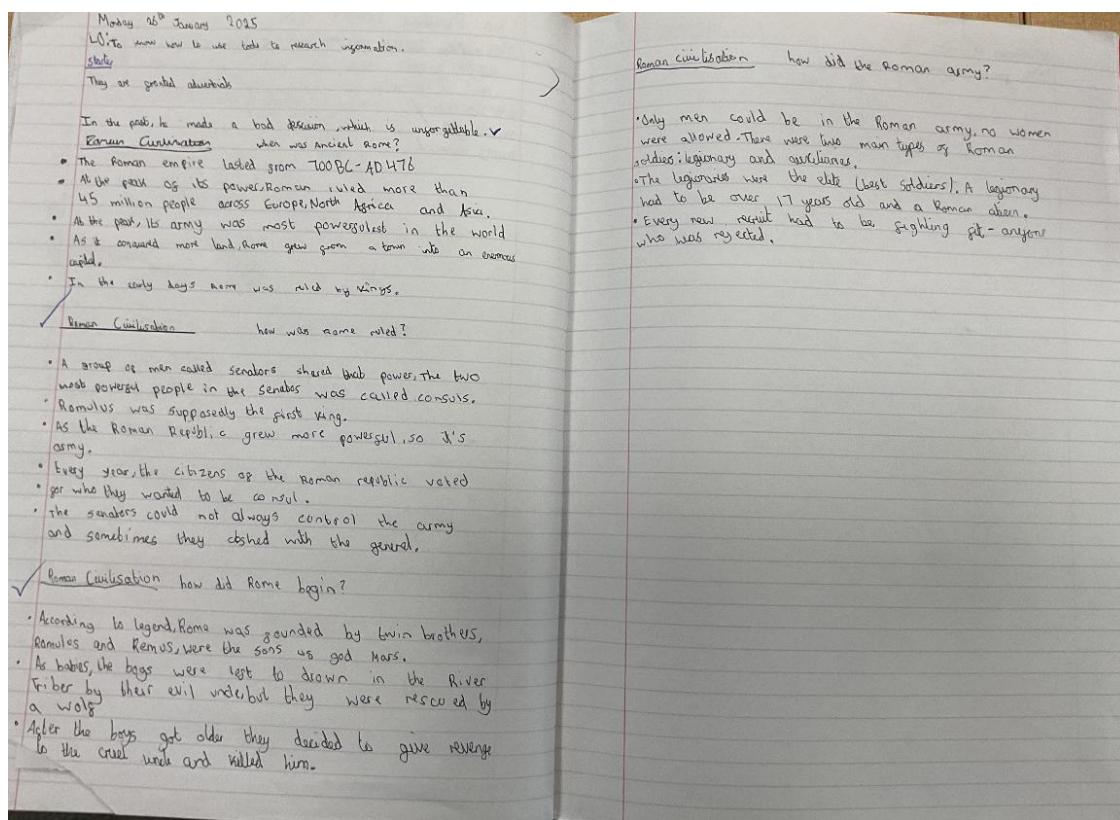
This term in art, Year 5 have been exploring how journeys can be represented visually. They studied artwork by Richard Long and Lubaina Himid to inspire their ideas. Everyone created a collage using a map of Peterborough, and they then experimented with different techniques to create images to help us decide what to include in our final piece. For the final project, the children produced a piece of artwork based on a journey they have been on or one they would like to take.



In writing, children completed research on the Roman Empire, ready to plan their non-chronological report. Haya Farooq's:

