



The Windmills News

Issue 7: 28th March 2023

www.windmills.w-sussex.sch.uk

Another exciting month—power cuts, strikes, visits to London, dance performances, football competitions and 17 netball matches! No wonder we are all ready for an Easter break.

Over the last few weeks we have been focusing on our school value of respect—we have been giving the children counters every time they are seen doing something respectful to really reinforce this key value. Last week, the children collected 1802 counters. Each class brought their counters to assembly and we filled up the respect jar. A team of volunteers then grouped the counters into 10s in order to speed up the counting procedure. I always knew that our children are incredibly well behaved and this just proves it.



This was further confirmed by an incredible email that I received whilst still on the way back from London where we had visited the Science museum with Year 5.

Dear Mrs Murray,

I am currently sat on a very busy Thameslink service from London to Brighton surrounded by pupils from your school. I just wanted to let you know what an absolute credit they are to your school. Extremely quiet, polite and courteous. If only all my fellow commuters were this well behaved!

I might add that your teaching staff are holding it all together with aplomb.

With many thanks to the school for producing such good citizens. Your teachers certainly deserve a relaxing weekend!

Yours sincerely, Tom

The children were incredible and the trip was just brilliant.—more detail on the trip on the following pages.



All hands on deck to make 90 packed lunches when the power went out—the children loved how different it was.



After working tirelessly for 2 terms, the Dance Squad had the exciting experience of performing at Downlands and watching other dance groups. This year's theme was Dance Around the World and they choreographed not

one but TWO dances to share. The first was inspired by the migration to America in the late 1800s and energetically performed the George Ezra's 'Gold Rush Kid'. The second showcased different styles of Indian dance including Kathak, Bharatanatym and Bangra which the dancers had worked on in collaboration with Downlands' Dance Leaders.

I'm so proud of the commitment and perseverance the dancers showed to learn and remember both dances. Their behaviour and enthusiasm was exemplary. They were a joy to teach and take to this experience.

(report by Mrs Taylor)





Girls Football – ESFA South East Finals

On 22nd of January, The Windmills Girls Football Team travelled to Dartford to compete in the South East, English School Football Association finals (sponsored by Pokemon).

They are the county champions of Sussex and were therefore representing the whole county in this tournament. After a long but relatively painless drive to Dartford, we arrived at a superb footballing facility with a perfect 4G pitch ready to host the event. There were definitely some nerves in the camp as we all knew that this would be a significant step up in standard from the three previous tournaments that the girls had won. Needless to say, when

the games started the girls were completely focused and ready to go.

Our first game was against the Middlesex county champions and was an incredibly tight contest. It was immediately clear that the teams in these finals were going to be more physical and very well organised. The girls battled for the full 12 minutes, fighting for every ball and desperately trying to carve out a goal scoring opportunity. The game ended in a 0-0 draw, which wasn't the worst start as it gave us a point in the table.

The second group match was against the Suffolk representatives. This again was incredibly tight but the girls were getting into their stride. For the entire 12 minutes, they did everything but put the ball in the net. It seemed that every chance was more of a half chance and creating openings was incredibly difficult. We pinned the opposition in their half for the vast majority of the game but just couldn't find that winning goal. A second 0-0 draw and a second point in the table.

The third and final group game followed exactly the same pattern, this time against the Inner London champions. This was the most physical of the three group games; both sides were going all out for the vital win and neither were willing to give an inch. Both sides created chances, again only half chances, but neither could find the decisive goal. This meant the game finished 0-0 once more, leaving the team with 3 points overall and 3rd in the group table. This meant that the girls incredible football journey was over, however they still finish the season as Sussex County Champions which we couldn't be any more proud of and the furthest any team has travelled, both in terms of the competition and as players.



Thank you so much to all of the parents who drove the girls for Dartford and supported them on the day.

Pokémon Primary Schools' Cup

The Pokémon Primary Schools' Cup is the largest primary-aged schools' cup competition in England, with over 5,000 school teams and over 50,000 children taking to pitches across England to play in this huge tournament.

