

Science Governor's reports July 2024

What a busy year it has been for the Science Curriculum! We have continued to implement our new planning across the school, ensuring that all lessons are adapted to the learning needs of every child in the room and that every lesson is purposeful and well resourced. Every lesson begins with a shared read which are diverse, relevant and specific to the subject being covered in that lesson including key vocabulary. Children use their knowledge organisers in every Science lesson and have benefitted from key vocabulary being included on them– scores in vocabulary questions on end of unit assessments have increased in every year group.

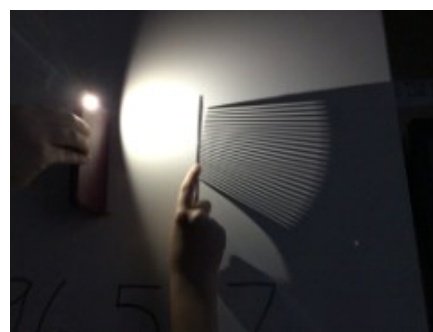
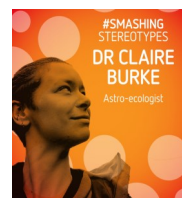
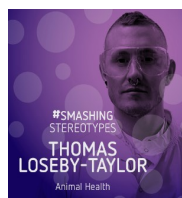
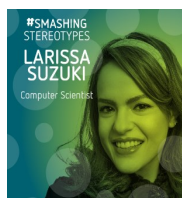
Children have enjoyed learning about significant people for each Science topic and were able to speak confidently about the scientist that they've learnt about for each topic.



Science Week 2024

The theme for Science Week this year was 'Time'. The children took part in different research projects and investigation to discover different ways of recording time, the importance of time and even the existence of time! Children were given challenges to predict how many times they could do tasks within one minute e.g. saying and writing their own name. They then had to complete the task and work out the difference from their predictions. Children also made sun dials and pendulums and used both methods to time different activities in the school day.

A priority across school for science week was the theme of 'Smashing Stereotypes'. Each year group was given a different scientist in a field of 'STEM' to research, these scientists were from varying backgrounds and really did 'smash the stereotype' of what the children thought that a scientist 'should' be. Some valuable conversations took place with one Year 2 child asking "Is engineering Science?" This opened up the opportunity to discuss what science is and to come up with a definition as a class.



Curriculum Coverage

Our youngest children in Foundation One have enjoyed investigating how they can help their nursery rhyme friends. They investigated how they can help Humpty Dumpty to stop him from cracking if he falls off the wall again. They also enjoyed learning about the lifecycle of a caterpillar and beginning to use their sequencing skills.

Foundation Two children had the opportunity to plant seeds and bulbs and watch them grow. They watered them daily and measured their growth. They also enjoyed spending a lot of time in the outdoor classroom noticing the changes to the trees throughout the different seasons.



The fun has continued in Year 1, the children investigated their five senses as part of their 'Animals, Including Humans' topic. They investigated their sense of smell with a smelly socks investigation (socks containing different food). They also enjoyed comparing different materials and describing their properties.

Year 2 began the year looking at the different properties of materials and the scientific vocabulary used to describe them. They also enjoyed learning about what humans and animals need to survive and the importance of looking after our bodies.





Year 3 began the year learning all about healthy eating and the five different food groups. They learnt all about how our muscles work and the names of the bones in our body. The children have also revised the Forces topic from Year 2 and investigated further about how gravity works and how friction affects movement. The children especially enjoyed the 'Plants' topic and enjoyed making their own class terrarium.

Year 4 enjoyed learning about teeth and how we need to look after our teeth. They completed an investigation to look at tooth decay which really highlighted the importance of regular brushing! They also found out about different components in a circuit and created simple circuits in their 'Electricity' topic. The children also learnt how to use classification keys to group living things in their 'Living Things and their Habitats' topic.



Year 5 learned all about the wonders of 'Space'. They gained an understanding of the Earth's rotation and how it moves through space. The children also explored reversible and irreversible changes and compared and grouped together everyday materials based on their properties and how different forces impact the world that we live in.

Year 6 started the year learning about light and electricity. They recapped the knowledge from their Year 4 topic and then began looking at how the number of cells within a circuit can affect other components including the sound of a buzzer– that was a very noisy lesson! The children also enjoyed studying fossils, they looked for clues about the creatures that created them. They also learnt about character traits that have been inherited from relatives before finishing the year looking at living things and their habitats.



End of Year Data July 2024			
	% below expectation	% At expectation +	% Above expectation
Year 1	17.9	73.2	8.9
Year 2	17.2	67.3	15.5
Year 3	5.1	91.5	3.4
Year 4	25	58.3	16.7
Year 5	25.4	50.8	23.7
Year 6	19	71	10

E. Jones

