



February 2023



Newsletter

Headteacher's Message:

At the end of this week, we say goodbye to Mrs Greene, known affectionately in school as 'Greene'. Mrs Greene has worked at Longthorpe for 22 years and has brought her wealth of knowledge and experience to the role. We will miss her kindness and talents but wish her well for her future. After half-term, Mrs Leitch is going to take on a new role we have created called 'Pastoral Mentor.' The aim of this role is to support children who need specialist intervention primarily for their well-being and will be based in our new Pod in the mornings. Later in the school year, they will also deliver Social, Emotional and Mental Health interventions in the afternoon.

As you know, I have been based at Longthorpe Primary School since mid-November in the absence of Mr McLay. You will have read in the communications from Dr Ian Young, our Trust CEO, that Mr McLay is not returning and I am delighted to announce that I will continue to lead the school on a permanent basis with immediate effect.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the time I have been part of the Longthorpe family so far and I am passionate and excited about what the future holds for our school. I am so fortunate to have a job I love and one that makes me smile every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, yourselves and of course, your wonderful children, for making me feel so welcome. I am looking forward to continuing to work in partnership with you all for the benefit of our school community.

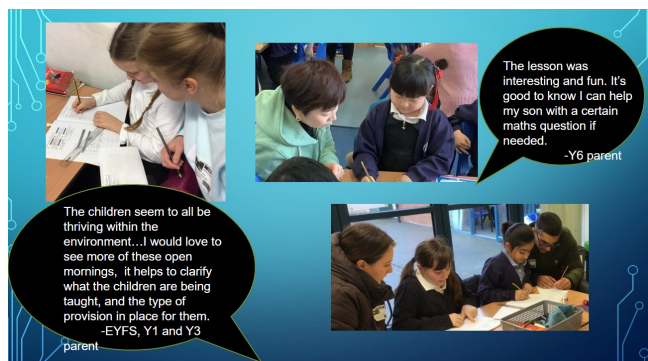
Kate Trethewy
Headteacher

Parents Maths Session

We were overwhelmed by the number of parents, grandparents and aunts/uncles who came in to their child's maths lessons. It was a joy to hear the buzz around school with parents confident to ask questions and be open to different strategies and methods. This collaborative partnership between school and home will ensure our children make maximum progress and nurture mathematicians who are confident and creative.

Moving forward, we are looking to plan more of these sessions in the Summer term and there is also a 'Home Learning Cafe' planned for after half term.

We look forward to meeting you then!



Voces8 Singing Day (Year 1 and Year 5)

Can you spot Katie, the little girl who loved singing when she was a pupil at Longthorpe, went on to complete a music degree and is now a member of the international singing ensemble Voces8?



Katie heard about our new choir and so arranged for education outreach from the Voces8 Foundation to visit Longthorpe and spend a day inspiring us through music.

Greg, Lydia and Joe worked with 1RW, Yr5 and our new choir. There was lots of laughter making all sorts of strange noises that lead to singing some beautiful new songs. At the end of the afternoon we enjoyed presenting the songs to the rest of the school and were captivated when Greg, Lydia and Joe sang to us a Capella.

The choir were also very happy to sing their songs to their parents after school. Huge thanks to the Voces8 Foundation for leading the day, our students for being so enthusiastic and responsive, parents for making the time to support our children and our office staff for making sure all the appropriate administration was in place.



Reception

At the end of our Chinese New year theme, the children went on their first trip to Shanghai Gardens Chinese Restaurant. They quickly demolished a plate of noodles, fried rice, spring rolls and prawn crackers, some had seconds and even thirds!! They found a surprise in the mouth of the Lion Dog and banged an authentic Chinese drum.

At the end of the week, we went around the school with our Chinese Dragon chasing away the old year making lots of noise.

Lots of happy memories made.



Year 1

1RW had a music workshop from Voces8 Foundation - they absolutely loved this and performed their singing to the rest of the school in Assembly.