The U11 Schools' Cup, U11 Girls' Cup and U11 Small Schools' Cup competitions provide a pathway for teams to progress through three rounds of competition. The top 24 teams will have the opportunity to travel to the National Finals, where the National Champions will be crowned. The competition embraces and promotes the ESFA's "15 Benefits" of schools' football, including but not limited to –

- Providing opportunities to develop positive relationships
- Helping children to feel they are part of a team
- Providing a sense of pride in representing their school
- Teaching respect
- Building resilience





What a bumper month it has been for netball—we have entered 3 competitions. All in all, we have played 17 matches. We won 9, drew 2, and lost 6—scoring 30 goals and conceding 16.

The teams were just incredible—showing amazing team spirit, positive attitudes, determination and enjoyment. They grew as individuals and as a team and worked hard to support each other— especially when things got tough. They grew in confidence as well as learning from other teams and individuals.

On the morning of the 1st March the B team picked up their bibs and headed over to Downlands, followed in the afternoon by the A team—it was bitterly cold but we soon got warmed up as the excitement of the tournament took over. The results of all matches are below. There is not enough space to write a report on each event. Win, lose or draw the team did their best every match. Then on Wednesday 22nd March a year 5 team were lucky enough to have a break in the weather to go and play in a Girls Bee Netball Festival at Burgess Hill School for girls. None of this would have been possible without our fantastic coach Chantelle Martin and our Downlands

Downlands B team - March 1st am				
Windmills	1	St Wilfrids HH	0	w
Birchwood Grove	0	Windmills	3	w
Harlands	0	Windmills	6	w
Southway	0	Windmills	2	w
Semi - finals				
Windmills	1	Blackthorns	0	W
Finals				
Windmills	0	St Lawrence	2	L

Downlands A team - March 1st pm				
Birchwood Grove	4	Windmills	0	L
St Wilfrids HH	1	Windmills	0	L
Windmills	0	Northland Wood	2	L
St Josephs	0	Windmills	2	W
Harlands	1	Windmills	1	D
Windmills	2	Bolnore	2	D

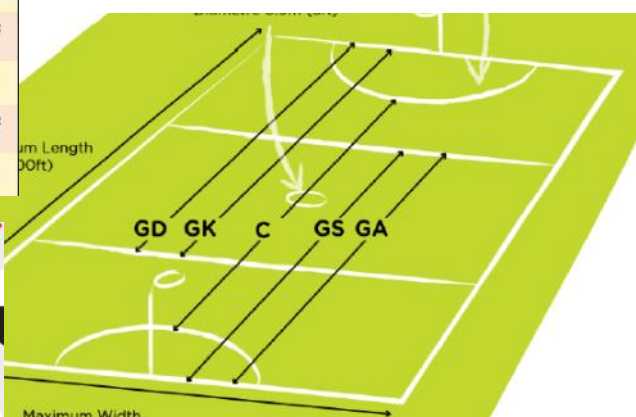
sports leaders
Abbie and
Emma who
help to train
the team.

Burgess Hill Yr 5 Girls - 22nd March				
Windmills	2	Burgess Hill (1)	0	w
Harlands	3	Windmills	1	L
Windmills	5	Ditchling	0	w
Burgess Hill (2)	0	Windmills	4	w
Windmills	0	St Lawrence	5	L

Bee netball is designed to ensure that players are learning all the positions of netball whilst having fun. Every game the children take up a new position so they develop a much better understanding of how the game is played as a whole and learn how to attack and defend. This means all your team need to learn exactly where they can and can't be—it would throw most adults!

Great job teams! I cannot praise you highly enough: Bella, Farrah, Daisy, Jessica, Elly-Rose, Aidan, Joshua, Harrison, Payson, Elizabeth, Olive, Elena, Ruby, Eli, Sam, Zach, Maya and Sofia who took part in the events and did Windmills proud.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Boy/Girl	Off	C	GA	Off	GD	Off	GS	GK
2 Girl	C	GA	Off	GD	Off	GS	GK	Off
3 Girl	GA	Off	GD	Off	GS	GK	Off	C
4 Girl	Off	GD	Off	GS	GK	Off	C	GA
5 Girl	GD	Off	GS	GK	Off	C	GA	Off
6 Girl	Off	GS	GK	Off	C	GA	Off	GD
7 Boy/Girl	GS	GK	Off	C	GA	Off	GD	Off
8 Boy/Girl	GK	Off	C	GA	Off	GD	Off	GS



SCIENCE MUSEUM

To enhance and bring alive their space topic, on Friday 17th March, Year 5 visited the Science Museum. After lots of preparation, the children and teachers set off on the train to London Blackfriars. We then took the tube to South Kensington and had a short walk to the museum. The day was jam-packed and the children made the most of every minute. The 'Exploring Space' exhibition on the ground floor was a sight to behold and the children immediately got started on a treasure hunt, finding objects around the room. This ranged from the giant Apollo II to perhaps the strangest object, a 'space nappy'! Having rockets in front of you was just awe inspiring.



