



EYC and Class Blogs

Early Years Centre

Our children in the EYC have had a busy term and have been enjoying their time spent outdoors. They were excited to see that the rainbow carrots and the potatoes which they had planted before the summer were now ready to harvest. They washed them, cooked them and then enjoyed eating them for lunch.



The arrival of a new mud kitchen as well as a new 'water wall' have added to their enjoyment outdoors and the mud kitchen has seen some tasty snacks produced....mint soup, carrot cake and leaf pie 😊. The recent heavy hail showers led to some exciting icy play outdoors and Samuel said our mud kitchen was now "an ice kitchen".





The children enjoyed their first ever visit to the Mobile Library van and were very excited to choose their own books to take home to share with their families. All of our children show a real love of books and stories and the staff are delighted to support and encourage this.



Our EYC staff were delighted earlier this month to be invited to the Scottish Learning Festival to share some of the fantastic learning which had taken place with the Virtual Nature School. We are really lucky in Barrhill to have nature right on our doorstep and we look forward to spending more time exploring it over the coming weeks and months.

Mrs McKie, Mrs Kosak

P1-4

P1-7 Fridays

Team Building Challenges

The children in P1-7 are delighted to be able to work together again. Every Friday they take part in a range of outdoor team building challenges. We have 'Team Jimmy,' The Pandeems' and 'The Lazor Beams.' These names were carefully chosen by each team and were based on the children's interests and similarities. By working as a team to complete the challenges, the children are developing important life skills such as problem solving, listening, leadership, and creative thinking, as well as, developing their confidence, self-esteem and social skills.

Each team has used a range of loose parts to make: a teddy assault course, a bridge, a ball run bonanza, a waterproof shelter and a toy car racetrack. All challenges have specific success criteria that must be met and the teams are scored accordingly.







Buddy Reading

It has also been lovely to see the older children reading to and with the younger children during our weekly Buddy Reading sessions.



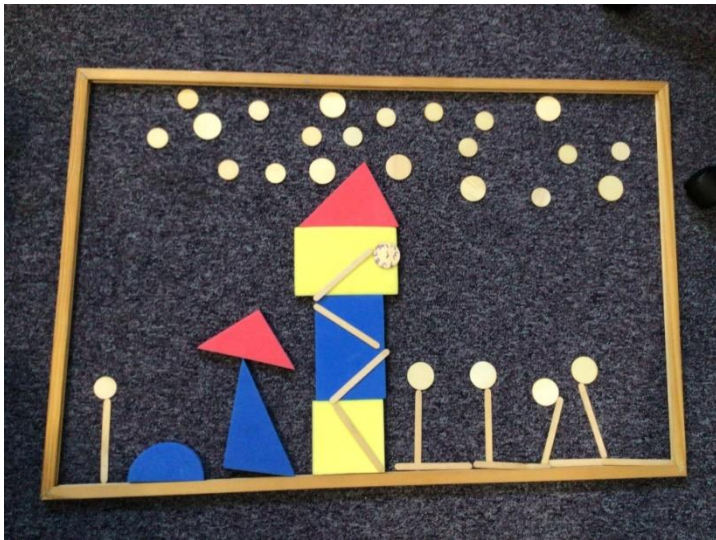
P1-4

Numeracy and Maths

Maths is fun!

The children in P1-4 have been learning about 2D shapes, repeat patterns, tiling and symmetry. They have explored these concepts through a range of fun and practical activities with some fantastic results.

