

The Windmills News

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Bank holidays, King's coronations, trips out, visits – so much to celebrate in this half term. The children excelled themselves with the FOWs bake off challenge and they absolutely loved dressing up for the day and taking part in a year group playground party—we were blessed with the weather. More on this on the next page.



Thank you so much for everyone who contributed to the parent survey, it was great to hear from so many of you. Your views and opinions are valued and have been discussed by governors and the senior leadership team and shared with staff. **We are delighted to share with you that:**

- 99% of parents say that their child is happy at our school
- 100% feel safe
- 94% pupils behave well
- 97% my child does well at this school
- 95% stated that when they have raised a concern that this has been dealt with properly
- 99% would recommend this school to another parents

It has been so brilliant to have so many more opportunities to invite parents into school this year (Friday assemblies, learning sessions, attendance at workshops and discussion evenings, performances and events run by FOWs) this has made a positive difference. We aim to continue to build on this strong partnership. Do remember that if you ever have concerns or want to talk about something that we welcome this, senior leaders are visible on the gate every day and it is great to have conversations with you then or book in an appointment. Teachers are also available to talk at the end of the day or a longer conversation can be set up when needed.

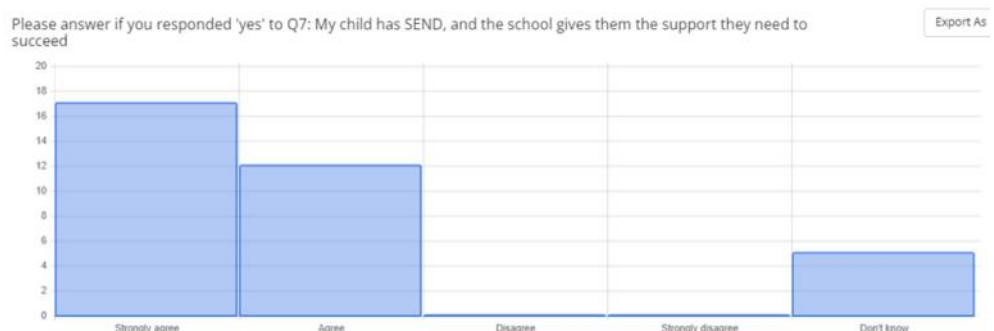
I also wanted to share with you some good news about the Autism in Schools Project which has developed our awareness of Autism as a community. We are really excited to say that as a result of the hard work from the school community, we have been awarded the Bronze Autism Aware Award.



The following strengths were identified:

1. Outstanding support for the “All about me” group and their wishes to share their lived experience. You will find the video the children created on [our website](#)
2. Additional support for parent carers of SEND pupils including additional parents’ evenings and hosting of mini parent carer forum.
3. Good links with Hassocks Infants to plan and support good transitions for autistic pupils from KS1 to KS2.
4. Good use of pupil special interests to support pupils’ access to the curriculum.
5. Staff have responded positively to training and adapting practice including adapting classroom environment and giving more time to process.

Improving SEND provision is a key part of our school improvement plan and it is great to have the success of this work acknowledged. A huge thank you to all our staff for all they are doing to ensure that every child thrives with us because we know them well and their needs are met. This was echoed in our recent parent survey :





For the bake off competitions 6 children were selected to judge each year group (not their own year - e.g. Year 6 judged year 3). There were 24 judges in total. The judges were impressed by the incredible quality of cakes, one of them stated "some of them were just outstanding in their detail and creativity - one even looked like it shone as if it was real gold". Each judge chose one cake that they thought looked the best (for that year group). Then everyone tried a small slither of all six cakes and gave it a rating out of 10 – the highest overall score one. The cakes had to look good and taste good.

"I had to think about each and every bit of the judging – what I liked about it and what I didn't – so that I could make a fair decision," explained Libby.

"Judging was a great experience because I hadn't done anything like it before – I felt responsible for making a fair choice. I really enjoyed eating the cakes they were incredible," Daisy-Mae said.



