

Year 5: Just Do It!

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As part of our Big Question for this half term ('What's so special about the USA?'), Year 5 have been studying the designs of Tinker Hatfield. Tinker is Vice President for Design at Nike, where he designed iconic trainers such as the Air Jordan and the Air Max. We looked at the way he draws inspiration from the world around him, from buildings and architecture to motorbikes and planes, to use in his designs. We also studied a selection of sports shoes from Mr Brown's trainer collection for ideas (thanks Mr B!). We then decided what features our sports shoe required, before sketching designs to meet this design brief. Lastly, we made a prototype of our final trainer design from clay. What do you think?!



Year 2: What is it Like Down Under?

Year 2 have had a very busy half term learning all about Australia. The children loved sharing a morning with parents in the classroom, decorating boomerangs, drawing flags and sharing some Australian foods. The Anzac biscuits were a real hit, although they may have just been useful for taking away the taste of the Vegemite!

In English the children read a book called 'Wombat Stew' and we made a fire outdoors to have a go at making it ourselves, it looked completely disgusting so we decided to make a healthy stew instead. We made our own Rolls Crescent grocery store and the children took money and shopping bags to buy ingredients. Next, our chopping skills and cooking skills were put to the test and the children developed a healthy stew using sweet potatoes, peppers and onions. They then wrote to our school chef to give her the recipe to try out. There was a mixed response to the stew tasting, many of our children might be found on Masterchef in a few years as they had some excellent ideas for improvements that could be made.

Our Science lessons have been all about Living things and their habitats, the children have used the ipads to research Australian Animals and where they live. We also did a minibeast hunt to find insects that live at Rolls Crescent. Before Easter, we are going to make some bug hotels to put in the wooded area at school so we can welcome more insects to our grounds. We also found out about food chains.

As well as all this, we even managed to fit in a trip to Manchester Museum where we looked at the live animals in the vivarium, and the fossils downstairs. We found lots of Australian animals whilst we were there and had a great time. The children were all really well behaved and we were so proud of them. We hope you all have a great rest over the Easter holidays as we already have plans for a SUPER next half term!

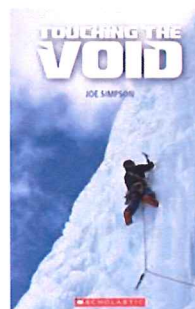


Year 4: Mountains of Work!

Year 4 have been learning all about Mountains this half term. Using the book "Touching the Void", we have written newspaper reports and stories about mountain climbers. The children have really enjoyed reading the book and it has led to lots of discussions about friendship and dilemmas. We have had some interesting conversations in P4C about friendships and about making difficult choices.

In Art we have studied an artist called Christa Rijnveld who creates images of mountains using only lines and circles. The children were intrigued by her work and have created some versions of their own. We sent some images of our work to the artist on social media and she was very impressed with the children's efforts.

We have had some great homework all about mountains this half term too, examples of the work can be seen on our school blog and twitter page.



The children enjoyed our visit to the Singaround at the Royal Exchange Theatre too, it was wonderful to hear so many voices singing together, it was a great venue for so many schools to get together.



Nursery: Can You Tell Me A story?

Nursery's Big Question has been, "Can you tell me a story?" so we have been learning all about traditional tales. At the start of term the Three Little Pigs ran through our classroom to collect bricks, sticks and straw but they were soon in trouble when the big bad wolf turned up and the two little pigs went missing. The children helped by making missing and wanted posters and the wolf was soon caught by the policeman. When we thought our hard work was finished a BROKEN chair appeared in our classroom ... who could it be? Goldilocks maybe?! The children explored this story and helped make porridge for each bear thinking about the different sizes (*small, medium and big*) and quantity (*more, a lot, less*). The children have been telling us their own stories which adults have scribed and then together we have acted them out. We have also been counting to 5, recognising numerals to 5, talking about parts and whole and using a five frame to solve problems. Please check our Nursery blog on the school website for more updates and our next Big Question after the holidays will be, 'What changes happen in our world?'