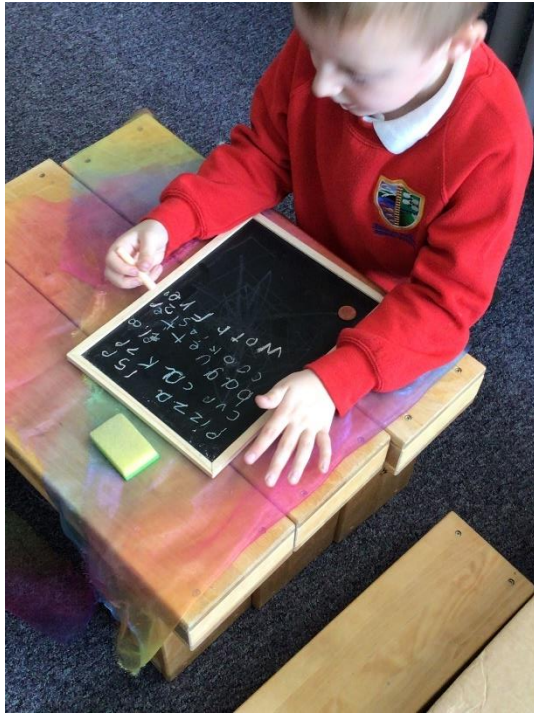




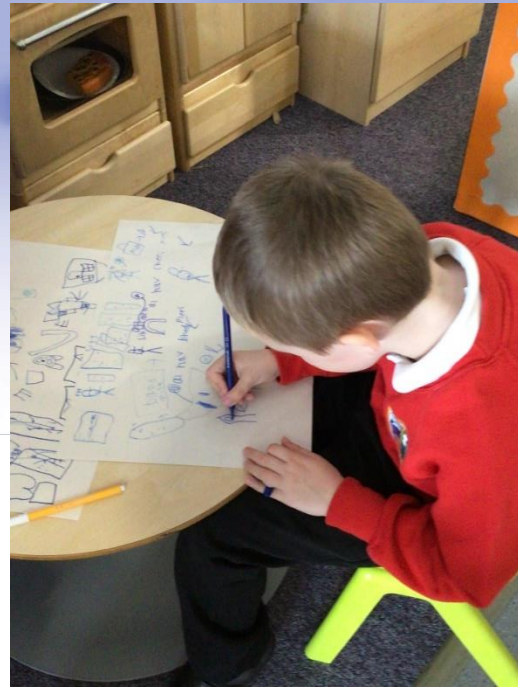
Play is the Way

P1-4 led their own learning when they created their very own Barrhill Shop. They worked together to bake, decorate and price a range of delicious cupcakes and biscuits, solved the problem of building tables to fit in the area available and wrote a menu for their customers. Mrs Logan thought the customer service was excellent and highly recommended the vegetable soup. The staff in the shop were very polite and were super at adding, subtracting and handling money. This was a fabulous learning experience for everyone!





Literacy Talk for Writing



This term we are implementing Talk for Writing. P1-4 are learning to write a journey story using this creative approach. They have internalised the story of 'Little Charlie' through role play activities, actions, walking the story, drawing story maps and comprehension activities. As P1-4 have learned the story word for word, they have developed their understanding of specific sentence structures and language patterns that suits a journey story. They are now exploring different ways that they could change aspects of the original story of 'Little Charlie' to make a 'new' story to tell orally. The principle is that if a child can tell a story, they will be able to write a story. Talk for Writing is a very supportive approach and gives the children the confidence to use the skills that they have learned to 'have a go' at writing independently. We have wonderful story tellers in P1-4 and we can't wait to perform our stories for you!