Year 3
1st- Finley Mowatt 3SH
2nd- Clara Smith 3W
3rd- Tabitha Bell 3W

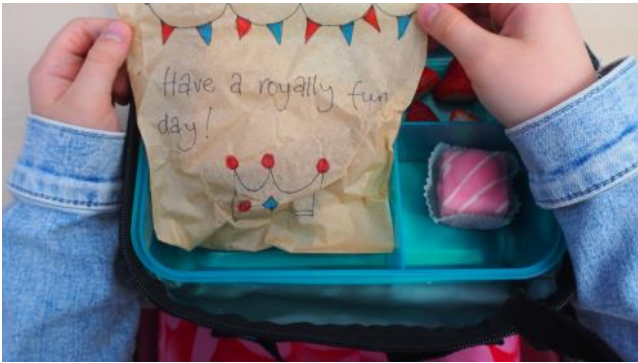
Great job to everyone who made a cake.
FOWs raised £300 for the school. And a special congratulation to:

Year 4
1st- Alina Harper
2nd - Josie Taylor 4RT
3rd-Tilly Sparasci 4ET

Year 5
1st- KP 5L
2nd - Aiden Potley 5L
3rd- JH 5L

Year 6
1st- Sophie Simmons 6M
2nd- Marissa Woolley 6R
3rd- LT 6R







Yr5/6 Cricket Tournament—On Thursday 18th May, our cricketers travelled to St Johns Park in Burgess Hill to take part in the Burgess Hill and District Yr 5/6 cricket tournament. The first thing to report is that the weather finally played ball; the children were presented with the perfect afternoon for cricket.

The first game of the 'round robin' was against Southway. This was a great way to begin as the sides were reasonably well matched. Both sides bowled well resulting in lost wickets, this ended in a narrow defeat for Windmills. The next game was a completely different story against Manor Field. The Windmills team dominated the game from start to finish, scoring freely and taking plenty of wickets to restrict the opposition total. This ended in a comfortable win for Windmills. The third game was against the strongest team that we faced, St. Lawrence. All credit to St. Lawrence as they have a very talented side, however our children certainly did not give in. They braved the quick bowling and persisted when bowling against some outstanding batting. St. Lawrence ran out quite comfortable winners but this was a great learning experience for our team.

The second round of matches were against the same three sides and the results were exactly the same, although the margin of defeat was close in the St. Lawrence and Southway matches. A fantastic afternoon of very competitive cricket was had by all and, as always, our children represented our school superbly. Thank you to the parents for help with the transport and supporting and to Mr. Winter for running the team on the afternoon.

Swimarathon on Good Friday—During the Easter holidays a team of children went to take part in a swimming competition. Thank you so much to Kate Finch for taking the children and sharing the below report with us. It was absolutely fantastic that the children had this opportunity and excelled in their team work and determination. We are so proud of them.

The children were competing against 80 other teams of which they were the youngest. The children were impeccably behaved, polite, keen, enthusiastic and supportive of each other and the team. The two year groups did not know each other but instantly supported and encouraged each other to do their best.

Before the start of the relay the children had made a collective decision to aim for 100 lengths. With a huge amount of effort and determination they reached the 100th length in the last 40 seconds of the race. The spectators were on their feet cheering for them and I was blown away by their ability to manage the last 15 lengths by becoming even faster.

One of the organisers approached me at the end to say he had never seen such an exciting race and determined children. The Team raised £350 for local mental health charities. Huge congratulations and thanks go to:

The children were Thomas Smyth, Fox and Harry F from Y5 and Billy, Olive and Ellie from Y6.



Ardingly Football Tournament

Our all-conquering girls football team travelled to Ardingly College on Wednesday 17th May in a bid to defend their title from the previous year. The girls were greeted with immaculate pitches as well as snacks and drinks to get them through the afternoon. The girls played two opening group matches which they won comfortably. These were followed by a far tougher challenge against local rivals, St. Lawrence. This was an excellent game and the two teams were quite evenly matched. The girls got a breakthrough about halfway through the game and didn't look back, eventually



The girls cruised through their last group game and then knew they were into the semi-final. Windmills dominated this game from the outset and ran out comfortable 4-0 winners putting us into yet another final!! We had already guessed who our likely opponents would be and we were right, another local derby against St. Lawrence.

The final started off reasonably tight but after again finding a breakthrough, the girls went from strength to strength and comfortably ran out winners. They were therefore crowned as Champions (again!!) – undefeated and no goals conceded all afternoon! We are all so proud of this team and they were recently all awarded an Outstanding Contribution to Sport award, being the most successful sports team in the school's history (as far back as anyone can remember anyway!). This was the final outing for this wonderful group of children. They have been an absolute pleasure to work with and spend afternoons with up and down the country at various tournaments. We all sincerely hope that the girls will all carry their love of playing football into secondary school and beyond and they have been fantastic role models for our younger girls who are looking to get into football.



