



Newsletter

22.05.2020

Value of the week

Excellence

Beech class Y1: Lachlan. He has submitted every piece of work to an exceptional standard throughout the entire period of home learning and has completed every extension task set. Furthermore, he is always celebrating the success of his peers and praising them on Teams when they have completed a task well. Well done Lachlan!

Maple class Y1: Vishv and Oscar - they both submit every single piece of work set to a very high standard, trying their best in every subject. They present their work beautifully, always do every challenge set in maths (some of which are VERY challenging!) and have really taken ownership of their home learning. Well done!

Birch class Y2: William has shown excellence in all his online learning activities. He always tries his best, explaining his thinking in maths, working hard to improve his handwriting, practising his spelling and being creative with his wider curriculum tasks. Well done William, your commitment to learning is excellent!

Ash class Y2: Julian has shown excellence in all of his online learning. He puts in 100% effort to all of his activities and the progress he is making at home is excellent. His handwriting has really improved which comes down to dedication and practise. Well done Julian, we are so proud of you!

Aspen class Y4: Chelsea is always showing excellence in everything that she does. Her work is always completed to the best of her ability and she always tries to make sure she is following all of the instructions carefully. She is always polite and well mannered and responds to all messages and feedback with a positive attitude. Well done Chelsea!

Willow class Y6: Damla in my class has shown excellence this week and throughout our online learning. In particular her PowerPoint presentations on our topics of Buddhism and The Mayans have been informative, well formatted and creative. It has been a pleasure to see all the amazing work she has been doing. Well done!

Cypress class Y6: Zoe has logged in for her online learning every day and has completed every lesson! All of her work is completed to a high standard. Very well done Zoe!



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of you who have been in touch this week either to let us know whether you are likely or unlikely to want to send your child back to school, or in response to 'Thank a Teacher Day'. We are so grateful for the numerous positive messages that you send us, regarding the way that we are keeping you updated throughout this period and also on the quality of support for learning that your children are getting through the Teams. Here is an example of what you have been saying to us: 'I must commend you and the teaching staff for the excellent home schooling provision during this time. The way daily assignments are uploaded, corrected/graded/feedback given is praiseworthy. Despite the school being closed, this has instilled a sense of discipline and commitment in the children.'

In the Spirit of 'thank yous'

Mr Griffiths has gathered together thank you messages from lots of the staff here and has combined them into a short video which you can access here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cU255viVk8M>

We hope that you enjoy watching this with your children, spotting who the various staff are and listening carefully to what they say. It is our way of showing how much we miss you.

If you felt able to, we would love your children to send in their own messages or pictures. We would combine them together to make the St. Luke's message of thanks. Perhaps that gives you something to work on over half term? Please send all screenshots of work, pictures and short clips to head@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk by Monday 1st June. If we get enough responses, we can create something really exciting to welcome the children back to school with in due course.

Update on the further opening of school

As you might expect, this is a complicated process. As such, I have written a separate letter solely on this topic, and it is attached for you to read with this newsletter. Please note, as mentioned in last week's newsletter, if you are under pressure to return to work from the 01 June but you are not currently accessing the Key Worker and Vulnerable children provision, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and I will do my best to help. head@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Get reading!

Ms. Chandler has formed a partnership with the author Holly Smale, of the successful Geek Girl series of children's books. Her first published book, Geek Girl, won the 2014 Waterstones Children's Book Prize.

Holly has recorded a special personalised message for the children of St. Luke's and you can watch it here: <https://we.tl/t-w9LyZBp3qe>

She was very happy for us to share this with you but has specifically asked us not to share this on social media or You Tube.

For your information, she has also recorded a clip for BBC Bitesize about how to cope with loneliness during isolation: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmdvbdm>

Home learning

We do not underestimate how much of a challenge it must be for all of you to be supporting your children's learning at home. Please note that the DfE have updated their guidance for you and you can access it here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

We continue to monitor the home learning email and hopefully you see that we are getting back to you quickly and trying to help when you contact us: homelearning@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk The Healthy Lives Team continue to provide a variety of links to useful and interesting supplementary activities. The latest summary is attached with this newsletter.