We also climbed to the very top of the museum to experience the brilliant 'Flight' exhibition, full of fascinating aircraft and aeronautical inventions. We were also lucky enough to experience an educational show - Mission to Space - which was filled with amazing experiments, rockets and demonstrations of rockets flying with the help of some pyrotechnics!



It was fun to learn about space and how astronauts are flown there.

Harry



EXPLORING SPACE



Did you know? There are plans for a spaceship to take a group of astronauts to the moon in 2025.



Looking inside the Apollo's 11's control panel.



Yuri Gagarin - the first human being to journey into space.

I liked finding a piece of moon rock. I couldn't believe it was from the actual moon! **Tilly**



Apollo 11



It was amazing to see what they actually use to get to space. I had a go at trying to screw something together with space gloves on but it was so hard! We also went upstairs to see the replicas and real planes. **Tom B**

MISSION TO SPACE



Mr Potato head's insides came outside when he went up in space! That is what would happen to us!



I enjoyed the trip because we learned a lot of new things during the show. I also enjoyed the hunt for the museum objects too. **Jack R**

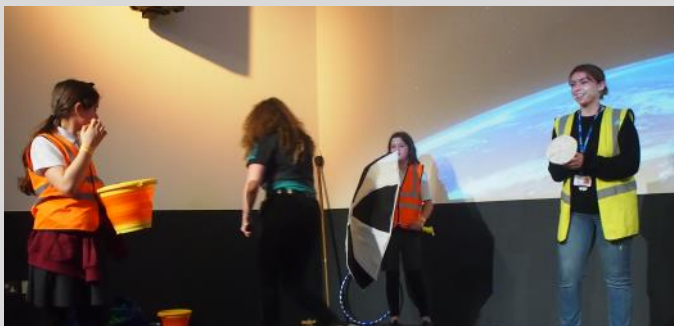
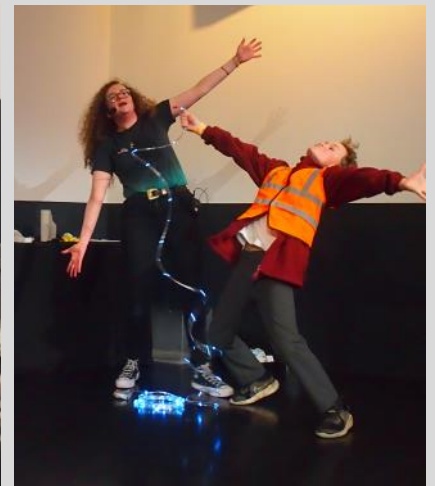
The science trip was one of the most fun things I've ever done. We got to go round on a treasure hunt for cool things like jets or space food. One of my favourite parts was definitely the show. Some of us got to join in as well as learning all about the planets. **Ellie R**



SPEED OF LIGHT

SCIENCE MUSEUM

I found it very interesting when we saw the sun get exploded with real fire! I also found out that when you look at the stars you are actually looking at the past. **Lucas 5L**



FLIGHT



I found it **very** interesting that some of the planes that were hung from the ceiling were from World War I and II. **Harry B**



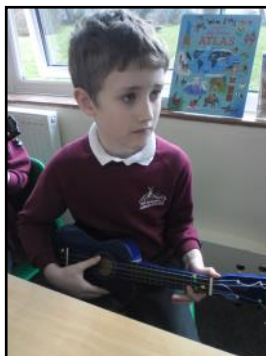
We had a fantastic time and despite a rainy start to the day, we were treated to this glorious view on our way home. We can't wait for our next school outing in the summer term! We want to say a huge thank you to the staff who worked so hard to make this trip happen and to our parent volunteers too. Without you, this would not have been possible.



