

25 November 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

'Don't waste your time looking back, you are not going that way.' – Ragnar Lothbrok

Dear Parents/Carers,

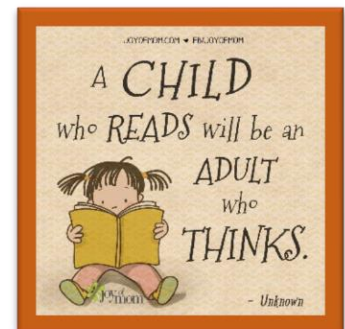
The next few weeks are a very busy time with lots of end of year events, assessments and workshops. We are rightly proud of our extended offer for our pupils and do all we can to provide enriching experiences for our children both in and out of school.

The week kicked off in successful fashion as all children had the opportunity to watch part of England's victory over Iran. The excitement was there for all to see as the children made enough noise to fill a stadium!

A reminder that entries for the official school Christmas card must be submitted by Monday 28 November 2022 to the class teacher. Good luck to all those taking part.

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be running next week from Monday 28 November 2022 until Wednesday 30 November 2022 in the Lower School hall from 3.30pm to 4.00pm. Each class will have an opportunity to visit the Book Fair during the school day to see what books are on offer. Please come along to browse/purchase the latest books. Remember that as a school we receive commission on the number of books we sell, so your support is greatly appreciated.



Christmas Lunch

As part of the Christmas celebrations this year, the school will again treat all children to a **free** Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 14 December 2022**. All pupils will have received a Christmas lunch letter where parents are to select their child's menu option. Lunches on this day will be unavailable to order through SchoolGrid. In order to make catering provisions for this, I would be grateful if you could return your child's meal choice slip to the class teacher by **Monday 5 December 2022**.





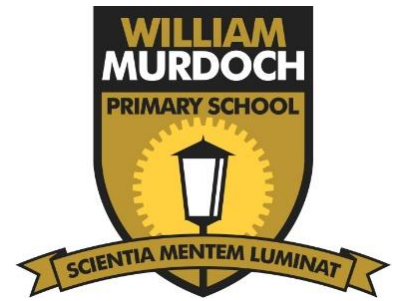
Mighty Mountains Geography Workshops

On Wednesday, Year 5 took part in two Geography workshops to support their Geography topic 'Mountains'. In the morning, they took part in the Mighty Mountains where pupils learnt how you climb a mountain, what special clothes and equipment you would need to take with you (and looking at them in real life!), what it feels like to climb a mountain, why mountains can be dangerous places, mountain wildlife and the mountain environment. This was followed by a Map Skills and Mini-Orienteering workshop on the school site. In this workshop they explored OS Maps, learnt how to measure distance with their steps/paces, and took part in a mini-orienteering challenge using a specially drawn map of the school and their new skills to find as many hidden flags as they can!

Quidditch Day

On Tuesday of this week, Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils had a Quidditch Day. The day began with a Sorting Hat Assembly, where children were placed in the four Hogwarts houses. Following this, each class had a 30-minute Quidditch lesson, led by Quidditch coaches. The day concluded with a trophy presentation. Children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.





Projects

All pupils were set an autumn term project back in September, and the deadline to submit these to their class teacher is Monday 12 December 2022. Pupils should continue to work on their projects during their weekends, and submit a photo of their progress on Class Dojo every two weeks. The titles of the projects which were set for each year group were as follows:

- Reception: Look at Me
- Year 1: People That Help Us
- Year 2: The Royal Family
- Year 3: Law and Power
- Year 4: Ancient Egypt
- Year 5: Ancient Rome
- Year 6: The Tudors



Projects have been a long-standing tradition of the school and provide an opportunity for pupils to develop their research, analysing, organisation and presentation skills. It also provides a chance for parents to get involved by helping their child complete their project.



Winter Food Boxes

As part of the winter Bring it on Brum! Programme which is supported by the Department of Education and Birmingham City Council to help support families with the rise of living costs; families are able to request winter food boxes. All families and households with and without children eligible for benefits-related free school meals can apply. For more information or to apply, please visit <https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/activity-packs-and-food-boxes/>.

Parents of Nursery Pupils

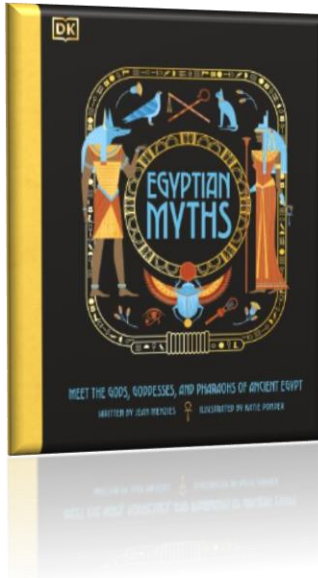
Applications are now open for the 2023 Reception intake. The application must be made directly with the local authority and **must** be submitted by Sunday 15 January 2023. Please refer to the website <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> where you can find further information.

If you need any help or support in completing the application for your child, please speak to Mrs Kullar in the first instance or contact the Main Office.