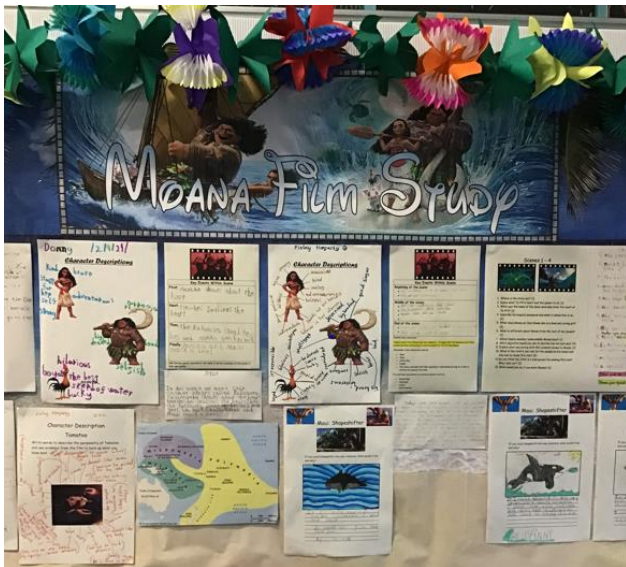


Mrs Logan

P4-7

Moana Film Study

P4-7 pupils are thoroughly enjoying their film study of 'Moana'. So far, we have created our own Kakamora (coconut pirates), answered comprehension questions about scenes from the film, analysed the music, explored the main characters, created super pieces of writing and even made a lava monster! We will soon be writing our own film reviews.



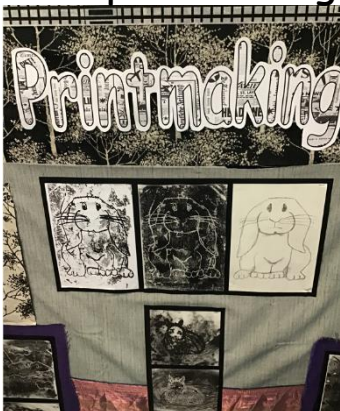
RME

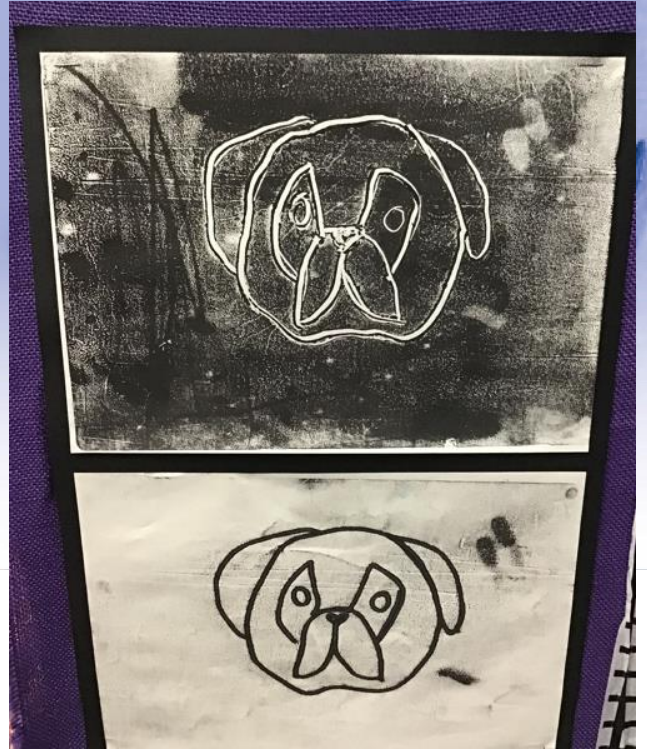
This term, we have been learning about Jewish celebrations. Our favourite one has been the Jewish New Year 'Rosh Hashanah'. We learned about Jewish traditions during this religious festival and enjoyed sampling apples and honey which is a symbolic food eaten during this time.



Art

During art lessons, P4-7 pupils have been learning a variety of printmaking techniques. So far, they have created a range of mono-prints, styrofoam prints and beautiful leaf prints. Each pupil also has their own art sketchbook to record and reflect on their learning. The next printmaking technique we are going to explore is collagraph.