MUSIC AROUND the school

Year 3 have been continuing to learn the ukulele. They have been strumming and playing the chords C and F to join in with songs like 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight', playing in unison as a group.

I like that ukuleles have different notes and make calm noises. I can play C on the ukulele and I'm learning to play F. **Amelie 3G**



What I love about the boomwhackers is when we play along with a song and it makes a lovely tune. **Anya 4RT**

In Year 4, it's all about percussion! The children have been playing the cups along with various backing tracks such as 'I'm Still Standing'. They have also used the different coloured boomwhackers to play notes within an octave.

I enjoy boomwhackers because I'm really into Music and I am already an artist. Also, it's really fun watching the videos and playing along with my friends.

Luke 4RT

Year 5 have enjoyed learning to play African djembe drums. They have learned patterns and followed call and response rhythms. They learned that the outside of the djembe is high pitched and the inside creates a lower pitched sound.

I enjoyed doing African drumming because we had fun, learned how to play African djembe drums and it made a nice sound. **Jack R 5C**



I enjoyed playing the African drums because the noise was exhilarating like a heart beat and the texture was smooth and gripping. **Mae 5C**

YEAR 6—It is the turn of 6M to learn the tenor horns, taught by our visiting brass teacher Mr Roff. Each class has a term of learning this exciting instrument, playing the notes B, C and D and accompanying backing tracks in different musical styles.

I enjoyed learning the tenor horn. In my city in Ukraine we don't have tenor horns. It was new for me and we had interesting lessons every Thursday with our lovely (and a little bit funny) teacher. **Karolina 6M**



I really enjoyed the tenor horns because it's something I have never done. I found out how to make a sound and how to play all the keys, which I really enjoyed. I really liked it and I recommend it. **Theo 6M**



At The Windmills we absolutely love singing and it has been an absolute joy to be able to run choir again and



hold singing assemblies. Every Tuesday, the 80+ choir get up extra early to come and learn new songs and be part of our singing community. This year we decided not to take part in the Young Voices choir (still too many unknowns in September when we needed to decide). So instead we learnt some of their best songs, and a few other favourites, and worked with choir to put on a performance for parents. I hope the performance brought as much joy to those watching it as it has to all of choir. Huge thanks has to go to Mrs Scott who promotes music and singing throughout the school and to Mr Burton who supports both choir and singing assemblies. A great team. Thank you both so much for all you do to ensure that children can take part in these experiences.

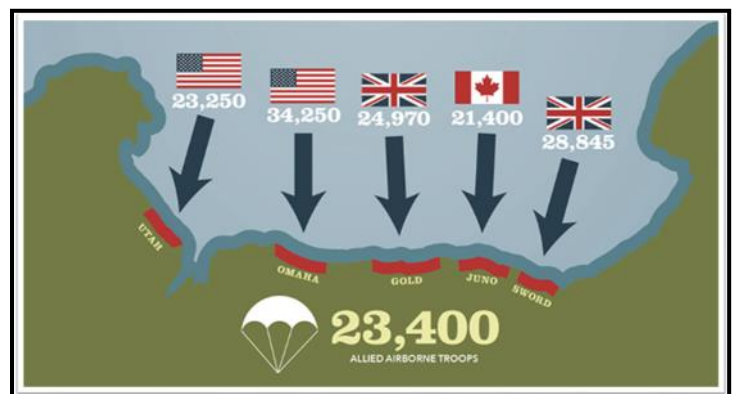
Apart from just being great fun there is a lot of scientific research about how good singing is for children's development (and adults). Research has found that musical experiences in childhood can actually accelerate brain development, particularly in the areas of language acquisition and reading skills as well as improving concentration, memory and stamina as you focus on remembering the words keeping in tune and following the melody. Not only is it good for your mental health and mood, but research has shown that singing can actually help build your immune system and it is an aerobic activity. Singing builds self-confidence, promotes self-esteem, engages the emotions, promotes social inclusion, supports social skill development, and enables young people of different ages and abilities to come together successfully to create something special in the arts. All of these reasons are key in why we promote singing so much as a school—it is good for the mind, body and soul. We can't wait to sign up to 02 Young Voices next year.