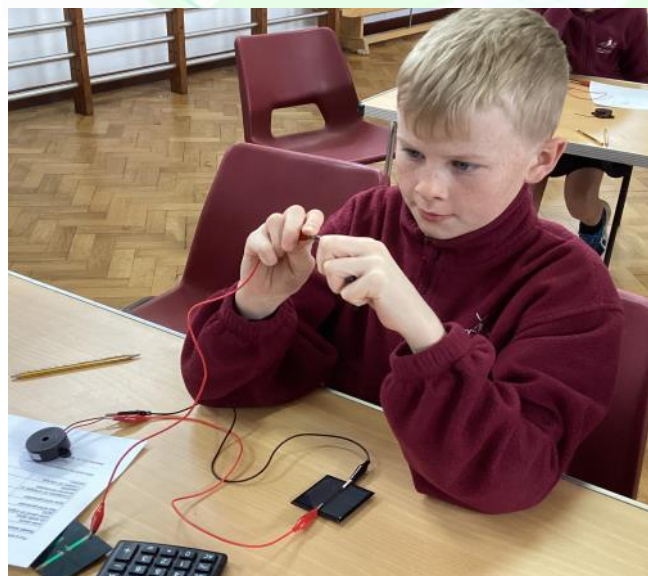
Ardingly Football Festival

On Friday 19th May, I had the pleasure of taking 10 different girls to Ardingly College for a morning of football drills, skills and games. The morning is part of a huge drive to increase participation in girls football. There were 18 schools participating which was just fantastic to see. Our girls took part in various drills from chipping a ball into a bucket to learning different turns to shooting from distance. Needless to say the loved every minute of it! The morning was finished off with some games. The Windmills girls were split into two teams and played against other primary schools as well as one secondary school! They did fantastically well and grew in confidence after each game. Even though this was a non-competitive festival, the girls still took this opportunity to show just how determined and passionate they are about playing football, winning most of the games they played.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the parents that dropped off and collected from Ardingly. Although I do not extend my thanks to the parking marshal who sent us all to completely the wrong place!!! I sincerely hope that all the girls had a great morning; they represented our school perfectly and were an absolute pleasure to spend the morning with.

YR 6 SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Solar panels, wind power and lemons! Just some of the incredible ways that year 6 used to create electricity in an amazing science workshop about renewable energy. This is a key learning within our environmental project.



I really enjoyed the science visit because we learned many amazing facts about electricity and the ways it can be created such as hydro-electric power. This is where a huge amount of water is released which pushes a wheel round to create electricity. We learnt other types of renewable energy.

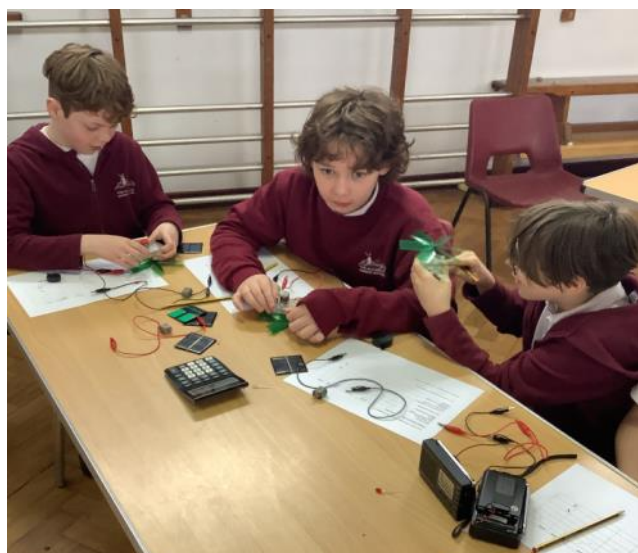
Also, it was very good fun trying to make different devices work using a variety of techniques.

