

A message from Mrs Martin...

As another week draws to a close, despite the colder temperatures and greyer skies on some of the days, it has certainly been a fun-filled and memorable one here at Westfield. We have loved welcoming families into school for our very first Open the Door sessions, giving parents and carers the opportunity to share in their children's learning and see first-hand the fantastic things happening in classrooms each day.

This week has also seen us come together for both Bright for Sight Day and Hello Yellow Day, raising awareness of important causes while having lots of fun along the way. Alongside this, our pupils have continued to enjoy a wide range of sporting events, showing teamwork, resilience and determination, while our after-school clubs have been buzzing with activity and excitement.

Our most recent Ofsted report was released this week. As I read through the report, I felt incredibly proud of what it says about our school, our children and the dedication of our staff and wider community. It celebrates many of the things that make Westfield such a special place, whilst also identifying areas where we need to grow and improve. As leaders, this is work that has already begun, and we are excited about what comes next. It feels like a really exciting time for Westfield, and I am looking forward to sharing our journey with you, celebrating our successes and working together to make our school even stronger for the children we serve.

As always, I would like to thank our children, staff and families for their ongoing support in making our school such a vibrant and positive place to learn.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the wonderful experiences and achievements from across the school this week. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy spending time with your families.

Dates to remember

12th October - Y4 Writing Open the Door
13th October - SEND Coffee Morning
14th October - Y5 Writing Open the Door
15th October - Y6 Writing Open the Door
16th October - Nursery Open the Door
22nd October - Halloween Disco
22nd October - End of Autumn 1
23rd October - Inset Day

Exciting Curriculum Updates

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with our Westfield families. From after half term, we will be introducing a brand new English curriculum across the school, covering reading, writing and spelling.

This evidence-informed, award-winning approach will help all children develop the strong foundations they need to become confident readers, writers and communicators, whilst also challenging and extending their thinking.

Our new curriculum includes Ready Steady Write, Ready Steady Read and Ready Steady Spell, which use high-quality children's literature at the heart of learning.

Through a carefully sequenced, book-based approach, children will immerse themselves in engaging texts, develop a love of reading, expand their vocabulary and build the knowledge and skills needed to write with confidence and creativity. The spelling programme ensures that children learn and apply spelling patterns systematically, helping them become accurate and fluent writers.

The programmes have been carefully designed to build knowledge progressively, revisit key learning and support every child to achieve success. By connecting reading, writing and spelling through high-quality texts, children will gain a deeper understanding of language and become more confident in expressing their ideas.

A huge thank you goes to our PTFA, whose generous funding has helped make this possible. The incredible support from our whole school community through fundraising efforts means we can invest in resources that will make a real difference to the achievement and outcomes of all our children.

We are incredibly excited to begin this journey and cannot wait to get started after half term. We look forward to sharing our learning with you as the curriculum develops across the school.

To ensure the best possible start, our October INSET day will focus on staff training and preparation so that we can successfully implement this exciting new curriculum and provide high-quality learning experiences for every child.

Thank you for your continued support as we continue to invest in the very best opportunities for our children.

THANK
YOU

Attendance Matters

At Westfield, we want every child to be an Attendance HERO!

HERO means:

Here
Every day
Ready
On time



Being in school every day makes a huge difference to children's learning, confidence and wellbeing. Each lesson builds on the last, and good attendance helps children achieve their potential, develop friendships and make the most of the many opportunities school has to offer.

A huge thank you to all of our families who support their children in attending school regularly and arriving on time each day. Your partnership makes a real difference.

Our whole-school attendance this week was an impressive 96.23%!

Well done, everyone. Let's continue working together to keep our attendance above 96% and ensure every child is here, every day, ready to learn and thrive

Macmillan Coffee Morning Update!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning this year. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our children, families, staff and wider community, it was our most successful Coffee Morning yet, raising a fantastic **£615** for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Thank you to everyone who donated, baked, attended and helped make the event such a success. Together, we have made a real difference and are incredibly proud of what we have achieved



Sporting Success!

Our Y5/6 football team played in their first tournament of the year on Thursday. Playing for a place in the District final, our team were determined to do their best and didn't disappoint. With some superb performances and great teamwork, Westfield earned themselves a place in the final at Codsall on Wednesday 21st October.

