



P2CE

P2CE had a wonderful time when they visited Consett Library, looking at lots of different books and sharing stories with adults. We are all loving our class text this half term 'The Pig in the Pond' by Martin Waddell. We use props to re-tell the story and our favourite part is when the pig jumps into the pond with a splash.



P2A

We have had a very busy term in P2a. For our set text this term, we have thoroughly enjoyed reading and exploring our set text 'Joan Proctor the Dragon Doctor'. We all loved learning interesting facts about Komodo Dragons and finding out the different jobs Joan did while she worked at London Zoo during the war. In Science, we have been learning about fossils, soil and rocks. We especially enjoyed taking part in a range of different experiments in class exploring different types of fossils, we have also been detectives exploring the different materials and creepy crawlies we found in different types of soil! We have also had lots of fun going Indoor rock climbing and snow tubing, getting nice and messy in stage 3 of Attention Autism carving pumpkins, making messy Christmas tree pictures, and practicing hard for our Christmas Performance this year. Class staff are very proud of all the fun, hard work and progress all of our pupils have made this term. Merry Christmas!



HEADTEACHER COMMENTS

It has been a very busy term as we have been getting out and about again. We've had some fantastic visitors too: Durham Light Infantry Collection, Buddhist Performer, Authors and more professionals to support with careers from Durham Works. It is with great sadness however that we are losing Rachael Richardson as she retires. We wish her well. All at Villa Real would like to wish you a happy Christmas and a peaceful and health New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on 5th January.

With Kind regards
Jill Bowe

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Governors have enjoyed being in school this term speaking to Key Stage leaders and teachers, looking at how pupils have progressed in the last year, and how staff are continuing to progress the curriculum over the continuing year. Alongside the official visits we have also enjoyed the Christmas fair and celebrations. It was lovely to see all the parents, carers and families enjoying them too. We are also delighted to be able to announce new governors who will be joining our governing body. Councillor Kathryn Rooney has begun working with us. In the process of joining are Rev Jamie Daniels, a pastor from Consett, Mrs Caroline Spence, a Finance administrator, and Mrs Kate De Vall has been elected to our 2nd parent governor position. We all look forward to working together in the New Year. We would like to thank Mrs Sarah Barker who will be stepping down, to allow her time to develop reading in the classes. There will be more on the governors in the new term. I am sure you would want me to thank all Villa Real Staff for their commitment to your young people, and to wish them a very happy Christmas. Best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year!
Suzanne Bailey, Chair of Governors

SCHOOL NEWS



Villa Real Remembers
Students have been learning about Remembrance Day and why we remember those who died at war. Classes have also been making poppies, dressing up and visiting the Consett War Memorial. The school has also produced a lovely Remembrance display.

Many thanks to David and Kate from Consett Gas who again supplied our Christmas Tree this year.



VRSA NEWS

A huge thank you to everyone who donated raffle or tombola prizes, bought raffle tickets, or attended the School Christmas Fair. It was a great morning and raised over £1600 which is amazing. Thanks also to the parents and staff who worked hard to make it happen. Our next VRSA meeting will be in January and new members are always welcome.



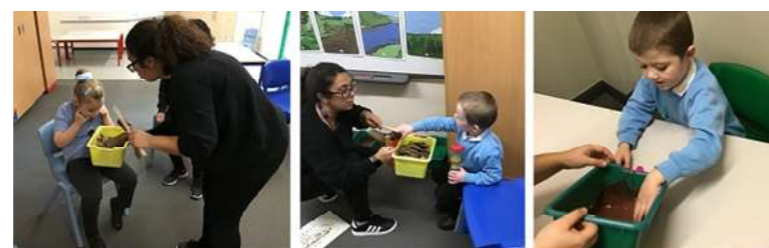
P2

P2 have had a very busy term preparing for Christmas. We had a fantastic day snow tubing at Whickham Thorns, the children showed such independence and enthusiasm. We have also enjoyed exploring different textures and tastes in our science lesson. On Remembrance Day we explored what life was like for the soldiers and families.



EYFSA

In EYFSA we have laughed and worked very hard, from learning all about our senses in science to lots of reading. Our class story this term was 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We have loved exploring the different scenarios and using our senses: going through the grass, splashing in the river, playing with the leaves in the forest and even practicing throwing snowballs but one of our favourites was definitely the cave, the narrow gloomy cave. We have also had lots of fun taking part in some messy Attention Autism sessions this term. This is one of our favourite parts of the day!



P1A

P1A have really enjoyed working on the story 'Who is in the Egg?' within literacy and science lessons. Over the half term, the boys have increased their anticipation of the resources and are much more willing to use their senses to explore each item representing the textures of the nest, sand, tunnel, snow, ice and sticky mud.

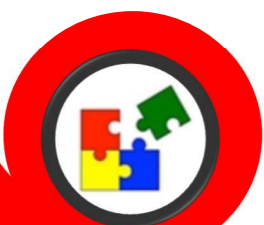
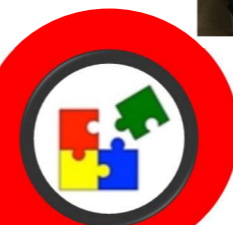
The nest in the sticky mud.



