

July Half Term 2026 Newsletter

Message from Mr Stear

Happy Summer holidays!

I hope you enjoy hearing about the many things that have gone on over the half term. It has been a privilege to see the culmination of another year of hard work by our children and staff. I most enjoyed seeing the confidence and teamwork displayed during the Year 6 performance of Star Warts and the Year 2 'Moving On' assembly. These were both emotional affairs and demonstrated just how far these groups of children have come.

I wish you all a restful break, successful starts (for those moving on), and happy times ahead.

Mr Stear

Year R

What an absolutely brilliant year we have had in Reception, it has flown by! The children have been reflecting on how much they have learnt this year at school. They have been taught 44 sounds and 50 tricky words - they would never have imagined in September, when we introduced 's', that they would go on to learn so much! Equally in our Number Time sessions the children did not know what it meant to subitise or make number bonds to 5, now they are super at it. More amazing than all of the literacy and numeracy learning is the personal and social growth. The children are playing and exploring collaboratively and supporting each other to learn new things.

One of the many highlights of the year was most definitely our trip to Bocketts Farm. The children's behaviour was exemplary and the weather held out for us; remember when it just did not stop raining!

It has also been great to start Forest School again after a bit of a break. The children loved building dens, finding minibeasts, making 'smelly potions' and so much more.

Finally, we have begun winding up our year with some extra fun activities. We had a lovely teddy bears picnic together on the field, thankfully our teddies didn't eat all of our biscuits!





Year 1

Wellington Country Park was the destination for the Y1 school trip. The children had a very exciting day and enjoyed the different activities. When we arrived, the class headed straight to the woods for a mini-beast hunt under logs and leaves equipped with buckets and brushes to carefully capture any creepy crawlies they found. These were then studied and named. Afterwards we had a ride on the miniature train which was lots of fun especially through the tunnels! As we walked around the park there were opportunities to play on the different playgrounds such as the pirate ship, high orange slide and monkey bars. We had lunch in our own marquee before walking to the farm where we saw alpacas, goats, pigs, sheep, chicken and more! Our final activity was looking out for dinosaurs - identifying the ones we learnt back in the Autumn term.

Back at school, the class continued their interest in mini-beasts by constructing a fantastic Bug Hotel with Mrs Pollock and with the help of Mr Armstrong.









Year 2

This term has been such a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the progress all the children have made. They are truly ready to move on to their next adventure at the Juniors, and I look forward to seeing their journey continue.

A major highlight of the term was our trip to Hayling Island. The weather was on our side, and we were so grateful that the trip was able to go ahead. The children made everyone proud with their exceptional behaviour and demonstrated just how inquisitive and knowledge-hungry they are. They explored every part of the beach, collecting many treasures along the way. We even had a splash in the sea!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their DT project, and their bag tags are looking fantastic and ready for the summer holidays!

In Art, the children created beautiful clay flowers and explored a range of artists and media. They demonstrated great creativity by designing their own pieces of artwork and completing their own sculptures.

To round off a wonderful year, the children performed their Year 2 production, which was truly special. It was a celebration of all they have achieved and created many treasured memories for the children, staff, and families alike.

We are incredibly proud of everything the children have accomplished this year and the enthusiasm, resilience, and kindness they have shown throughout.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and kindness over the year. We wish you all a happy, relaxing, and well-deserved summer break.

With best wishes,

The Year 2 Team







Fox

Fox Class had an amazing day at Kids Day Out; a special event held at Aldershot Stadium. The children enjoyed a wide range of activities, including bouncy castles, puzzles, face painting, and the exciting opportunity to hold birds of prey.

The beautiful weather made the day even more enjoyable, and everyone had a fantastic time. Many of the children were accompanied by their families, making the event even more special and creating wonderful memories for everyone involved.

As you will know, the recent heatwave has been very challenging for many of the children in our class. To help everyone stay comfortable, we filled trays with cool water so the children could keep their feet cool while we continued with our learning. It was a simple idea that made a big difference, allowing the children to stay engaged and enjoy their lessons despite the hot weather.





Year 3

Year 3 have had another brilliant half term of learning with many highlights!