Well done Team Westfield and good luck for the final!



Westy enjoyed supporting the team on! Some of our wonderful team members ensured he travelled there safely.



An Inspiring Afternoon with Author Adam Stower

Some of our children had the exciting opportunity to attend a special event with the multi award-winning children's author and illustrator, Adam Stower, to celebrate the launch of his latest book, Murray the Explorer. During the session, the children joined Murray and Bun on a thrilling storytelling adventure before taking part in an interactive draw-along, where they learned how to sketch the beloved characters themselves. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting a real author and illustrator, and left feeling inspired to read, write and create their own stories.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Wolverhampton Grammar School for organising this fantastic event and giving our children the opportunity to meet an award-winning author and illustrator. Experiences like these help to inspire a love of reading, writing and creativity, and our pupils thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the afternoon. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity and look forward to taking part in similar events in the future.



Bright for Sight

This week, we were delighted to welcome staff from the Beacon Centre for the Blind, who led a series of inspiring and informative assemblies for our children as part of Bright for Sight Day.

Following the assemblies, our Year 6 pupils took part in a range of engaging activities designed to help them understand some of the challenges faced by people with visual impairments. They had the opportunity to explore Braille, learn fascinating facts about sight loss, and take part in practical challenges using their senses to sort and count money. The activities encouraged children to think carefully about accessibility, empathy and inclusion while developing their problem-solving skills.

The children approached each activity with enthusiasm and maturity, demonstrating excellent curiosity and respect throughout the day. It was a valuable experience that helped raise awareness and deepen understanding of how we can support and include others in our community.



Hello Yellow

On Friday, Westfield proudly took part in Hello Yellow Day to raise awareness of the importance of children's mental health and wellbeing.

The school was filled with a splash of yellow as children and staff came together to show their support for this important cause. Throughout the day, classes took part in a range of discussions and activities focused on understanding emotions, recognising the importance of speaking about our feelings and learning ways to look after our mental health.

It was wonderful to see our pupils embracing the message that it is okay to talk and that no one should ever feel alone. The day provided a valuable opportunity to remind our children that their wellbeing matters and that there is always someone ready to listen and help.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and supported the day. Together, we helped spread a little sunshine and an important message: looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health.



What have we learned today?

- Your feelings matter.
- You can ask for help.
- You can help others feel included.
- Small acts of kindness make a big difference.

Together, we make our school and community a safe and caring place.



Project Gambia Shoebox Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Project Gambia Shoebox Appeal. We were truly overwhelmed by the incredible generosity shown by our Westfield families. It was wonderful to see so many beautifully prepared shoeboxes being donated, each packed with care, kindness and thoughtfulness.

These shoeboxes will bring joy and much-needed support to children and families in The Gambia, helping to make a positive difference in their lives. We are incredibly proud of the compassion demonstrated by our pupils and the support shown by our wider school community.

Thank you for helping us live out our school values and for showing once again what a caring, generous and community-minded school Westfield is. Together, we can make a real difference to the lives of others.



We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for their incredibly generous Harvest donations. The support we received was truly overwhelming, and we were amazed by the kindness and generosity shown by our school community. Thanks to your donations, we have been able to provide a significant amount of food and essential items to support local families in need. Your contributions will make a real difference, and we are incredibly proud of the compassion and community spirit shown by our children and families. Thank you for helping us make Harvest such a meaningful occasion.



Scarecrow Festival

Our Nursery children have been busy getting creative as they helped to make this year's scarecrows for the Wombourne Scarecrow Festival.

The children had lots of fun designing, decorating and bringing their scarecrows to life, showing fantastic imagination, teamwork and creativity throughout the process. They were incredibly proud of their finished creations and thoroughly enjoyed being part of a much-loved community event.

If you're visiting the festival this weekend, be sure to keep your eyes peeled and see if you can spot Westfield's scarecrows amongst the displays! We would love to hear if you find them.



Open the Door

This week, we were delighted to welcome families into school for our latest Open the Door sessions in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3.