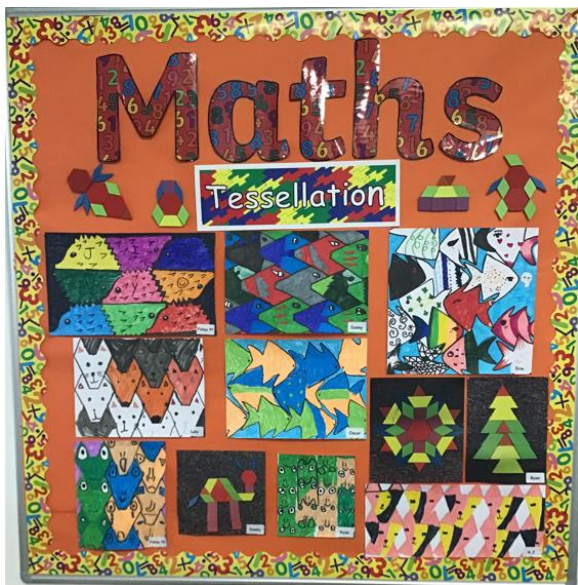
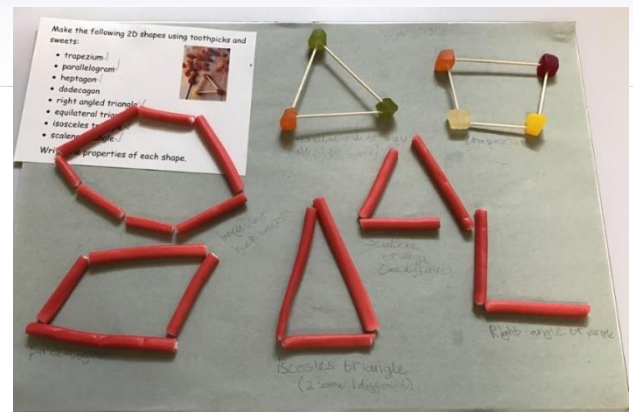
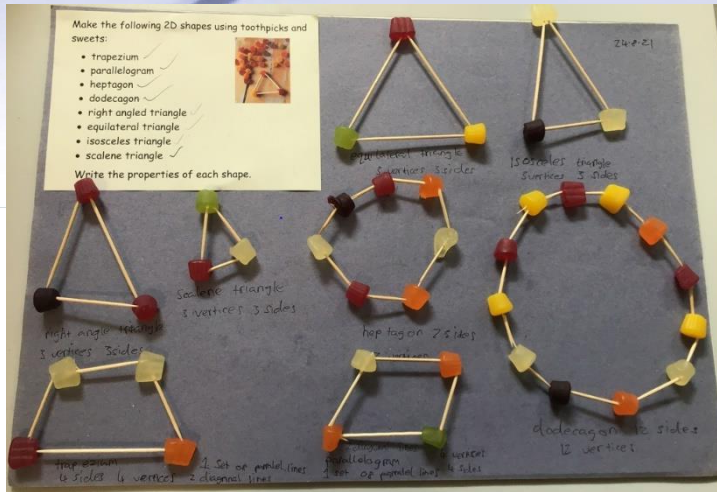