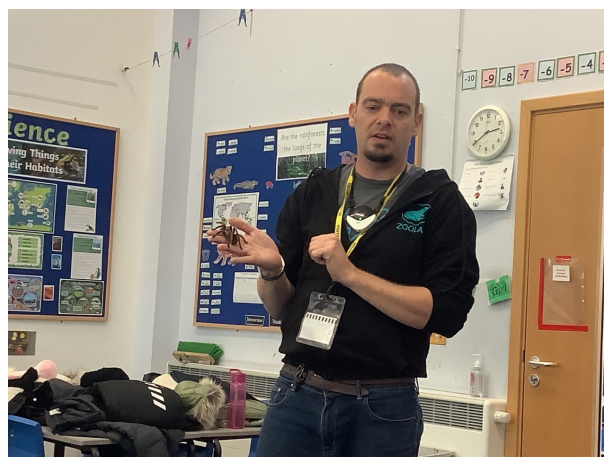
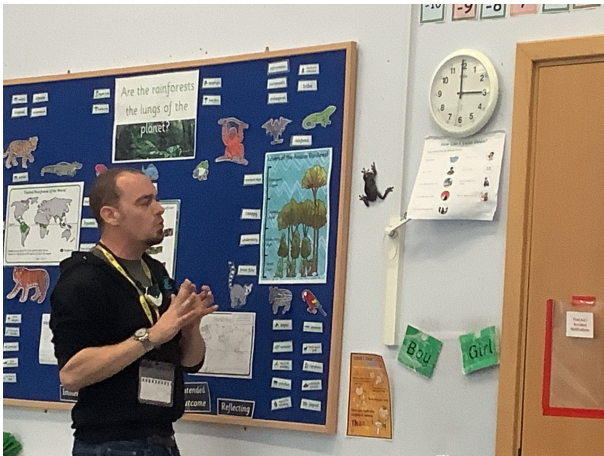
As part of our Rainforest topic, Year 1 had a visit from Zoolab who brought us some Rainforest animals to have a look at and explore; we found out lots we didn't know about snakes, frogs, tarantulas and lizards!



Year 2

Year 2 had a fantastic visit from Zoolab on Monday 6th February as part of our rainforest topic. The children used their current knowledge to ask informed questions of our instructor Chris.

Chris's knowledge and experiences travelling through rainforests all around the globe fascinated the children, as did his rescued animals who were on their best behaviour! We had cuddles with most of the animals and were delighted to see them up close and personal.



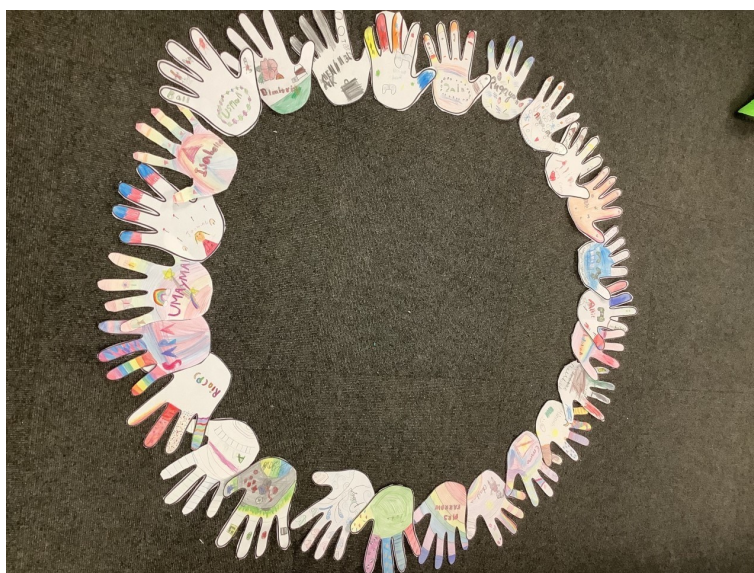
Year 3

We are a very creative team in year 3. This term we have been looking at the artist William Morris. We finished our topic with the children designing an image, turning it into a stamp and printing with it. Here are some of our amazing artwork.



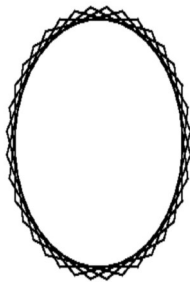
Children's Mental Health Week

3RM have been thinking about what makes us unique but also how we can find similarities in everyone. We managed to build a circle of hands and discuss the connections between everyone.



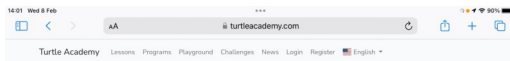
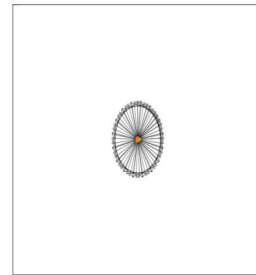
Year 4

In computing this term, Year 4 have been learning how to use logo to make numbers, letters, shapes and repeating patterns. We thought about how many times we would need to repeat the shape and what angle to turn the shape by in order to achieve the pattern we wanted. We are really pleased with how our patterns came out.