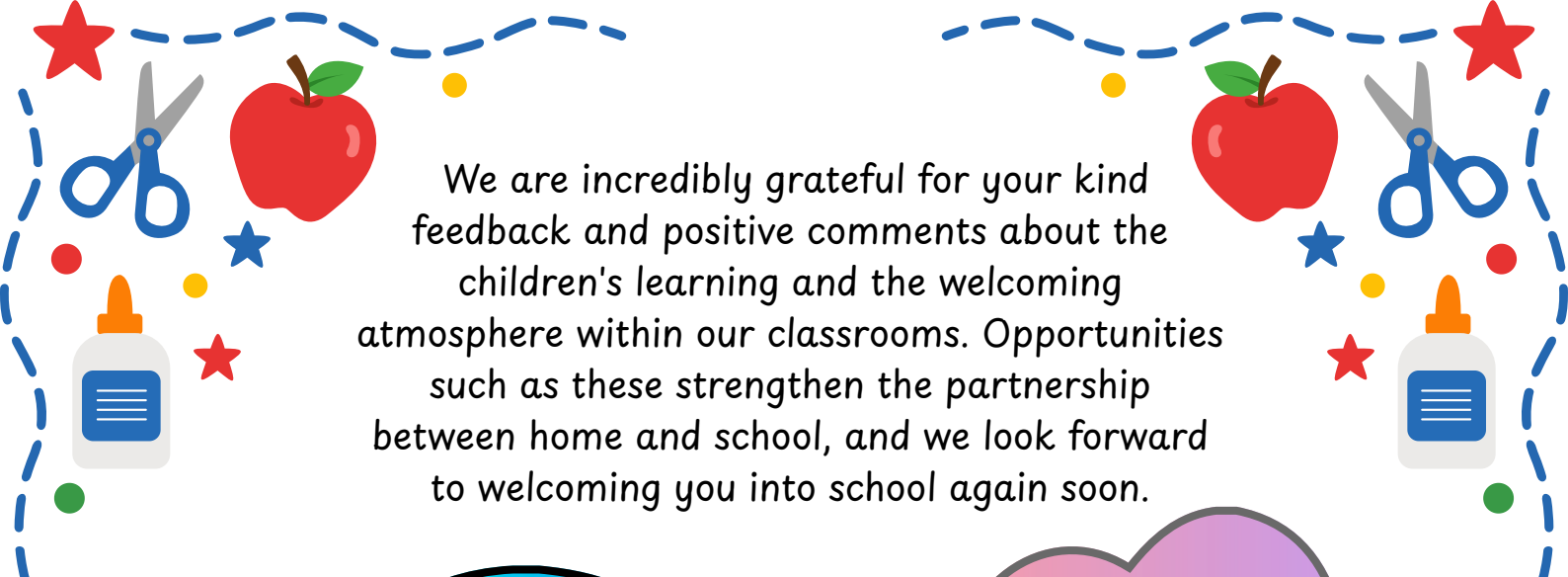
It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers joining their children in the classroom and sharing in their learning. From early reading and phonics activities to exciting curriculum work, the sessions provided a fantastic opportunity for families to experience first-hand the enthusiasm, creativity and hard work that takes place every day at Westfield.

Our children were incredibly proud to showcase their learning, confidently sharing their work, explaining their thinking and demonstrating the skills they have been developing since the start of the year. The smiles on the children's faces as they learned alongside their families made the sessions particularly special.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the sessions such a success. We greatly value the strong partnership between home and school and look forward to welcoming more families into school for next week's Open the Door events.







We are incredibly grateful for your kind feedback and positive comments about the children's learning and the welcoming atmosphere within our classrooms. Opportunities such as these strengthen the partnership between home and school, and we look forward to welcoming you into school again soon.

It's been great, it's so lovely to what they are doing, how fun they make it.