Maths

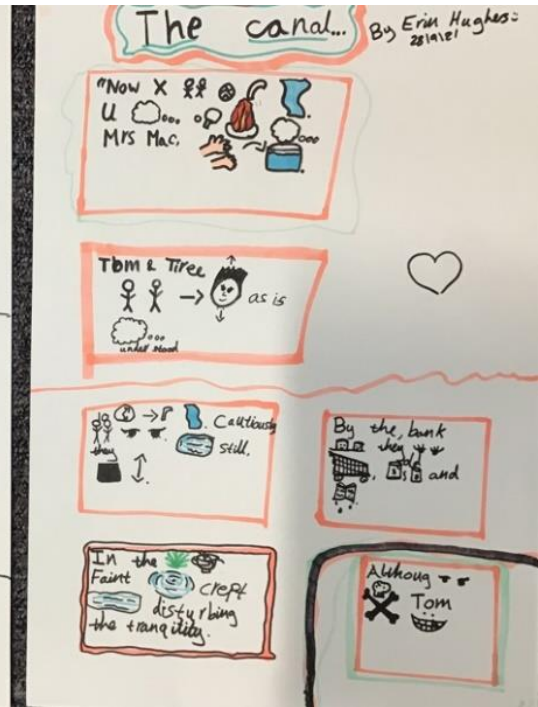
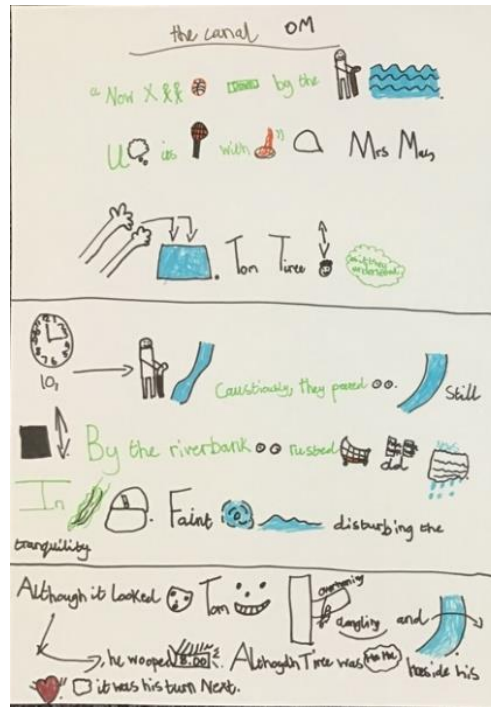
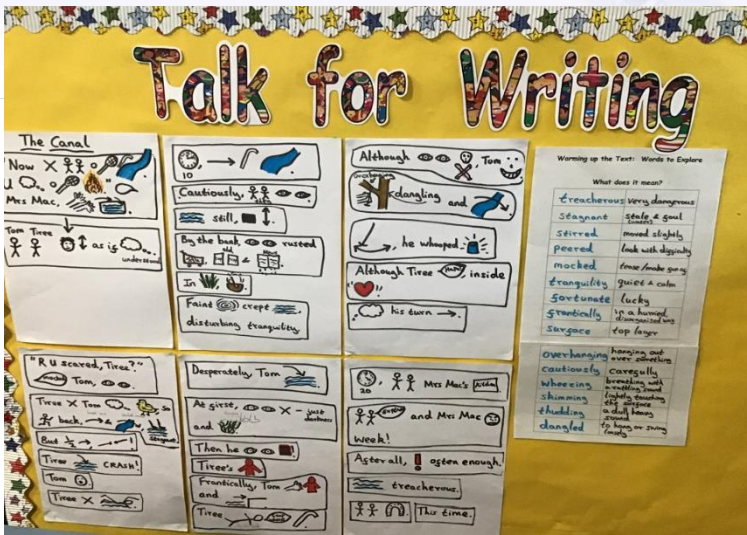
This term, we have explored a variety of maths topics. One of our favourites has been shape. Pupils completed a variety of practical tasks to learn about 2D and 3D shape including creating 2D shapes using sweets, constructing 3D shapes from nets, creating a 3D shape village and drawing our own tessellations.

We have learned the names and properties of some very advanced 2D and 3D shapes!



Talk for Writing

As a school, we have started a new approach to teaching writing called 'Talk for Writing'. In the P4-7 class we are focussing on learning to write a warning story. The story we have been learning is called 'The Canal'. It is about two young boys who have been warned not to play down by an old canal, but they do it anyway and something goes wrong. We have been re-telling the story using text maps we have created ourselves and we have now learned the entire story. Next, we are going to write our own warning stories.



Desk Pets

Have you heard about our new and exciting desk pets? If children work hard in the P4-7 class, individual pupils can earn desk pet points. With these points, they can adopt a desk pet and trade their points in for accessories such as a home, a car, a skateboard, food or a blanket for their pet. We absolutely love our desk pets!





Music

We have been very lucky this term to be taught how to play the glockenspiel by our music specialist, Mr Welsh. Mr Welsh teaches music to P4-7 pupils both online and in person. The children are currently learning to play 'When September Ends' by Greenday. They sound amazing!



Rights Respecting School Silver Award

We are delighted to announce that we have successfully achieved silver accreditation for the Rights Respecting School Award. Our staff and pupils have worked extremely hard to achieve this award and we are looking forward to receiving our banner. To celebrate, all children in the school had a silver themed party. We had a wonderful time and the chocolate cake was delicious!

