



Rolls Crescent Primary School



Headteacher's word.

As the spring half-term approaches we would like to celebrate some of the fantastic work that has happened between January and February.

In fact, there is so much to share we can only fit a small paragraph from us this issue.

Please remember that Friday 14th February is a training day followed by half term. We will return to school on Monday 24th February at the usual time.

Have a safe half term everyone .

Mr Reynolds and Ms Turner

A note from Friends of Rolls Crescent PTA

As the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), we are collaborating to support the school's development plan, by providing fun, welcoming and engaging fundraising activities. At Rolls Crescent PS, our diverse parent body with various skills and knowledge, is a massive strength which we are leveraging to support the school in delivering our children an outstanding education.

Your support is essential in helping us deliver our objectives, so we can provide an excellent foundation for our children's future. We need all hands on deck to help us hold events and raise funds.

If you would like to become involved, we would love to welcome you, whatever time you have to spare. You can contact us at Friendsofrc@rolls-crescent.manchester.sch.uk

Find out more about your child's curriculum by going to our website and finding their knowledge organisers.

<http://rolls-crescent.manchester.sch.uk/curriculum>

Year 1

In Science this half term in Year 1 we have been learning all about animals! We have named, identified and classified lots of different animals so it was amazing to finish with a trip to Knowsley Safari Park. We saw lots of different animals including lions, rhinos, camels as well as seeing an amazing sea lion show!

In English we have been reading the book 'The Lion Inside' which is a story about a lion and a mouse becoming friends. We have even started using suffixes in our writing!

In Maths we have been learning all about height and length as well as 2D and 3D shapes.

After the half term holiday we will be asking—Why is weather wonderful?



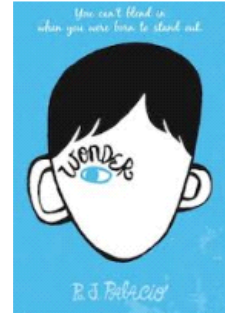
Year 6

In English, Year 6 are reading “Wonder” and are writing persuasive letters from the main character, Auggie to the principal of his school. Auggie faces challenges as he joins a mainstream school, having previously been home-schooled.

Fractions, decimals and percentages are the focus of our maths this half term. We are continuing to work on our calculations during weekly arithmetic practice and to improve our fluency with number facts (TT Rockstars).

To help us better understand Charles Darwin’s Theory of Evolution in science, we have been thinking about why we look like we do, and at variation in other species, particularly dogs. We have even tried to design some new breeds of our own!

In our topic lessons, we have investigated different codes and tried to crack some ourselves- we even made cipher wheels to encode our own messages! After the holidays we will ask—’The Titanic: What went wrong?’



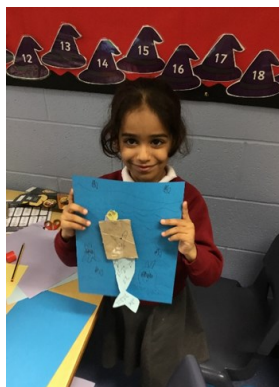
We are looking for volunteers who could listen to our children read. If you can spare an hour a week to help out leave your name and number at the office.

Year 2

Year 2 have really enjoyed learning about the topic ‘What were superhumans like in the past?’

They have found out all about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and how they have changed the world for the better. They enjoyed a Florence Nightingale workshop and role played as nurses and wounded soldiers in the Crimean War. In Science they have been learning all about the importance of healthy bodies and they even designed and made their very own healthy pizzas. Perhaps they can help you make one at home for a healthy dinner idea. In English Year 2 have been reading The Dragon Machine. They made their own machines and will write stories based on the characters they have created.

After the holidays we will ask ‘Why are Rainforests special in the world?’