- Subheadings: what were houses like?
- ~~poor~~ people mainly lived in small villages of wooden houses with thatched roofs.
 - The biggest city in Roman Britain was Londinium known as London.
 - Baths was a town famous for its bath.
 - Villages were large farms with a big house for the owners.
 - They had many rooms, some with beautifully painted walls, and mosaic floors.
 - They had lots of servants and farm workers to help run the villa.
 - Most of the Roman villas found by archaeologists are in south of England.
 - The governor of Britain had a palace in London.
 - Another palace was beside the sea at Fishbourne (near Chichester) in West Sussex.
- Subheadings: what was a Roman family like?
- Men were in charge of the family in Roman Britain.
 - Mothers were thought to be less important than fathers.
 - Men worked the lands or in the trade.
 - Some joined the Roman army which had soldiers going all over the empire from Spain to North Africa.
 - Boys from rich families learnt Latin and wrote on wax tablets.
 - They were also trained with swords.
 - Children could be married at the age of 14 and marriages were often arranged between families.
 - Life for women in the Roman time was hard.
 - Women ran the home, cooking and raising the children.
 - In wealthy families, enslaved people often did this work.
 - Many women died young (in their 30s) because child birth could be dangerous and diseases were common.
- Subheadings: what technology did they bring?
- The Romans were very good at building roads and bridges.
 - To make sure soldiers and supplies could move from town to town quickly.
 - The Romans made their own streets as straight as possible.

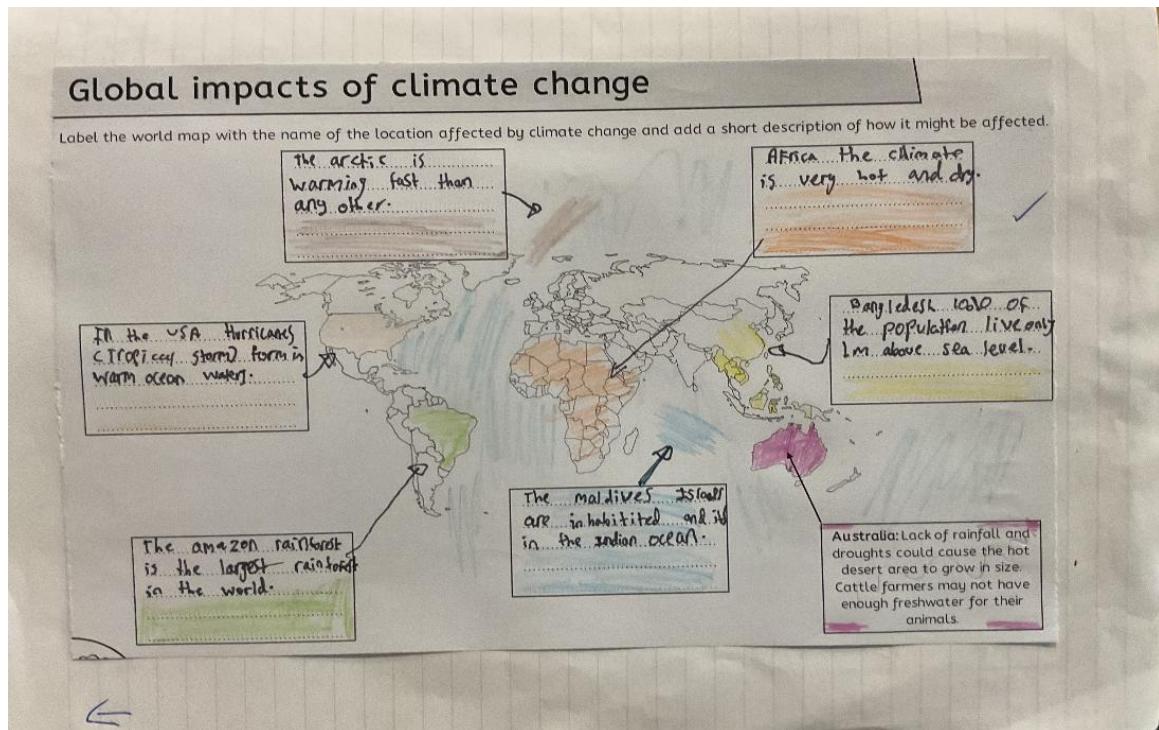
Hassan Ali's:



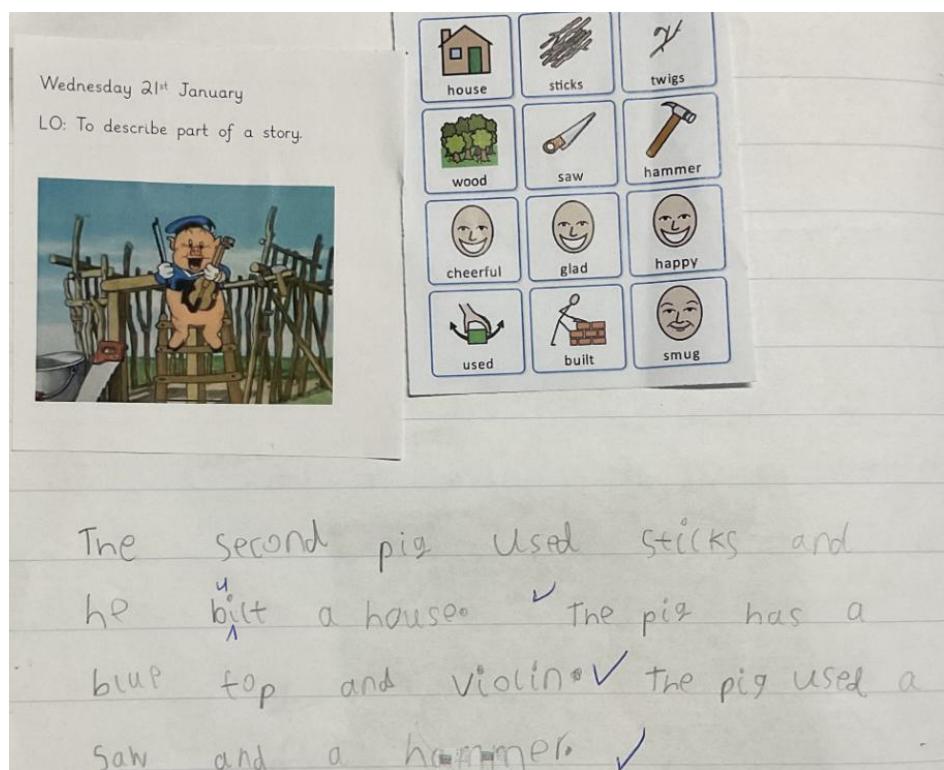
A final piece of work from Haniya Emaan completed from the Year 5 topic 'Journeys'. This represents a journey in the form of a postcard.



A detailed piece of work from AbuBakar on the global impacts of climate change, completed in Geography.



In Year 1, children have been looking at video extracts from 'The Three Little Pigs'. They have written about a pig making his house. They then predicted what would happen after the pigs had made their house. Year 1's writing is really coming on, well done.