Harrison P 6R

We made energy by using solar panels to make light. We also tried to make a calculator work. I found out that the closer the light is to the solar panel, the brighter the calculator was. Pippa 6R

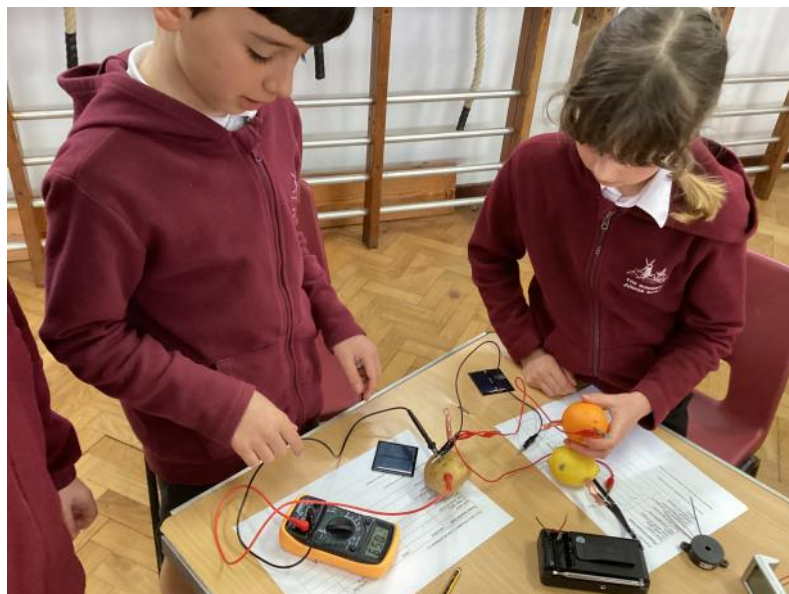
I liked we used the solar panel and the buzzer because when there was more light, the buzzer was louder as it had more electricity. Albie 6R

We discovered that oranges, lemons and potatoes could be a substitute for batteries. Rhys 6R

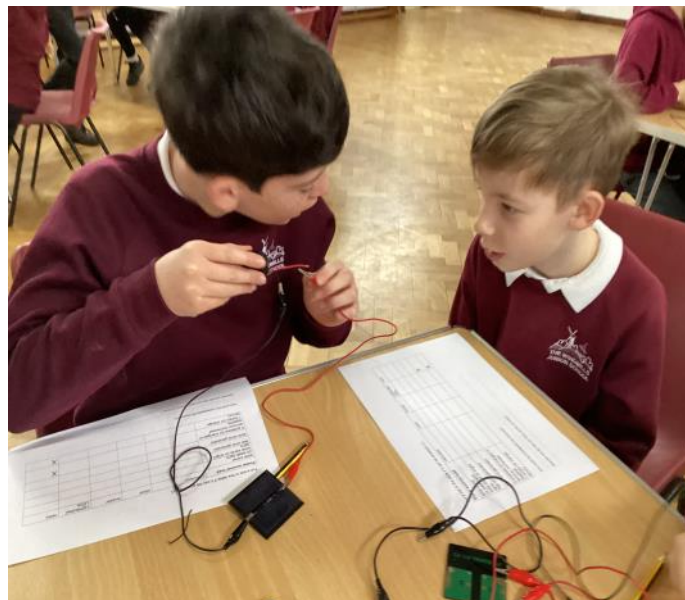


On science day, we used different objects to generate energy. They were solar panels, wind turbines and even lemons attached to oranges! We used that energy to power lights, radios and giant calculators. Overall, I really enjoyed my day. Harrison, 6M

On science day, we experimented with circuits that included components such as lightbulbs, potatoes, lemons, oranges and a fan. We used radios and buzzers too. What a great day! Riley, 6M



I enjoyed switching the batteries for fruit and seeing if they would power certain things such as calculators, clocks, radios and bulbs. I also liked linking the circuits up and seeing what it could power if we switched something. Penelope 6B



I really enjoyed doing the science workshop and finding many different ways to make energy. Whilst we tried to get the machines to work I really enjoyed trying to get the radio to work, before the lesson I never knew you could use a potato for energy. I also got the wind turbine to spin when it was next to the fan. Yam 6B

Many thanks to FOWs for funding the science workshop which really does enrich the children's learning opportunities with fantastic hands on experiences.