Year 4

What an incredible half term it has been for Year 4! Each year group was focusing on an inspirational person this half term and Year 4 chose Dame Sarah Storey, Great Britain's most accomplished Paralympian. Before Christmas, Mrs Armstrong and Mr Conner emailed Dame Sarah, in the hope that we could exchange some email messages with her to find out more about her, and so that the children could ask her some questions. Imagine our surprise (and delight) when she emailed back to say that she would come and visit us in school! We kept it a secret from the children and they all wrote some questions that they would like to ask Sarah. On Monday 13th January we gathered in the dining hall ready to meet someone special, the children were buzzing with excitement and as the mysterious visitor opened the doors, they were met with a gasp, then some cheers, then a few excited screams and louder cheers as the children realised that Dame Sarah Storey had come to see us. She was brilliant, she answered all our questions and even brought along her specially adapted bicycle and two of her fourteen Gold medals! We were quite surprised to see that one of them was kept inside a sock for safekeeping! We were really impressed with how resilient and hard working

she is and were all amazed at just how many medals and races she has won throughout her almost 30 year career as a Paralympian.

As well as the excitement of meeting such an inspiring athlete, the children have also taken part in 2 wonderful trips. The first was for a practise cycling session at Longford Park with a group called Simply Cycling. Everyone had a great time cycling round the track and trying out lots of different bicycles, some with 2, 3 and even 4 wheels. The weather was quite wet but the children didn't let that dampen their spirits. We followed that visit up with a trip to the National Cycling Centre where the children took part in a BMX or Strider session on the same BMX track used by the Team GB athletes and para-athletes. The children really impressed the adults and the coaches with their resilience and hard work, a few children skidded off the track or fell off their bikes but they jumped right back up and gave it another go.

**Year 3**

This half term we have been looking at role models and year 3's focus for this has been '**Who is Malala Yousafzai?**' in our topic. We started this unit by doing some research into Malala's life and placing the key events of her life on a timeline. The children found it interesting comparing it with their own lives. How she had made speeches at the United Nations about children's education and wrote her own book by the age of 11! Following on from this the children have discussed and debated what they would do if they were in her position. The children spoke very passionately about the importance of education and that they would be angry if they couldn't have an education because it is important for their future.

This has linked well into our Jigsaw topic of **Dreams and Goals**. The children have been thinking about what dreams and ambitions that they have and working out the best way for them to achieve it. They have applied these strategies into their everyday learning and overcoming challenges. As shown above the children have created a Garden of Dreams where they have thought carefully about what they would like to do when they grow up. They have had to think about what steps they can take to achieve it which the children really enjoyed contributing to. After the holidays we will ask—'**What makes the Earth angry?**'



Year 5

Rights for all and learning to relax

We have had a very busy but enjoyable half term. Some of the highlights were visiting The People's History Museum as well and having a wellness session at The Whitworth Gallery.

Visiting the People's History Museum allowed us to gain further insight into the struggles of Emmeline Pankhurst and the Suffragette movement. It was very interesting to learn more about the establishment of trade unions, The Peterloo Massacre and see, first hand, posters and promotional material from the Suffragette movement. We can all

agree that they have shaped the world we live in.

We were very fortunate to be invited by Manchester Academy to Whitworth Gallery for a wellness morning. We learnt ways to manage our emotions by controlling our breathing and regaining a calm state. Manchester United were on hand to take us through an exercise session and we had the chance to explore some of the monuments on show.

A lovely time was had and we are looking forward to the next half-term.

After the holidays we will ask—
'What causes a Tsunami?'



We hold an informal coffee afternoon for parents and carers every Thursday 2pm-3pm—join us for a chat and a brew!

Nursery

This term the Nursery children have been exploring our big question "Can you talk about a story?". They have learnt how to describe the main story setting, events and characters and joined in reading and acting out familiar traditional tales. Lots of strange things happened like wolf footprints in our classroom, bricks, sticks and straw appeared and a little child's footprints with a broken chair and a spilt bowl of porridge! The children did great detective work looking for clues and helped solve the problems. First, they created wanted and missing

posters which helped the police catch the big bad wolf and then they soon realised it was Goldilocks who had also been in the classroom once we read her story! Towards the end of term the children practised telling their own stories which the adults write down so it can be acted out later at carpet time, this is lots of fun and helps develop their speaking and literacy development! Next term our big question will be "Who lives in a jungle?" and we will be reading the story "Monkey Puzzle" and "Mad about Minibeasts" to help us find out!



Reception

This half term began with our Reception receiving a present- A bus! However, it turned out to be quite a naughty bus and kept appearing in different places around the classroom! It meant that we could do lots of great writing about the bus and his adventures and he has finally made his way back to the bus station! Phew!