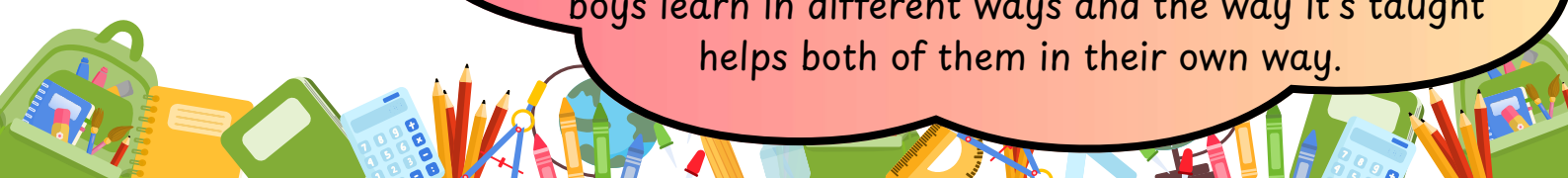
He's impressed me, he always seems quiet at home but he's got engaged, she made it fun with the deep voices and squeaky voices.

There's so much for them to do and just learn, they're all so busy learning but they don't know they're learning.

I liked seeing how it's done, it makes me realise how much I don't know about phonics! They go quite quickly but they all understood it and you can see what they've remembered.

It's very insightful, it's not been what I thought it would be, in a good way, in a fun way!

Immersive, absolutely brilliant, nice to see what they're doing from start to finish. Not too intense, children are having fun with what is taught. Lots of discussion and made fun and engaging, both of my boys learn in different ways and the way it's taught helps both of them in their own way.



Spotlight on Learning: Science

This week, our Spotlight on Learning shines on Science. Across the school, children have been developing their scientific understanding through investigation, exploration and enquiry.

From asking thoughtful questions and making predictions, to carrying out experiments and observing results, our pupils have demonstrated excellent curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. They have been working scientifically by testing ideas, recording observations and drawing conclusions based on evidence.

We are passionate about helping children understand the world around them, and it has been wonderful to see them embracing the skills of scientists: being inquisitive, resilient and reflective learners. Science lessons have been full of exciting practical activities that encourage children to think critically, solve problems and make connections between their learning and real-life experiences.

We look forward to sharing some of the fantastic science work taking place across the school and celebrating the wonderful learning that has taken place this week.

"The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing." – Albert Einstein.

Science in Nursery

This week, we have been exploring science through hands-on experiences. The children have been watering our new herb plants and exploring their different scents, as well as caring for and washing our babies. While washing the babies, we talked about and identified different body parts, helping children develop their understanding of their own bodies.

We have also been investigating gloop, exploring its unusual texture and noticing how it changes. The children made predictions, tested their ideas and talked about what they discovered, developing their early scientific skills of observing, predicting, exploring and investigating.

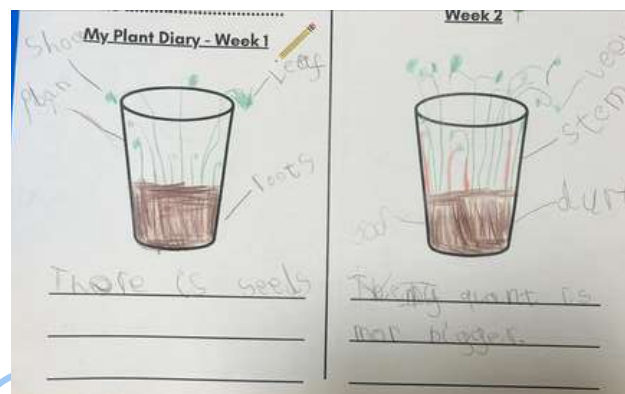
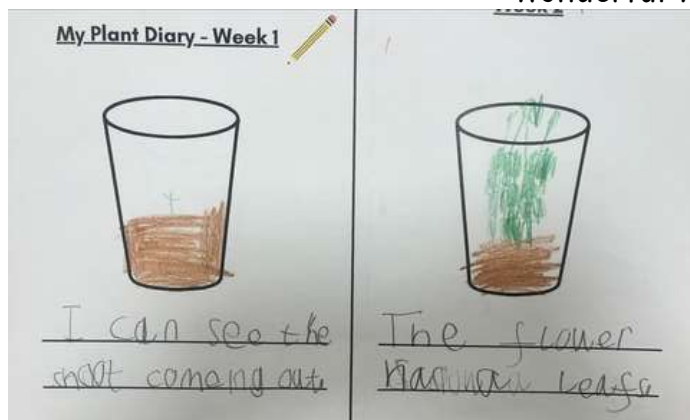


As part of our Marvellous Me topic, Reception have been learning all about the different parts of our bodies. We collected natural objects to create a body outline and then used word and picture cards to label each body part. We had lots of fun singing along to Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes too!