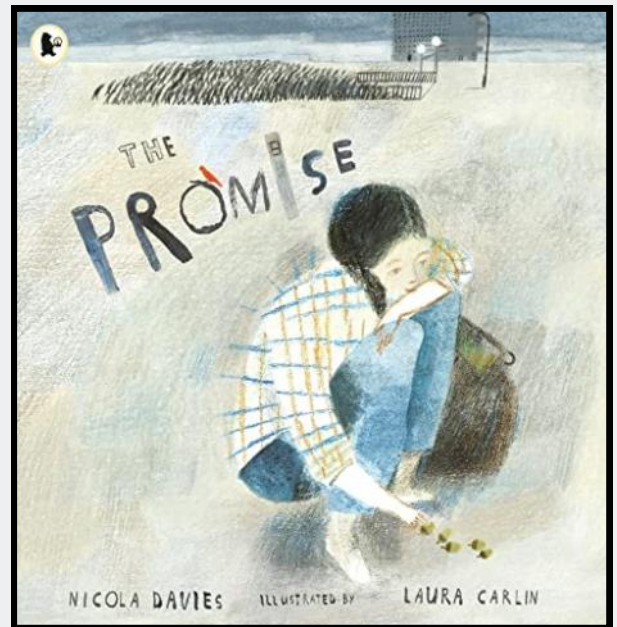
I enjoyed the science day because we got to use different tools to power loads of different items. With the tools, we powered lights, calculators and many more items to experiment with. Joel 6M

I enjoyed taking part in the science workshop because we learnt about a lot of different things like how we could power a calculator with a fan, solar-panel and even potatoes. It was very interesting and I had a lot of fun doing it. Glen 6B



Year 3 started the Summer term with looking at the inspirational text, 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies.

The story tells of a homeless and desperate young girl who makes a promise to plant seeds all over her dark and gloomy city. She keeps her promise and her heart is opened as nature brings happiness and joy to the people who live there. We thought about the power of hope and positivity. This resonated with our school values. We learned how to paint a vivid picture with our words, and began to use some figurative language in our writing to make our descriptions really come to life!



The city was dark and gloomy, like the back of a cave. The park was dark and dusty with abandoned swings. Beside the tall, crumbling towers were abandoned homes of people. A mean and ugly girl lived in the shadows of a tall tower.

ISLA 3SH

The city was horrible, ugly and dusty. The bridges were crumbling and creepy, looming over the people that were bustling around it. Under the bridges were boats that took people to and from places. The girl was mean and horrible, her clothes ripped and tattered. Her face was scratched and bruised.

SOREN 3W

Once there was a cold and cracked city with buildings that were only grey and dark yellow. A train rumbled over everything. In it lived a mean girl. She stole from everyone. **VALENTINA 3SH**



The city was ugly, mean and hard. It was black, grey and white. It never rained and never gave life to nature. All the cramped buildings stood in front of everything, just leaving shadows. A big bridge towered over the gloomy cars and roads making darkness arrive in the city. In the city lived a lonely girl. **CARYS 3W**

The buildings rose to the sky like a concrete jungle. A rusty, old car lay upturned in an alley. A dark, pale girl lurked behind it.

THOMAS 3G

The city was grey and glum with litter everywhere. Buildings were grey and black, cars moved slowly and people never smiled. Trains rattled on the bridge above their heads. In the city lived a girl who was mean, hard and ugly.

HARRY 3G



Carefully, the girl opened the bag. Acorns! A feeling of joy swept over her. She planted them here, she planted them there. She spread the seeds by the rusty, old train track. She scattered them over the roundabout. She poked the seeds in more and more places and then she understood the promise. She planted them in people's gardens to brighten them up. She tossed and threw and scattered...and then she waited.

WILBUR 3SH

Carefully, the girl opened the bag. Acorns! A feeling of joy swept over her. She planted in car parks. She poked acorns in the ground within wastelands. She popped seeds in to the earth on the rooftops of houses. Then she waited for hours on end.

SAM 3W

The girl planted wherever she could think of like rooftops, balconies and roundabouts. She scattered under tall bridges. She planted in the middle of dusty, old roundabouts and on high balconies. Then she waited.

FLORENCE 3G

The girl planted the acorns after the promise she had made. She put them everywhere. She planted near train tracks and near vents, pipes and under bridges. Then she waited, waited and waited until it started to bloom. **ALICE 3G**



One frosty morning, early, before anyone was up and awake, one flower opened its petals for the first time ever. Then suddenly that one flower turned into an explosion of colour, sweeping throughout the city like a wave, blossoming as the minutes danced by.