Mr Panichi's Book of the Week

Lower School



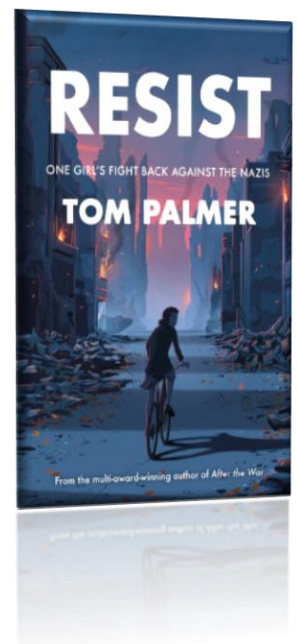
Egyptian Myths – Jean Menzies and Katie Ponder (illustrator)

Egyptian Myths is a brilliant book about ancient civilisations. It looks stunning; with its black cover and golden spine, and is packed with stories from Egypt, which have been retold in a way which is accessible to younger readers. The stories have their fair share of mythical creatures, terrible consequences and gruesome endings, all of which are completely captivating to read and perfect to share aloud. The illustrations are rich in colour and pay homage to hieroglyphics in their style, but are slightly cartoonesque too, enabling children to grasp some of the quite complicated ancient plot lines and characters. Author Jean Menzies has organised put the stories into categories, which also help the target audience to navigate the book. There are chapters devoted to gods, pharaohs and even one on 'mortals'. The final chapter is most useful, as it gives the reader a series of double page infographics which detail some of the historical content; such as mummification and 'the journey of the dead'. These are brightly coloured and far more appealing than most glossaries. The final spread is a list of Egyptian vocabulary with anglicised pronunciation underneath (which will be invaluable to most children and parents too!).

Upper School

Resist – Tom Palmer

This is a magnificent historical fiction set during World War II in the village of Velp near Arnhem; it is loosely based on the childhood story of Audrey Hepburn. 15 year old Edda (Audrey) is frightened and increasingly hungry, but she shows immense courage in undertaking small actions of resistance against the Nazi occupiers. Like most Dutch citizens, Edda's family has been traumatised by the war: her uncle was killed by the Germans as retribution for the actions of saboteurs; her brother Alex is in hiding because Dutch young men were abducted and sent to work as virtual slave labour in Germany; her other brother Ian is 17 so should be young enough to be safe – but is he? And why is Edda's mother on a list of locals that are 'not to be trusted'? What will Edda do if Allied paratroopers arrive in Arnhem to liberate the population – but end up underestimating German military power? This is a story of resistance and hope in the face of oppression which seems especially timely given recent events in Ukraine. Palmer is a genius at using crisp, clear language to create vivid scenes and evoke tension, so with my English teacher's hat on, it is top-notch. It is also a Barrington Stoke novel, meaning that it is accessible for the reluctant and struggling readers. It is brilliant for children in Year 4 who want a challenging read, and any other older child.

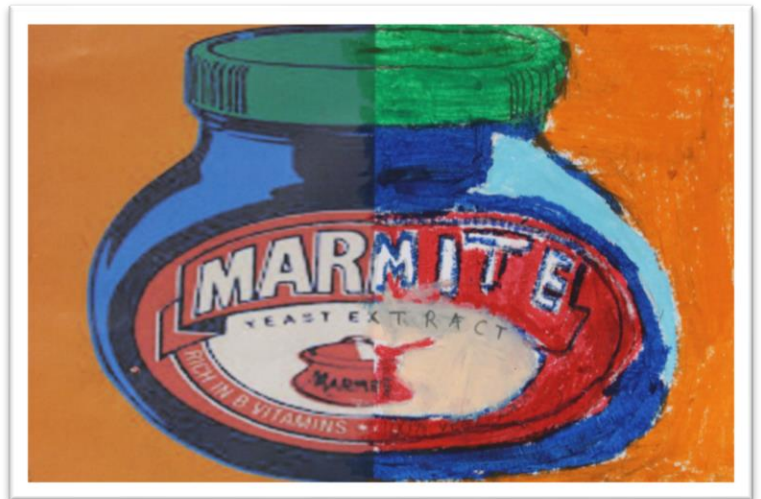


Mr Slinn's Artists of the Week



A selection of work from Y2.3

In Year 2 the children have been learning about Henri Matisse. The children then created their own collages in a style similar to that of the artist using a range of different colour shapes. The work produced was of a high standard and the children worked very hard when creating their art work.



Manvi - Y3.2

The children in Year 3 have been learning about Andy Warhol and his artwork. The pupils looked at images of Marmite Jar by Warhol and had a go at creating their own versions of the artwork. Manvi produced an excellent piece of work and was very careful when applying the oil pastels.

Pupil of the Week



Well done to our Reception and Year 6 pupils for all their hard work and cooperation throughout the week.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation. Have a relaxing weekend.

Your sincerely,



Mr M Singh
Headteacher

Dates

28 to 30 November 2022

6 December 2022

12 December 2022

14 December 2022

16 December 2022

Book Fair

Reception trip to Hatton Adventure World

Project Deadline for Pupils

Pupil Christmas Lunch

Pupils break-up