With regret, Year 6's learning about World War II has reached its conclusion, but what a term of learning we have had. Starting off in a ravaged Germany at the end of World War I, we have since studied the rise of Hitler, Britain's inevitable decision to declare war and three extraordinary turning points in the course of the War: Dunkirk, The Battle of Britain and D—Day (the most important turning point will be decided next week!) D Day was the beginning of the end of the War and this time, things felt a little different for the Allied forces as America and Canada were there offering their support. With these mammoth nations by our side, the employment of sneaky deception tactics and the fact that Germany were already fighting on the Eastern Front against the USSR, this time it felt different. Victory was within touching distance, wasn't it? It was, and within a year or so of the D—Day landings, Germany surrendered and Victory in Europe was ours. How sweet that victory tasted. Below are some extracts of the children's writing where they explored these key events:

I think that one of the major reasons for the Allies' success at D-Day was that on the Eastern Front, Germany was locked in a desperate struggle to defeat the Soviet Union which they had foolishly invaded without dealing with the United Kingdom first. As a result of all this, D-Day was critical for the Allied victory at the end of the War. Louie 6F



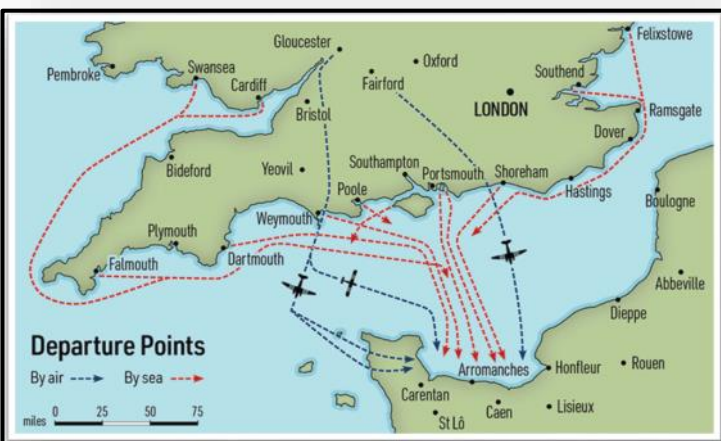
After Japan did a sneak attack on Pear Harbour, America, the U.S.A joined the allied side of the war. This had a very strong impact on the outcome of D-Day. America, Britain and Canada tricked the Nazis into thinking that they would attack on the shortest route. The Allies attacked on a more southern route. This left Germany no time to come back and defend so that allies took the land back. I believe this is when the war started to go wrong for Germany. Farrah 6F

D Day was the start of Operation Neptune— a smaller part of Operation Overlord. D Day was the beginning of the end of the War. It was a plan to land allies on five French beaches to quash Hitler's power and regain France and other European countries. Britain, Canada and the USA tricked Germany in to thinking that they would land on other beaches—this was called deception. Germany were fooled and it worked. The allies finally had a way into Europe where we could fight the Germans, free the countries controlled by the Nazis and release the Jews from the concentration camps. Serena, 6M

D Day was an operation (Operation Neptune) to land on beaches in France. The Allies deceived Germany which made them move to another area of France so they didn't have protection on the right beaches. This meant that we had a bigger chance of getting into France. We invaded five beaches; Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.

By the end of the day, we had pushed the Germans back and the Allies were also able to free some Jews from camps after pushing back through France.

Marissa 6R



I think D-Day is important because it marks the end of the war. Also, many people died. They did it by tricking the Germans into thinking they would land on different beaches to the ones they did. All of the beaches had codenames. They were: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. This mission was called Operation Neptune. This was the largest military operation of air, land and sea. Millie 6B

D Day
6th June 1944

■ German controlled territory



I think D Day was super important in the war. We planned to leave on the 4th June 1944 but there was bad weather for two days so we had to leave on the 6th June instead. Operation Neptune was to land American, Canadian and British troops on France's beaches. Operation Overlord was to push the Germans back and free captured land and countries. We managed to deceive the Germans by sending out fake messages which tricked the Germans to go to the wrong beaches.

British troops landed on Gold and Sword, Americans landed on Utah and Omaha, and Canada landed on Juno. It was a great success. Felix 6R

D-Day was an operation to push back the Nazis out of France and try to regain it. There were 5 beaches that forces from the UK, America and Canada tried to take over.