The nest in the desert.

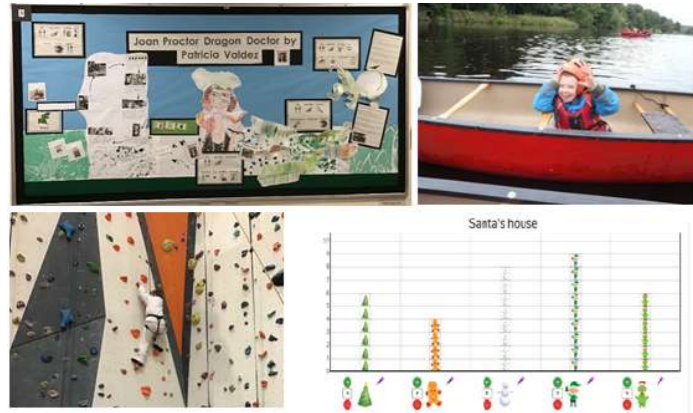


The cold, snowy, icy nest.



P3

In P3 we have as always enjoyed our set texts; 'Joan Proctor Dragon Doctor' written by Patricia Valdez and 'So Much!' by Trish Cooke. Linking to these literacy themes, we have made reptile paintings or made prints with small world lizards, built sentences about the characters and some have researched Komodo dragons. We have experienced many Outdoor Education days; canoeing, river walks, climbing etc. We have explored Victorian life, rivers and for some beginning to read maps and use compasses along with building up sustained physical activity. Each day enjoyed by all. As Christmas approaches, we have begun practises for our Christmas performance, singing songs and learning our parts. We have also brought Christmas into other subjects such as building Christmas themed pictograms or designing Christmas wrapping paper in ICT.



S1A

S1A celebrated Remembrance Day with a visit from DLI who brought costumes from that era, the class had great fun trying them on but also remembering fallen soldiers. We have spent time completing well-being activities and raising awareness of Mental Health during Anti-Bullying Week. For RE we visited our Local Church where we were given the opportunity to ask questions and explore all areas of the church. S1A would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



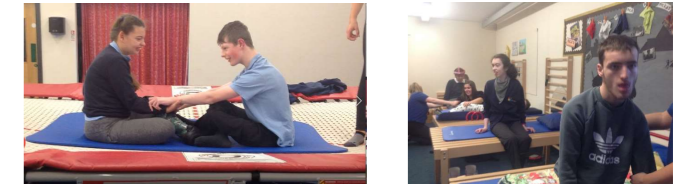
S2

This term S2 have worked at Blagdon Farm Estate learning about the daily life of a farmer. They mixed up feed for the calves, spread the straw and collected eggs. S2 have also worked with local author and illustrator, Michael Quinley-Nixon on an illustration masterclass after a special reading of his book about the Vampire Rabbit of Newcastle. The pupils loved hearing him read aloud and show them the illustrations for the book.



S2CE

S2CE have been working very hard on maintaining our physical abilities, while having fun during rebound therapy, practicing daily living skills via CE motor learning programmes.



As part of Armistice Day we remembered those lost in conflicts. We dressed up as WW1 soldiers, farmers and nurses, listened to presentations from The DLI Collection and explored artefacts from the war.



S1CE

S1ce have been very busy in the run up to Christmas. We made tree decorations for the School Fair. We painted and decorated natural materials and really enjoyed selling those personalised gifts. Our maths focus is 2D shapes. We collected twigs around the school grounds and made our own 2D shapes looking in particular at their various properties. We painted various size triangles to make Christmas tree pictures. Our science focus is the human life cycle and we went to the school library to look at photographs and made a timeline of the Queen's life.



S2A

This term S2A has been reading texts based around the war, 'War Horse' and 'Where the Poppies Now Grow'. Pupils have carried out dressing in uniforms, library visits to read more war based stories and visited Blyth beach and batteries, carrying out some role play. All enjoyed this immensely and fully embraced the feeling of what it would have been like in the trenches, which were damp and gloomy, after digging them for themselves.



S3

Key stage 3 had a fantastic time learning about fractions in Careers Maths week. Here you can see students working out the fractions of the pizza to get the right ingredients. Students were able to divide their pizzas up into the correct proportions and enjoyed a cheeky snack afterwards. The smell was delicious! In a different lesson the children investigated the skills a nurse or pharmacist would use to count out the correct dosage of tablets. Great skills!



S3A

S3A have had a brilliant term. We have read our set text of 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl and completed lots of activities around this. There have been lots of opportunities for S3A to read in class this term. Whether this has been independently, as a small group or as a whole class. A favourite of ours has been 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'. S3A love Christmas and this really shows in their brilliant behaviour and excellent work this half term. Have an amazing Christmas everyone and we will see you all in the Happy New 2023 year!