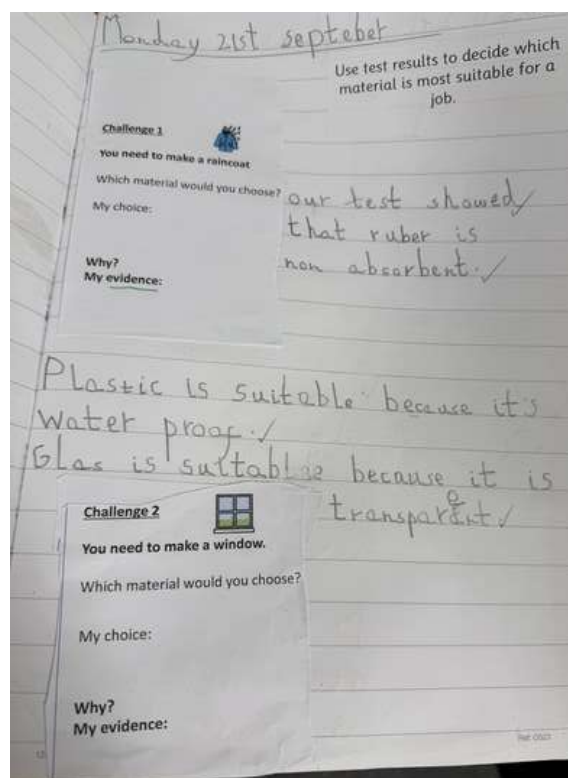
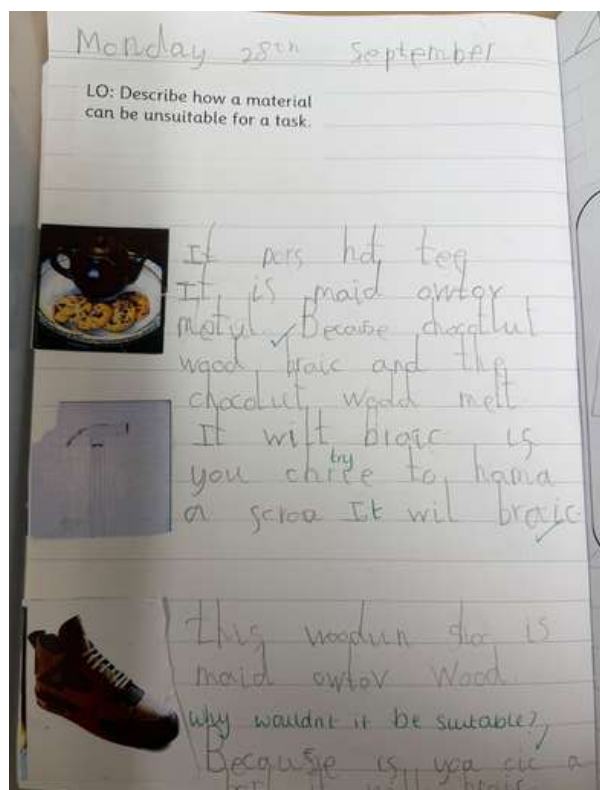
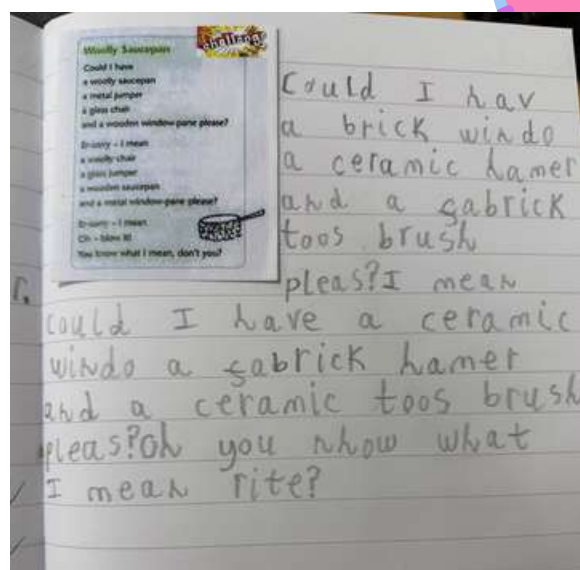
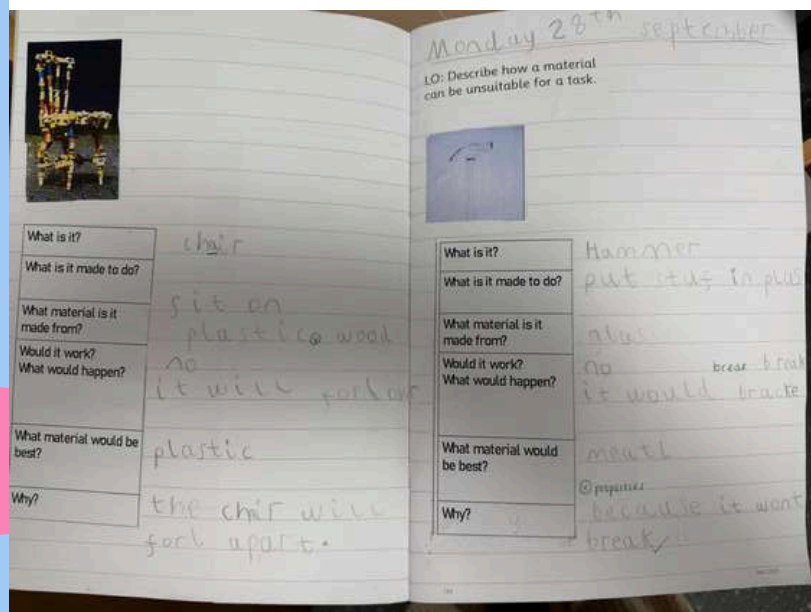