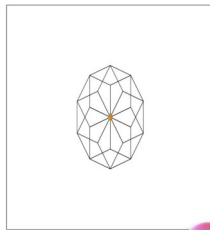
Playground

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triangle rt 22]
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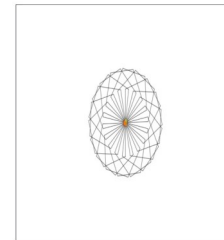
Playground

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Playground

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3 END
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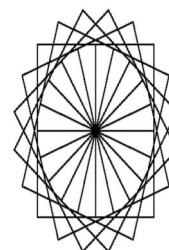
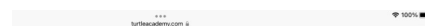
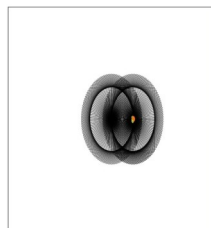


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Playground

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1 repeat 150 [square rt 3]
2 fd 100
3 repeat 150 [square rt 3]
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Year 5

For English we've been looking at narrative poems focusing on The Highwayman; children will be writing their own versions of this, which will be shared with parents very soon.

For art, we have been focusing on the artist Paul Gauguin's painting 'Siesta'. Children have been learning the different brush strokes and techniques to create their own paintings in the style of Paul Gauguin.



Year 6

Year 6 completed their refugee artwork and wrote recounts showing the journey of a refugee.



Evacuee recount.

Aqsa

In 1941 while the war was happening, I (Naomi Jane) was twelve years old and living in London. I was living with my older twin siblings Alex and Alexa, my cat called Limbo and my parents, Mr and Mrs Jane. Everything was amazing except Nazi's bombing us at night which made it hard for everyone to fall asleep. I never thought a war was really going to happen. Alexa and I loved to play hide and seek just to get our minds off the Germans bombing innocent people trying to live a happy peaceful life in London.

A few weeks after, we had been taken by Mom to the park to cheer us up. Suddenly, a man who looked important told us to leave. There was an air raid. We ran, we ran quickly, we ran rapidly, but it was too late. It actually happened. Crash! Bang! kaboom! The contaminated air of burning wood wafted around us. Grasping, staggering, hobbling: brickwork was smashed; the air smoldered around me and the ground dissolved as if it was paper being scrunched. That's when everything went black... the last thought I had was, was this the end?

By Ali-Raza

Term Dates:

SPRING TERM 2023	
Opens	Wednesday 4th January
Half Term	Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February
Ends	Friday 31st March (Finish 1pm)
SUMMER TERM 2023	
Opens	Tuesday 18th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 1st May
Half Term	Friday 26th May—Friday 2nd June (Inclusive)
Ends	Wednesday 19th July (Finish 1pm)

Dates for your diary:

- * **Monday 20th February**— Multi-Sports Club starts again (for those who have signed up)
- * **Monday 20th February**— Choir Club starts again (for those who have signed up)
- * **Tuesday 21st February**- 'Bring a Grown up to Lunch'— 3RM
- * **Tuesday 21st February**— Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights Check
- * **Tuesday 21st February**- Athletics Club starts again (for those who have signed up)
- * **Wednesday 22nd February**— Hockey Club Starts again (for those who have signed up)
- * **Wednesday 22nd February**— Lego League starts again (for those who have signed up)
- * **Thursday 23rd February**— KS1 Home Learning Café— 9am and 5pm
- * **Sunday 26th February**—Deadline to sign up for 'Bring a Grown up to Lunch'- 4CM
- * **Tuesday 7th March**- 'Bring a Grown up to Lunch'— 4CM
- * **Wednesday 8th March**— KS2 Home Learning Café— 9am and 5pm
- * **Tuesday 14th March**— Year 3 Thinktank Museum Trip
- * **Thursday 16th March**— Year 5 Singing Day— The Cresset
- * **Tuesday 21st March**- 'Bring a Grown up to Lunch'- 4MW (form to be sent out 3 weeks in advance)
- * **Friday 31st March**— Last day of term (children go home at 1pm)