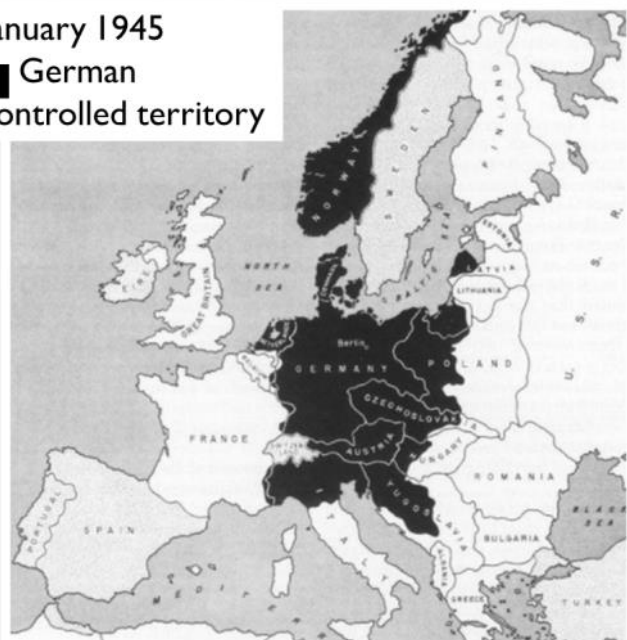
D-Day was very important as it gave the allies a way into Europe so they could start to free occupied countries. This was the worst time for Germany to get into a fight because they were warring with Russia too. They had to split their troops so they could fight Russia and the Allies at the same time.

This is a reason why D-Day is considered the beginning of the end of the war. Jack 6B



January 1945

■ German controlled territory



Year 4 science workshop

Earlier this term, year 4 had a close encounter with solids, liquids and gases when Dr Francis visited to share a special workshop all about changes of state.



I loved making ice cream because we saw the cream turn from liquid to solid. **Matthew 4RT**



In the science workshop I put melted chocolate in a flower shaped mould. It turned into solid chocolate and I ate it! **Arabella 4F**



We were experimenting with turning liquids into solids. The liquid was cream and we ate it after it froze. It was delicious! **Blake 4F**

I liked the science workshop because I like getting inspired about what jobs I might like to do in the future. I loved learning about solids, liquids and gases. Because of the science workshop, I now want to be a scientist.

Sophie 4RT



Doctor Francis shot an air blaster through some steam and made a ring. It only dispersed when it hit a solid. I got hit in the face. I loved it!

Ludo 4RT



My favourite fact was that ice makes you cold because it sucks the energy out of your hand.

Rufus 4F



Dr Francis explained that the states of matter can change from this to that. For example, water is a liquid and it can freeze into ice, which is a solid.

Poppy 4ET

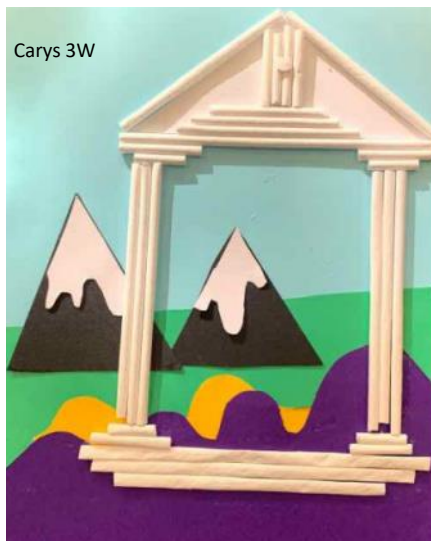
I learned that when you hold ice, it takes the energy out of your hand and puts it into the ice, which melts it.

Jake 4ET



This month during Art, Year 3 have been very excited to produce their own **relief collage**. They have had to use their skills and understanding from other areas of the curriculum when producing these brilliant works of art. Using their mathematical knowledge of symmetry and lines, they thought carefully about their design and how best to create an authentic Greek temple picture enhanced by different textures and colours. We think you will agree they have done an inspired job!