Year 1 have been enjoying learning all about plants in Science! We have been busy spotting and identifying wild plants around our school grounds, grouping different types of plants and even planting our very own seeds. 🌻

We are keeping a plant diary to track and record how our seeds grow and change over time. We can't wait to see what happens next and discover more about the wonderful world of plants!



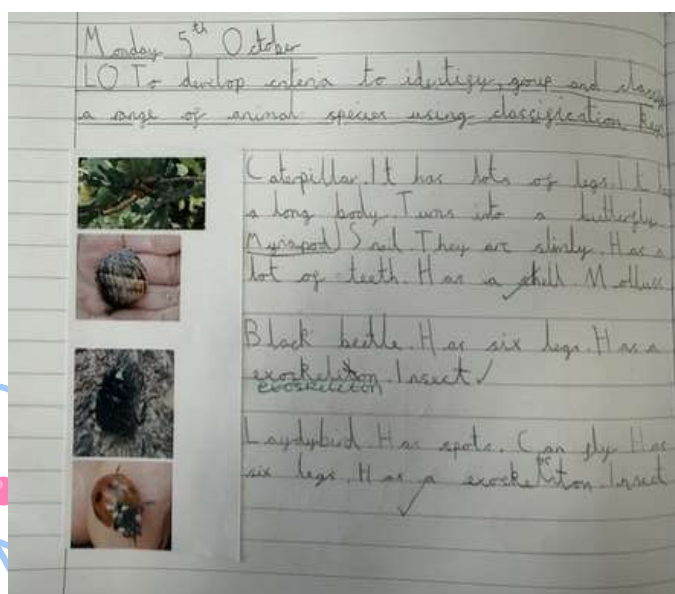
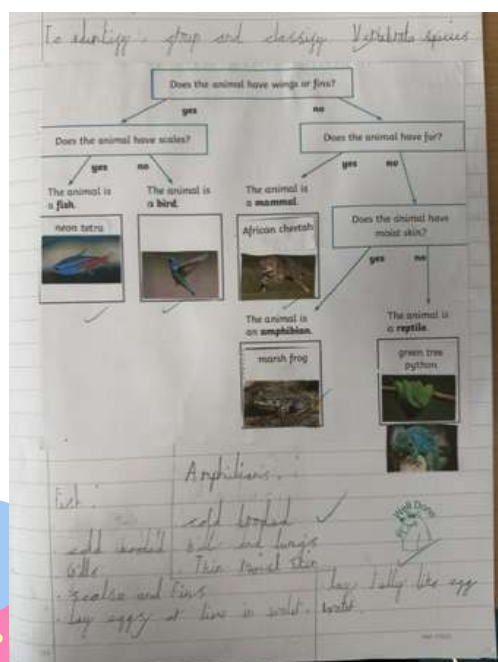
In Year 2, we have been exploring which materials are suitable for different purposes and investigating what would happen when materials don't have the right properties. We had fun discovering Michael Rosen's poem Woolly Saucepan, imagining unusual creations and thinking about why they wouldn't work! We have used our findings to design a water carrier, thinking carefully about which materials will work best. Next week, we can't wait to make our carriers and put them to the ultimate 'leak test'!