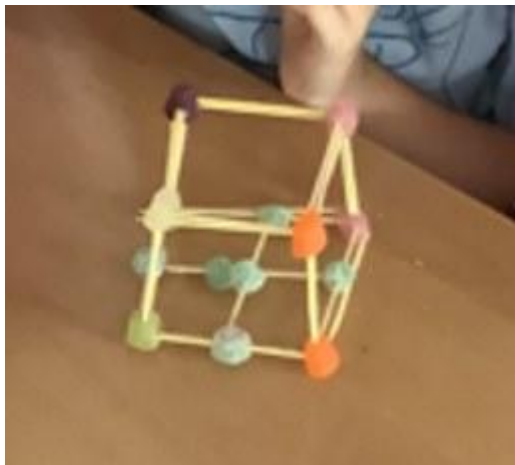
There are many budding journalists amongst us, and we have been bravely clamouring to get a good story on what exactly happened to the city of Pompeii, by interviewing 'survivors' of the volcanic eruption.

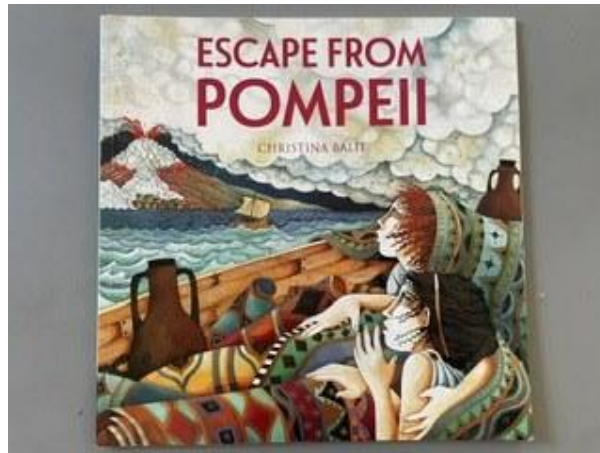
In Maths, we have been using analogue and digital clocks to read time and solve time-based calculation problems. We have also been learning how to recognise acute, obtuse and right angles and created some 3D shapes.

In Science, we have been exploring light sources and reflectors. We investigated the reflective properties of a range of materials. In History, we learnt about a fearsome Celtic queen called Boudicca and investigated why Emperor Hadrian decided to build a wall.

In Design and Technology, we have been designing and making mini greenhouses. We have investigated and selected suitable building materials and practised the skills we need to build our final product.

Not only have we been preparing ourselves for a change when we go into our new classes, we have been also helping our Year 2 friends with their change as they transfer to Year 3. The highlight of this HAS to be the AMAZING show we performed for them. It was simply fantastic!





Year 4

What an incredibly long, but quick term this has been! We have packed so much in, we definitely all need that summer break now!

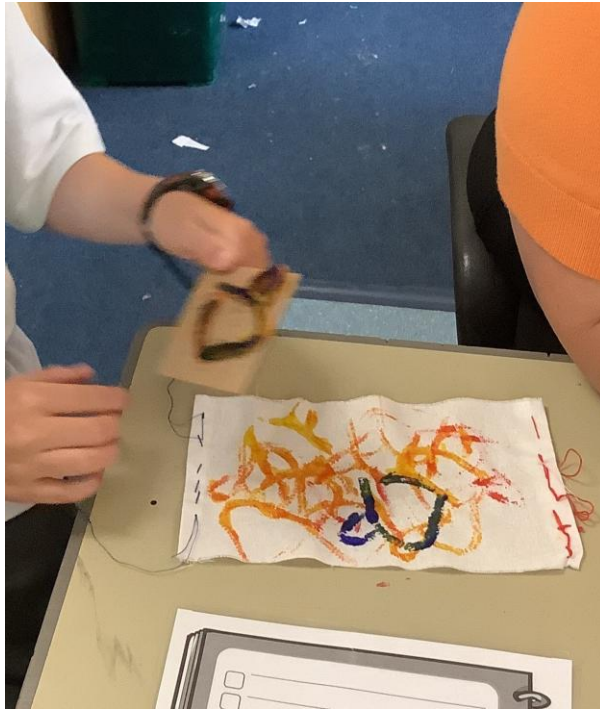
In Maths, we have been working hard on telling the time, identifying shapes and even analysing data. In English, we have explored an incredible book called Varjak Paw, we loved it! We used the book to write our own suspense stories and then we looked at different poems and crafted some of our own too.