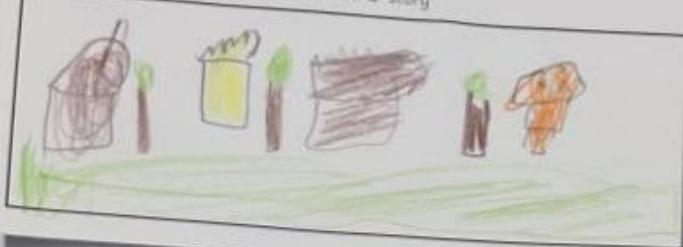


Wednesday 21st January
LO: To describe part of a story



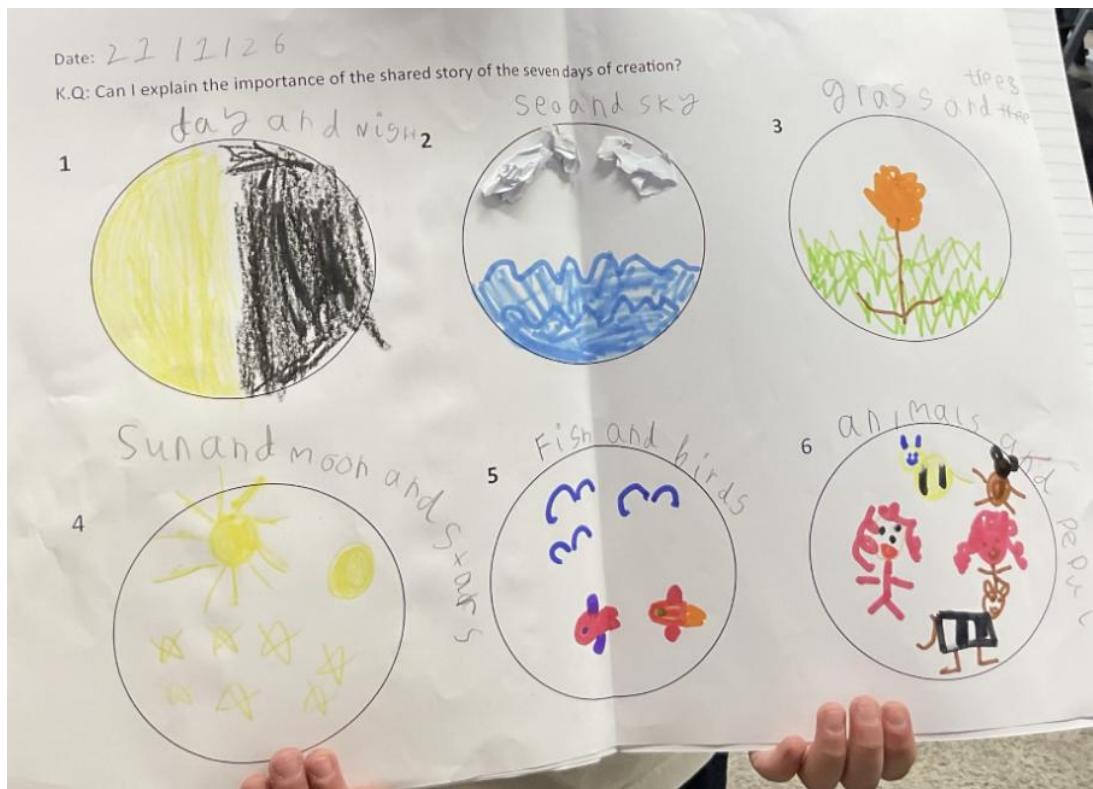
The second pig built
a house. ✓ The pig
has has a blue hat and
a pink skin.
The pig used
a saw and a
hammer. ✓

Friday 23rd January
LO: To predict what happens next in a story



* I predict a fox
will come and blow the
stick and straw house.

Year 1 have also been exploring the creation story through in Religious Education. Both classes really enjoyed getting imaginative when creating the '7 days of creation' by drawing pictures and labelling each day.



Key Dates Coming Up:

Date	Event
Friday 6th February	Reception 'Royal Banquet' Day
Tuesday 10th February	09.00: Year 1 Phonics Parent Talk 14.15: Safer Internet Day Parent Café
Thursday 12th February	Reception Chinese New Year Parade 14.50: Year 2 class assembly
Friday 13th February	Non-Uniform Day – Clothes they feel comfortable in Last day of the half term (finish at 14.30 as usual).
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school from the half term break

Reminders:

Parent Evenings

The dates for the next parent evenings this term have been confirmed and will take place on **Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March** between **3.40pm and 6.30pm**. More information will come soon, but I wanted to ensure you had the dates in good time.

Spring Term Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will begin again soon. Please see the timetable below for the Spring Term. They start at 2.50pm and finish at 3.15pm on the designated day (always a Thursday). If you can make it, please come along.

Thursday 12th February	Year 2 (both classes)
Thursday 5th March	Year 5 (5 Walliams & 5 Strong)
Thursday 26th March	Year 3 (both classes)

Safer Internet Day – Parent Workshop

This term we are excited to hold a parent workshop linked to the importance of online safety. We will explore how parents can protect children online, the different parental settings on devices and give tips and tricks. This will be held on **Tuesday 10th February between 2:15pm and 3:15pm**. Please fill in the form to register your place: [Safer internet day - Parent Cafe](#)

Year 1 Phonics – Parent Workshop

We would like to invite you to a Year 1 parent workshop to share information with you about phonics and early reading. Please join us to find out how you can support your child at home and prepare them for the Phonics Screening Check which is coming up in June 2026 for all Year 1 children. This will take place on **Tuesday 10th February at 9am** in the large hall (go through the carpark to the gates on the right-hand side). In the session, we will give you more information about the Phonics Screening Check as well as modelling how we teach phonics in Year 1 live. No need to register, please turn up on the day.

Parent Shout Outs

If your child's teacher or another member of staff has gone above and beyond, I would love to hear from you. Please click here: <https://forms.office.com/e/6r5w1yxP8F>

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mr J Parkhouse
Headteacher