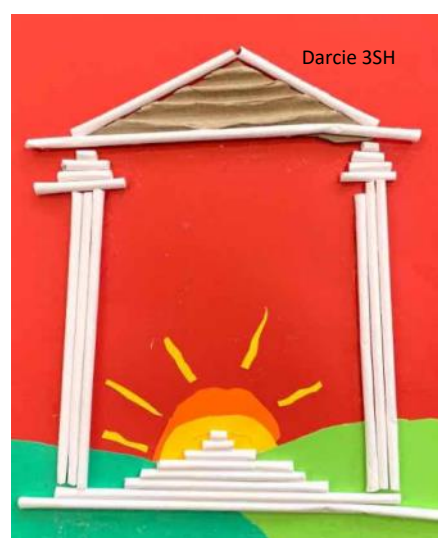
Carys 3W



Nate 3SH



Darcie 3SH



Amelie 3G



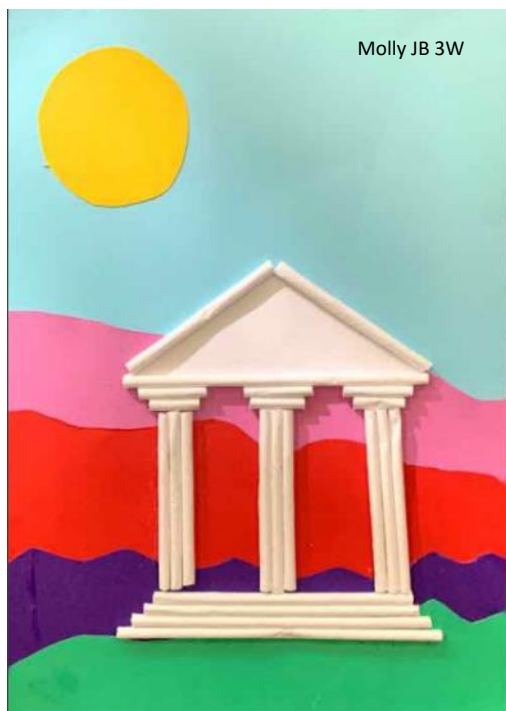
Finley 3SH



Penelope

Sore

Molly JB 3W



Soren 3W



Lydia 3G



In coming to the end of their thrilling topic, Meet the Greeks, the children have been contemplating some important questions. One of the most interesting, has been: Was Life fair in Ancient Greece?

To answer this question, the children became immersed in the information about this. They read about it, listened to information and watched a video. Most importantly, they acted like, and were treated as Spartan or Athenian boys and girls. It helped them to be in the shoes (or sandals!) of children in ancient times and imagine what life would have been like. Let's read what some of the children thought about this conundrum.



L: Was life fair in ancient greece

Holly 3SH

I don't think life was fair in ancient greece for these reasons.

Slaves

Life is not fair for the slaves because they did all the work and didn't get any money! Drachma!

Men and Women

All of the men where allowed to go the assembly. The women where not allowed to vote or go to school.

Olympics

Only the men not the women where allowed to compete in the olympics.

Ben 3SH

L: Was life Fair in Ancient Greece

I don't think life was fair in Ancient Greece for these reasons.

Boys were allowed to go to school but only the rich people could vote because the women were working in the house. even the girls had to stay at home because

Slaves were not allowed to vote in the assembly because they are working in peoples houses. They didn't even get any money because all of the things they did was a drachma.

L: Was life Fair in Ancient Athens?



I think life was fair/not fair. These are my reasons.

Liv 3G

Wealth and Poverty

1. Not fair slaves tried there best and got nothing.
2. Not fair because rich people made all the rolls.
3. Not fair because all poor people did not get a lot.

Men and Women

1. Boys can only go to school and girls can not go to school.
2. Boys can only vote girls can not vote.
3. Boys could only be slaves girls could cook at home.

Slaves

Carys 3W

I think that it was not fair for the Slaves because they weren't allowed to talk at all to anyone. Their owners would decide to cut their long hair or not because it is a sign of slavery.

Jobs

Only men were allowed to have jobs so the women had to do jobs inside the house and look after the children at home. The men did jobs like Teachers, builders, and soldiers.

Olympics

Just men could compete in the Olympics but there was one game that women could compete in. When you were practicing you could wear pants but when you were actually doing the game you had to be naked covered in olive oil.