In Computing, we have been developing and creating code to make our own games on Scratch. In DT, we have really been putting our fine motor skills to the test by sewing,

printing and embroidering all based on designer William Morris. In Science we did many experiments all to discover the world of particles!



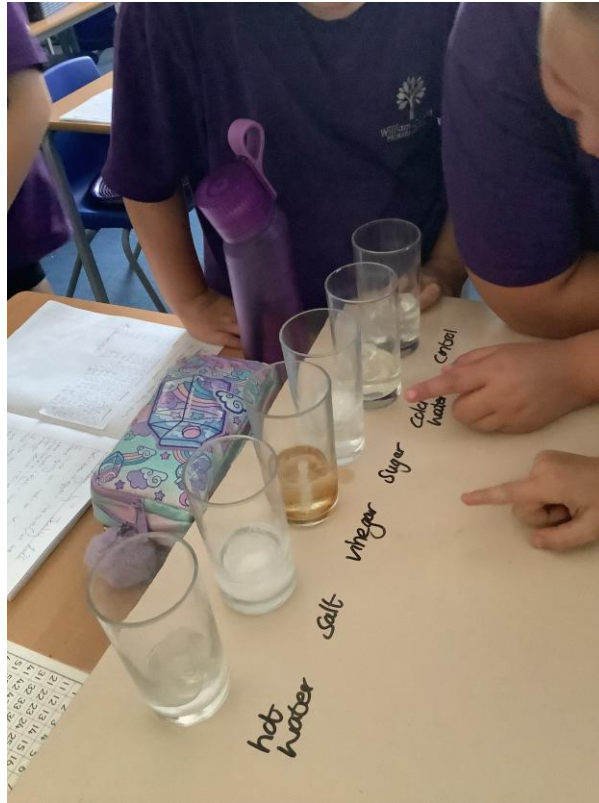




1 - William Morris inspired block printing in DT.



2 - Lots of concentration is involved in printing.



3 - In Science we poured salt, sugar, vinegar and hot and cold water on ice-cubes to see which would make the ice melt the fastest.



Battle of The Books

On Monday 13th July, five of our students visited Weydon School with Mrs Cooper to take part in the much-anticipated Battle of the Books event. In the weeks leading up to the competition, students read three different books before selecting their favourite to create and deliver a presentation about. Schools from across the area then presented their chosen book. Although every school ended up selecting the same title, each presentation was unique, showcasing a wonderful range of creativity, ideas and perspectives. It was a

fantastic morning filled with engaging discussions, teamwork, creativity—and, of course, some delicious chocolate cookies! We are incredibly proud of our students for representing the school so enthusiastically and thoughtfully. The dedication the children showed to reading the books was admirable and Miss West and Miss Vicary have thoroughly enjoyed running the book group each week.



Year 5

What a great end to Year 5 it has been! We have had a very busy half term. The children have enjoyed many topics such as soup making in DT and learning about the human life cycle in Science. We have also had the added bonus of a trip to Farnham museum to explore local artefacts!

In DT, the children explored seasonal eating and the benefits of this. They then taste tested some seasonal vegetables to explore textures and flavours. With all their knowledge, they then decided what they would put in their seasonal vegetable soup. It is safe to say that the children thoroughly enjoyed their soup making and practised their chopping and blending skills. There were many happy faces as they got to try the soup they had made.

In June, each of the Year 5 classes went to Farnham museum to explore the local artefacts of Farnham. The children explored the museum and then learned about the detailed history of the town. They then ended their visit with creating a clay tile, linking this to Farnham being a craft town.









Year 6

Year 6 Shine in Star Warts: The Umpire Strikes Back

After weeks of hard work, rehearsals and dedication, our Year 6 children proudly performed their end-of-year production, Star Warts: The Umpire Strikes Back. We were delighted to welcome the junior children and parents to watch the show, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Everyone was amazed by the confidence, enthusiasm and effort that the children put into every performance. The production was a wonderful celebration of the children's talents and teamwork, and they should all be incredibly proud of what they achieved. A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped make the show such a success. We are incredibly grateful to the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, as well as to the parents and carers who supported their children at home by helping them learn their lines and prepare for the performance. Your encouragement and commitment made all the difference.