REUBEN 3SH

The white beautiful flowers rose from the ground. Beautiful flowers with pink and purple petals flooded the city. Green trees burst out into a forest. The people gasped excitedly.

3SH

Suddenly a lot of colour exploded across the city like a wild fire spreading across buildings. The flowers were dancing in the wind. The people gasped and gaped and danced and smiled.

ADAM 3W

A burst of colour infected the city, rooftop by rooftop. The trees blossomed and danced, the leaves skipping to the ground. Around every building there was a burst of colours. The people had a smile on their faces for the first time in ages.

RONNIE 3G

One sunny morning, flowers started to bloom. Green plants stretched across tall, gloomy buildings. Trees filled with colour flooded the streets. Vibrant flowers grew among the railway tracks. The people were amazed at how much colour there was.

ALFIE 3G

P.E.

Year 3 have been enjoying some great PE this term. We have been really working hard on improving our athletic skills including throwing, jumping, running and skipping. In addition, we have had some super coaching from University of Brighton PE students which has helped us to improve our skills for fielding games. We are so lucky to have such amazing spaces to practise in as well! It's great to keep fit outside!



Butser Ancient farm is nestled in the Hampshire countryside. On Friday 12th May, Year 4 visited to see the replica Celtic roundhouses from the Iron age and the Roman villa to compliment the learning we have been doing in school. Throughout the day, the children were fully engaged in the rich experience and from the historical information that they learnt from the very knowledgeable staff at Butser. We examined how these houses were built and tried our hand at the ancient craft of cordage (used for binding thatched roofs). We constructed walls of wattle and clunch and even practised our archaeology skills.



Due to the rise in travel costs this year we were worried that we would not be able to justify the expense of this trip. We really wanted the trip to go ahead because you just can not replicate the hands-on experience in school. FOWS stepped in and made it possible by contributing to the cost. Our heartfelt thanks to FOWS for their contribution and making this trip possible.



Henry: I really enjoyed getting muddy and sandy from the archaeology. I found a bone and a door hinge in my square area.



One of the objects that I found was a pickaxe. I think the Romans might have used it to chop up wood to help with their building. Everybody had a section to work in to uncover as many treasures as possible.



Iris: My favourite activity was being an archaeologist. We dug in sand with trowels and found interesting things like bricks, metal and bones, and had to work out what they were once used for.



Scarlett: At Butser Farm, I really enjoyed making a wall out of straw, two handfuls of mud and smashed up pieces of chalk.



Anya My favourite parts of the day were when we made a wall out of homemade clay, dug up tools from under the ground and petted the animals.



Sophie: We met the famous goats from the Horrible Histories movie!

I fed them some grass and they munched it out of my hand. After lunch, we had to be really careful because if the goats ate any plastic, they would get very sick.



George: My favourite activity was helping to build the Celt-styled wall. We started by hammering up some chalk and mixed it with mud, water and straw.



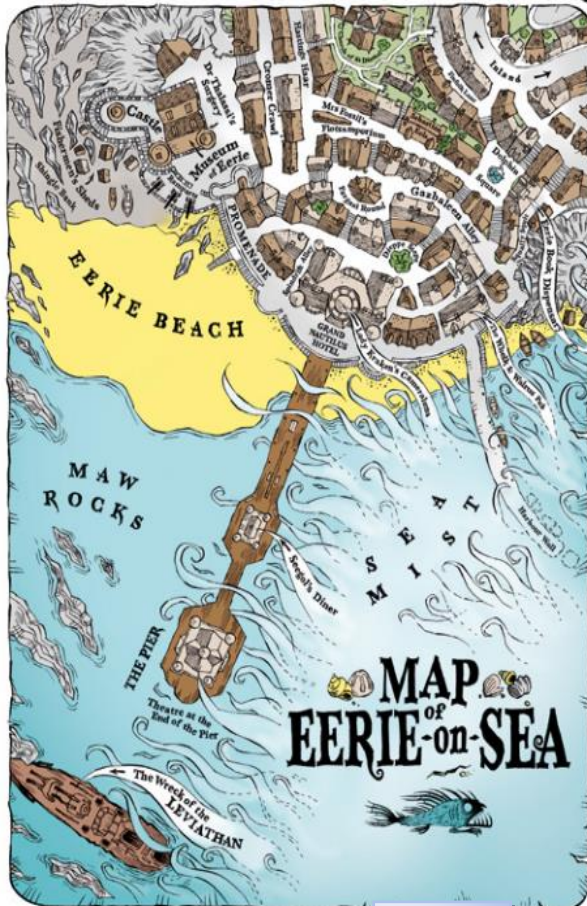
Ella: I found out that the Celts chopped down trees to build walls. They used them to make fences for their animals, like Tyson the baby sheep, and to make round houses. I loved being allowed to stroke the animals at the farm.