Next week is half term. As such, in response to requests from parents, the Teams will remain open during half-term in case children wish to access their assignments. Please be aware that teachers will not be available on Teams during half-term.

If your child wishes to chat to their friends via Teams, we ask parents/carers to please remind children to avoid using private chats and video chats and instead keep conversations going through the 'social' Teams. These have been created in each year group in order for staff to be able to check communications are kept safe and appropriate. All will resume on Monday 01 June. Thanks for reading, with best wishes to you all, Rebecca Abrahams

This week, the staff in Year 3, 4 and 6 have shared work from their classes with us:

Pranavi - created a 3D paper flower in Art

Such beauty in your work Pranavi.
I can see that you have had to do such careful concentrating, cutting and assembling.
I wonder if you gave this to someone too?
Great work Pranavi!



Tallulah and Martin - created a recycled 3D Iron Man using the text in English

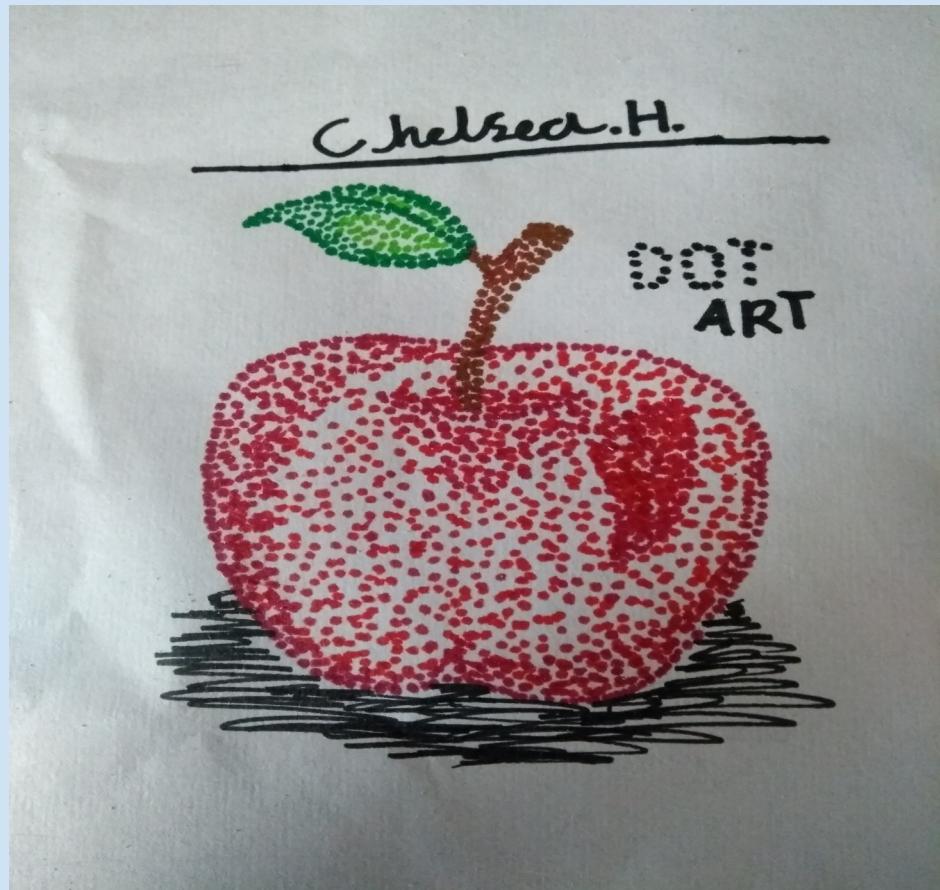
It is so exciting to see the imagery of your reading coming to life through your creativity!

Great work Tallulah and Martin!