Year 6: Not Long Now.....

With just over 4 school weeks left before SATS, Year 6 have been working extra hard! In Maths this half-term, Year 6 have already been focusing on Percentages, Algebra, Ratio, Position and direction. We are now focusing on geometry. The children have been working very hard in the run up to their SATs, with many showing a great Growth mindset during extra revision sessions.

In English we are beginning to write spooky stories with flashback, which we will be putting into a book of Y6 stories at the end of term for parents to enjoy. We are using a mixture of film (see the Year 6 blog for more details and some questions to think about!) and another Novel called 'The Nowhere Emporium' to inspire our writing styles, as we examine how different authors use themes and suspense to engage their reader.

In science, year 6 have continued to find out about systems within the body.

In particular, we learned about the digestive system and have had much fun demonstrating how it works!

In between all the hard work, they have visited Manchester Central Library to learn from real life author Steve Butler and enjoyed Red Nose day activities.





Year 1 ended their topic with a trip to the Julia Donaldson exhibition at Z-Arts. We saw loads of characters including The Gruffalo, The Snail and the Whale, Zog and many more. We even went through a secret bookcase in Charlie Cook's living room! As well as the exhibition we took part in a workshop all about imaginative story telling.

Reception—What would you see on a farm?

In Reception this half term we have been answering the big question, "What would you see on a farm?" We have read a non-fiction text, and also got to know the story of the 'Little Red Hen' very well! We made bread and wrote recipes. It was delicious! We went on a trip to Reddish Vale Farm, learning all about the animals and how to look after them. In class we have been learning about money in our farm shop, and writing sorry letters to the Little Red Hen. We have been showing our school value empathy towards each other and learning about what it means. In our jigsaw lessons we have learnt all about how to be healthy and make healthy choices. We are excited about our next big question, "What is a life cycle?" when we will be going caterpillar crazy!



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CHANGING LIVES
IN COLLABORATION

CLIC
Co-operative Trust

Rolls Crescent Primary School



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Cooperative Values

Rolls Crescent has been part of the CLIC multi-academy trust for nearly two years now. We are still growing as a new trust and are constantly looking at ways we can develop and improve.

When our governors made the decision to join a Cooperative Multi-academy trust it was important to them that we also embraced the Cooperative Values in all aspects of school life. Over the next months we want to come back to these values and develop a strategy to embed them across the trust. Your ideas could help a lot. The cooperative values are as follows:

Self help- Encouraging all within the organisation to help each other, by working together to gain mutual benefits. Helping people to help themselves.

Self-responsibility- To take responsibility for, and answer to, our actions.

Democracy— To give our stakeholders a say in the way we run our school.

Equality— Equal rights and benefits according to their contribution

Equity—Being fair and unbiased

Solidarity—Supporting each other and those in co-operatives.

How do you think we can embed these values in our schools?

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Year 3: Ancient Egyptian Trip

This half term we have been had a wonderful time exploring our different topics. Looking into the life cycle of a plant and what life was like in Ancient Egypt. We were lucky enough to be invited to go to Manchester Metropolitan University to do some exciting science experiments with the science students. Learning lots of interesting things about the different parts of the plant. The children were extremely well behaved and great role models for the school on the trip. They enjoyed looking at a Venus fly trap and making their own flowers. The children loved being scientist in their experiment with celery looking at how water transports through a plant.

We were also fortunate enough to visit the John Ryland's Library in town for our Ancient Egyptian topic. We have been looking at what it was like to live in An-

cient Egypt. At the library we were focusing on how Egyptians communicate and were shown several examples of some incredible ancient hieroglyphics by an expert. The children were extremely excited to become archaeologists for the day and investigate the interesting scrolls of papyrus. They learnt how to read and write hieroglyphic symbols and make their own papyrus bookmark. On the trip the children listened really well and shared some really interesting facts that they has learnt about Egypt.