Rufus: Once it all got mixed up, the expert handed it out to all of us and we moulded it into burger patty shapes. We then put the mixture into the wall frame to build the next layer. Finally, we cleaned our hands on the grass (not our clothes!).



Year 5 welcome you to Cheerie-on-Sea...



In Year 5, we have been reading the book *Malamander* by Thomas Taylor. It is much loved by both the adults and children and has provided us with lots of wonderful writing opportunities.

Over the last couple of weeks we have been focussed on writing a brochure, persuading people to come and visit this wonderful holiday destination. The children were able to choose whether to highlight some of its key locations as they would appear in the summer, when it is well known as Cheerie-on-Sea, your everyday seaside town. Or they chose to represent Eerie-on-Sea, a place that, if you could be persuaded to visit when the 'first winter storms blow in, when the letters "C" and "H" blow off the pier', you may well come across the infamous Malamander. But he couldn't possibly be real, could he? The children's writing is incredibly persuasive and convincing. Have a read, do they make you want to visit this mysterious seaside location?



Keira 5C

Cheerie-on-sea

Do you ever just want to get away? Let all the stress fall off your shoulders and go on your dream holiday. Well, welcome to Cheerie-On Sea where the fun never ends. This positive town is full of fun, from the amazing shops right down to the intriguing theatre at the end of the incredible pier!

Cheerie Book Dispensary

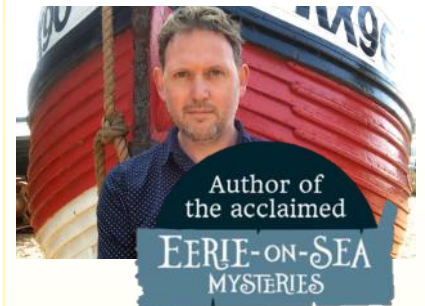


In the Cheerie Book Dispensary, which is in fantastic dolphin square, you'll find magnificent books that you will never see in any other book shop in the world. Jenny Hanniver runs the Cheerie Book Dispensary with love and care so if you want a well looked-after book, just pop down to her shop. She is certainly the loveliest lady you will ever meet in Cheerie. She will welcome you into her shop with a heart warming smile. But on special

MRS FOSSILS FLOTSAPORIOM



Are you a lover of weird and wonderful things? Well Mrs Fossils Fotspotremam is the place for you! Mrs Fossil is the best beach collector in town. From seaglass to coprolites she will have it all. Interesting plastic bags cover the aquamarine, fish themed wallpaper, whilst old cameras are colour coded on driftwood shelves. So wander along Gazbaleen Ally and visit Mrs Fossils Fotspotremam.



We are so excited to have the author, Thomas Taylor coming to visit Year 5 and 6 on the 12th June!

To find out more about Thomas Taylor and his incredible series of books, go to:

<https://www.thomastaylor-author.com/>

Ivy 5B

Cheerie on-sea

Welcome to Cheerie-on-sea, a wonderful place full to the brim with mysteries left unsolved. Home to the great novels: Malamander, Gargantis, Shadowghast and Festergrim. Why not experience first-hand the mystery of the malamander? The ancient tale of the sea creature which lays an egg every year. You could try beachcombing and have a look yourself.

If that doesn't take your fancy, perhaps something more jolly like a visit to Dr Thalassi's Cheerie Museum or Miss Fossils Flotsamporium would suit you? And if you begin to feel hungry, you

could stroll down across the pier and have a portion of chips from Seegol's Diner. If that isn't enough, then you could make

your way down to Jenny Hannniver's Cheerie Book Dispensary.



Cheerie-on-sea!

Welcome to Cheerie-on-sea. It's a wonderful place to visit. The beach has soft sand that tickles between your toes. The sun shimmers down onto the sea which makes it as blue as the sky.



There are loads of things on offer like the AMAZING Book Dispensary, Seegol's Diner, Dr Thalassi's Museum and the theater at the end of the pier.