Chelsea Hindle in Year 4 has created a still life using dot art

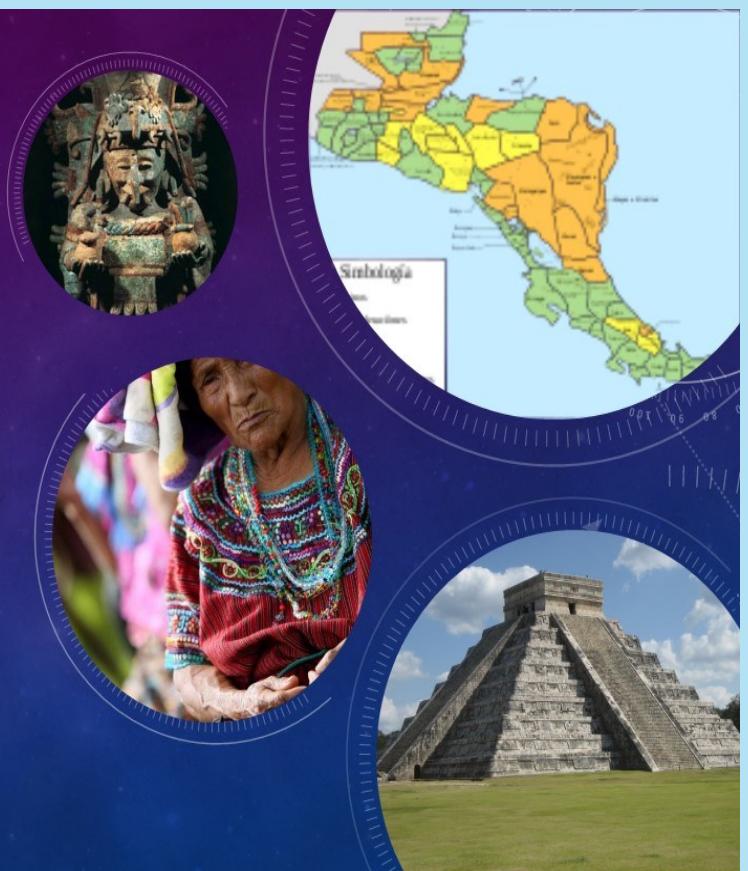
Well done Chelsea for getting the 3D nature to your image and incorporating the light on the surface.
Great work!



Here is Y6 Damla's PowerPoint presentation on Buddhism and The Mayans referenced in the values section

WHO ARE MAYANS?

- Mayans lived at 2000bc in Mesoamerica which is called Central America now.
- They were intelligent and made many amazing builds.
- They had many gods that they believed in.
- Mayans still live in today's world and continue to speak their own language's which are Ixil, Q'eqchi' and many more.



Some links and updates to support parents

Government's Family Fund

The Government has announced details of the £37.3M Family Fund that provides grants to low-income families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people. Grants can be made for a wide range of equipment, including computers, washing machines and refrigerators, to specialist sensory equipment and educational toys. £10 million of the total has been committed specifically in response to the unique difficulties presented by the coronavirus pandemic, helping parents educate and look after disabled or seriously ill children who are staying at home more than usual. The grants are typically worth £400 to £500 per family, but vary depending on need.

Families can apply for grants directly: <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/faqs/how-do-we-apply>

Be kind to yourself and each other

This week is Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW) and in these unprecedented times, it brings a timely reminder about the importance of looking after your mental wellbeing.

From people staying at home to key workers or those shielding, the pandemic has caused stress and uncertainty for many of us.

There are a host of [mental health and wellbeing resources](#) on the Tower Hamlets website to help residents at this time, including the [NHS Every Mind Matters guide](#).

They are also sharing ideas and tips on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) this week, based on the five ways to wellbeing: connect, be active, take notice, learn and give.

This year's MHAW theme is **kindness**, so we're also encouraging you to think about if there's anything you can do to spread kindness in the community.

Perhaps you can help a neighbour, send a letter to a relative, or share a story of kindness on social media using the hashtag **#TowerHamletsTogether**. Random acts of kindness may cheer someone up when they need it, and may lift your mood too.

Talk to someone if your mental health is suffering

The uncertainty and dramatic shift in routine at the moment is affecting us all and understandably having an impact on some people's mental health. Everyone responds differently so this Mental Health Awareness Week, take a moment to see how you're doing. If you're struggling, you do not need to face your worries alone.

[Tower Hamlets Talking Therapies](#) can help, with sessions available over the phone or online. They also have a series of free webinars which cover a wide range of topics, including coping with self-isolation.