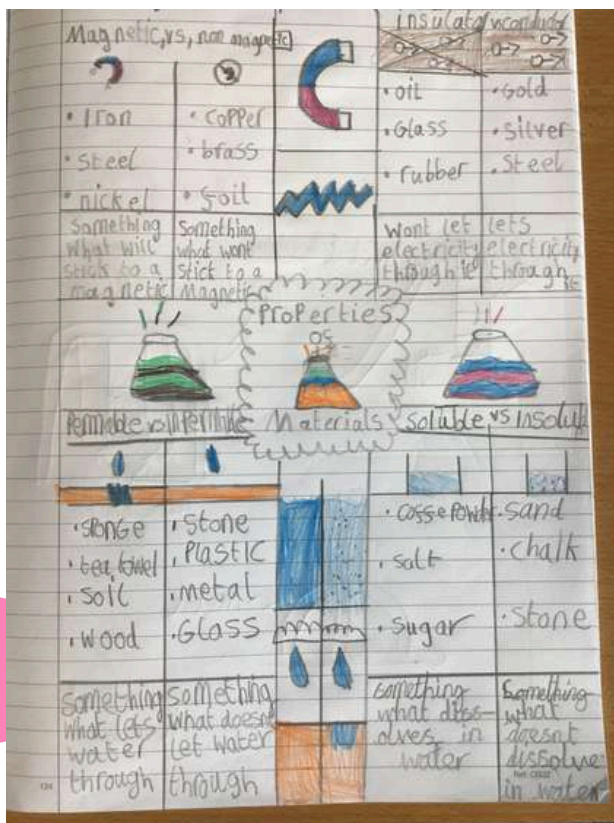


Year 3 have been exploring animals and their habitats through the exciting topics of skeletons and food chains. They have been identifying and sorting animals based on whether they have an endoskeleton, exoskeleton or no skeleton at all. The children have also been learning how living things depend on one another by explaining and creating food chains, demonstrating a great understanding of producers, predators and prey. They have shown excellent scientific thinking and enthusiasm throughout their learning.



Year 4 have been learning about classifying animals and developing their understanding of how living things can be grouped according to their characteristics. They have worked hard to identify, group and classify a range of animals, considering features such as whether they are mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish or insects. Using their observational skills and scientific knowledge, the children have demonstrated a fantastic understanding of how scientists organise and classify living things.





Year 5 have been applying their learning about the properties of materials through a range of practical investigations. They have used their scientific knowledge and findings to create informative posters, showcasing different materials, their properties and how these make them suitable for particular uses. The children have worked hard to present their information clearly, using key scientific vocabulary and demonstrating a fantastic understanding of the topic.

In Science this week, Year 6 have been learning about microorganisms and investigating whether yeast is a living organism. The children carried out an exciting practical investigation by mixing yeast with warm water and sugar, before placing a balloon over the top of the container. They observed what happened over time and discovered that the yeast released carbon dioxide gas, causing the balloon to inflate. This provided evidence that yeast is living, as it was carrying out a life process known as respiration.

The children thoroughly enjoyed making predictions, observing the results and drawing conclusions from their investigation. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop their scientific enquiry skills and see science come to life through hands-on learning.