As well as these interesting places, you can also learn more about the history of the Malamander. You must visit Cheerie-on-sea. It's magical.

The pier!

Do you want a nice day which takes your mind off everything that's happening back at home? Well then the pier is the right place for you. There is a lovely view of the sea and little fish swimming around. Plus there are a few rides that might make your trip be the one you remember. Also I'm sure you will love being on top of the sea because it feels like you're flying.



Don't miss this once in a lifetime trip. Book your stay today. So contact the Grand Nautilus here at .

@GrandNautilus.com#BESTPLACE

Lily 5C

The Cheerie Book Dispensary

The Cheerie Book Dispensary is a mystical place full of magical items and the mermonkey is a perfect example of this. Its creaky mechanism gives the impression of metal ironwork but on closer inspection you may even believe that it's alive! It will give you a number of a book, maybe not a book you want but a book you need. And yes it types in the code itself!

Barney 5C

Eerie book dispensary

At the Eerie book dispensary you will be stunned by the amount of books on the shelves climbing the walls of every floor. There are four floors and three rooms in each.



In the opening room you will first be surprised to see a very unusual

The Eerie Book Dispensary

This magnificent library is where the magic happens and where the book chooses you. When you enter this mystical book shop you'll be greeted by the beloved cat Erwin. The locals say at night this place comes to life.

So come to the eerie book dispensary and maybe you'll see something a little bit eerie.



The Grand Nautilus Hotel

Visit the grand nautilus hotel, the best luxury hotel in town. Do you like lavish five star meals prepared by gourmet chefs or luxury furniture? Then you'll like the Grand Nautilus hotel! Where the fun never ends!



Kingsley 5L

mechanical mer-monkey sitting next to a tall stack of color coded books. Put a coin in this magical monkey's hat and get ready for a loud screaming sound. What happens next? You will have to come here and find out.



Arthur 5B

Mrs Fossil's Flotsamporium

In Mrs Fossil's Flotsamporium you will find ancient artefacts that will blow your mind! Mrs Fossil's has pictures, pots, chandeliers, you name it. As you walk down the endless aisle you will see all the fantastic things she has discovered. If you do not come you will miss seeing things that are from world wars, to planes, and even razor sharp shark teeth. Would you want to miss that!



George 5B

GRAND NAUTILUS HOTEL



As you step through the grand doors you will undoubtedly be amazed by the sleek, marble staircases and intricately carved patterns engraved into the walls.

Joe 5B

Seegol's diner

After a long week it's nice to settle down and eat some good food. Which is why you should go to seagol's diner, the best fish and chips restaurant on the south coast. Its gourmet, freshly caught fish comes goes well with a generous portion of chips lathered in vinegar and showered in salt. This diner has been recommended by the locals for over half a century and even though they might have to hike across the pier through 20 mph winds to get to it but they will still come!

Alfie 5L



Seegol's Diner

Feeling peckish? Head to Seegol's Diner for the best food on the south coast. Perfectly salted chips with a crispy golden batter to fill your appetite, you will not be disappointed in their lovely gourmet fish and chips. Freshly caught then delivered to your plate. While you enjoy your delicate beautiful meal you can gaze out and admire the blazing golden sun.

Cheerie Book dispensary

Fancy a quite relaxing place to just read and chill the Cheerie Book Dispensary is the place for you but it's not like any other library out there its unique. Its the book that chooses you. A mystical mechanical meremonkey will provide you with the book of your dreams just for the small price of one pound so why don't you take a peek inside, I'm sure you'll love it.



Aidan 5L

CHEERIE ON SEA

Ever wonder if there was the perfect seaside adventure for you? Well why don't you come to Cheerie On Sea. This beachy haven will definitely satisfy all your needs and its wide array of shops and restaurants makes it sure tourists won't be disappointed.



Plenty of history to explore will certainly keep you occupied and if you're feeling active, why not engross yourself in our sport clubs with football, cricket, water sports on offer and much more.

Another thing you must put on your to-do list is to find out about the enticing legend of the Malamander. Souvenirs are on offer at the Museum of Cheerie run by the kind-hearted Dr Thallasi.

The Grand Pier

The first sight you must see is the Grand Pier, which stretches far out, reaching for the Leviathan. As you walk along the sturdy wooden planks, past the joy and laughter in the arcade, you must take a peek inside.



Finn 5C