[Mind in Tower Hamlets and Newham](#) has brought its services online, offering one to one and group mental health support, counselling and information and advice over the phone, email or by video call. The team has also put together support on [bereavement](#), [employment](#) and [working from home](#).

If you're experiencing a mental health emergency, the Tower Hamlets mental health crisis line is available 24 hours a day on **020 7771 5807**, with professionals on call to help.

Please also do not be afraid to contact Rebecca on 07932 995 213. Both Christine and I are at work every day and here to help.

Loss of taste or smell? Self-isolate The government has announced this week that suffering a change or loss of taste and smell is now recognised as a symptom of coronavirus.

If you or anyone in your household suffers this symptom, a new continuous cough or fever, you should stay at home to stop the spread in line with the government's self-isolation guidance. This means you should stay at home for seven days, or longer if you still have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell. If you live with anyone else, they should also stay home and self-isolate for 14 days.

Resources and ideas to support Christian worship at home:

This link takes you to a video of a singing assembly on Courage, done in partnership between the Church of England, a Primary school and St. Paul's Cathedral: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjiRqlir4AU&feature=youtu.be>

Faith at Home is a national campaign that builds on the work of Growing Faith and Everyday Faith to support the faith development and pastoral care of children and young people. Amongst other things it seeks to inspire parents and families to grow in faith together in the 'new daily normal' of the home

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/faith-home>

I have shared this with you before, a link to the Church of England's resources for liturgy and prayer. <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer>

Thank you to children in Year 5 Cherry class for their uplifting Cinquain poems on our value of Kindness written for mental health Awareness week.

Kindness
Care, wonder
Forgiving, feeling, meaning
In my life forever
Powerful
By Michael Hyer Year 5

Kindness
Helpful, mindful
Considering, giving, helping
From sad to happy
Thoughtful
By Lisa Bellinger Year 5

Kindness
Playing, sharing
Positive impact, considering,
Helping each other out
Humanity
By Maria Luoti-Hughes Year 5

Kindness
Humanity, thoughtful
Giving, thinking, considering
Being kind to people
Happiness
By Nafis Uddin Year 5

Kindness
We share
To those mattering
And those who care
T
By Nahim Miah Year 5

Kindness
Humble, Sharing
Caring, Considering, Thinking
Makes you feel comfortable
Together
By Olivia Lakey Year 5

And we conclude this week with some fabulous work by Year 6 S—Cypress class



Dinagdee, still life painting



Black Wolf

I howl at the moon ,
Then I go out too hunt ,
Then back to the pack.

Zac, drawing and
haiku poem about the
black wold

The Aquatic Warble



The medium-sized Warbler, which sings like an artist.
Makes me believe his from all birds the smartest.
It's like a fish in the sea, with its wings that are thick.
All the birds believe when he flies, he skies.

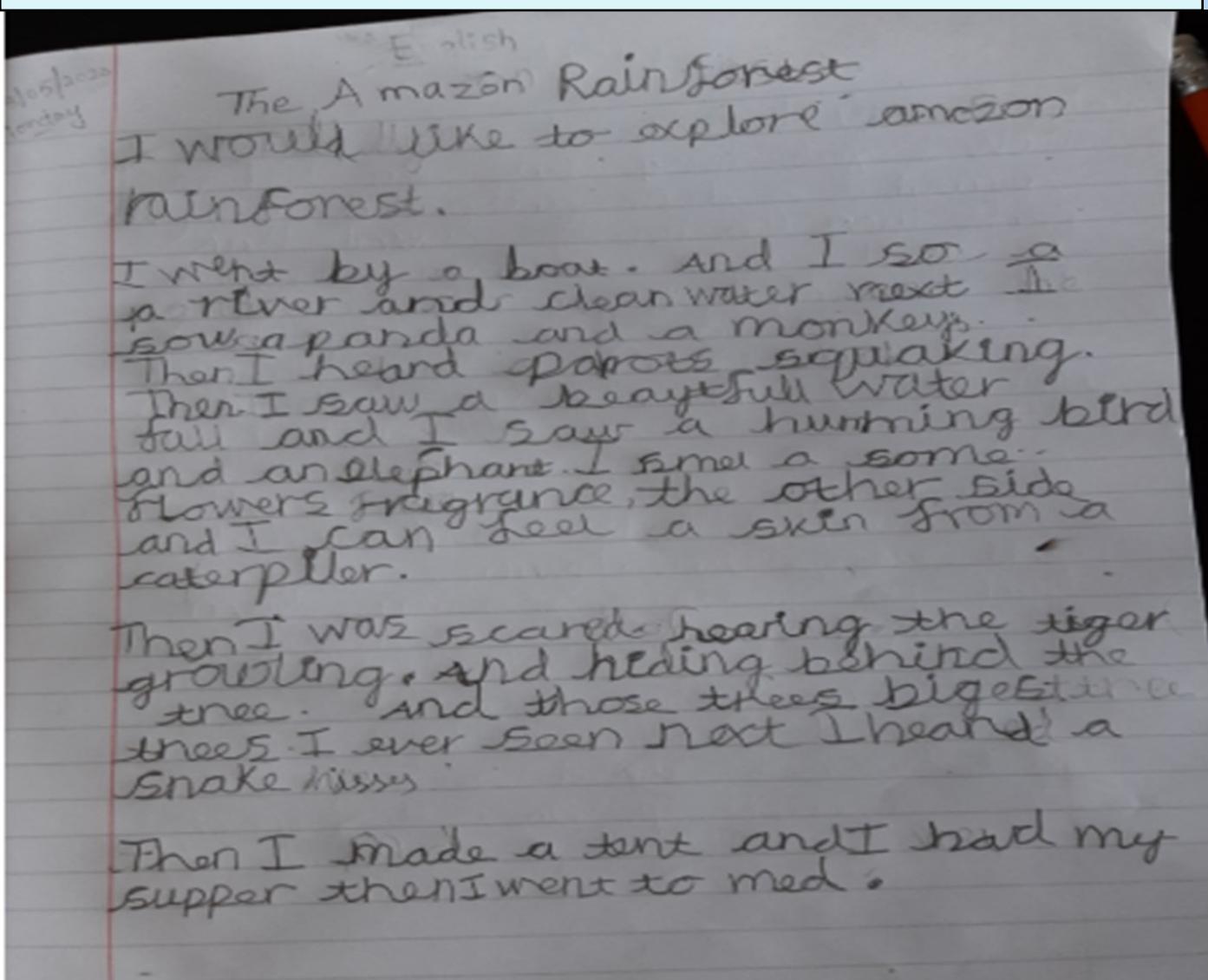
The Warble that I know has a secret trick.
He hides insects and berries in his pick.
He looks very stylish with his sandy colored crown.
That matches perfectly with his body pattern brown.

Jalil, poem about UK
bird



Sienna, planning for a Mayan mask

And some writing from Year 1 Maple class.



	Rab	I pointed it onto read the Torah because you're not allowed to touch it with your hand.
	Abraham	He is the Father of the Jewish people.
	Synagogue	Jews go to synagogues to pray.

Challenge: Can you make any links between what you have learnt about Judaism and your own religion or another religion we have learnt about?

E.g. What does the Torah remind or the Synagogue remind you of? What would be the equivalent in another faith?

Place of worship

Temple
Church
Synagogue
Mosque

Religion / Holy Book

Hinduism / Bhagvata Gita
Christianity / Bible
Judaism / Talmud
Islam / Qur'an

A mazon Jungle

I can hear a parrot squawking clearly and very stripy. I can see a tiger walking through the forest. I can see the tall trees with there bushy leaves on there tops. I can see the knight switchare in the blue sky. I can see a waterfall at the end of the thin river. I can see a snake slithering through the jungle and a crocodile is slowly swimming through the shallow river. monkeys can hear and humming can birds hear their trees. I can see frogs leaping into the river. I can see a sloth slowly moving up the tree to get some food. I can smell the flesh of the jungle. I can see the monkeys. I can see the peacock butterflies fluttering in the blue sky. There is a panda munching on its bamboo. I feel warm in the jungle. It is peaceful here.

Thank you to all of the children who continue to put in considerable effort despite the unusual times we face.

Enjoy half term and we look forward to seeing you in teams once the next half term resumes.