Year 6 Residential at Hooke Court

Our Year 6 children had a fantastic week away on their residential visit to Hooke Court. Throughout the week, they challenged themselves with a wide range of exciting activities, including team building, an Evacuee Day experience, archery, raft building, kayaking, orienteering, low ropes, bushcraft cooking, bridging the moat and even a rocket launch! The fun continued into the evenings with a night search and rescue activity, followed by a VE Day party complete with an exciting ‘whodunnit’ mystery for the children to solve. It was wonderful to see the children embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm and determination. They showed excellent teamwork, supported one another through new challenges and strengthened friendships that will last long beyond their final year at primary school. The memories they have made together are sure to be treasured for years to come. A huge thank you to all the wonderful staff who gave up their time and worked so hard to make this memorable experience possible. Their dedication, care and enthusiasm ensured that the children had an unforgettable week.







A Week of Mexican Culture and Adventure

While many of our Year 6 children were away on their residential, those who remained at school enjoyed a fantastic Mexican-themed week, packed with exciting learning opportunities and creative activities. The children explored the geography and culture of Mexico, learnt about the Spanish language and discovered the traditions of the Day of the Dead celebration. They also took inspiration from the famous artist Frida Kahlo to create their own beautiful artwork before putting their culinary skills to the test by making a delicious chilli con carne. To round off the week, everyone enjoyed a relaxing afternoon watching Coco, a film that celebrates Mexican culture and family traditions. Earlier in the week, some of the children also visited Go Ape, where they challenged themselves on the Tree Top Adventure course. It was wonderful to see them stepping outside their comfort zones, showing resilience, encouraging one another and celebrating their achievements. The week was full of new experiences, creativity and fun, and the children should be very proud of everything they accomplished.



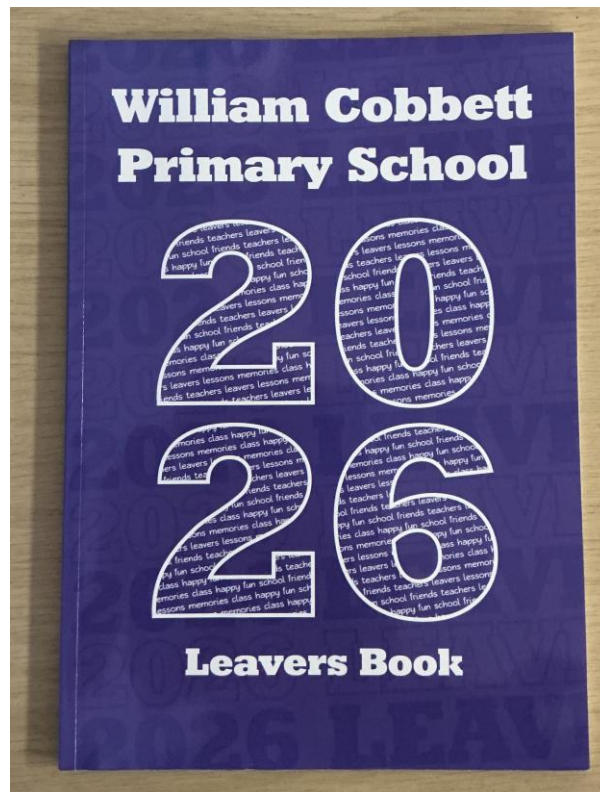






Year 6 Year Books

Over the past few weeks, our Year 6 children have been reflecting on their time at William Cobbett as they completed their entries for this year's leavers' year books. It has been a real pleasure to read about the happy memories they have made during their time at our wonderful school, as well as their hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future. Looking back on their journey has been a lovely reminder of how much they have grown, both academically and personally, and of the friendships they have built along the way. We are very much looking forward to presenting the children with their year books when they arrive. They will be a treasured keepsake, filled with memories of their time at William Cobbett and a reminder of the special moments they have shared together.



Leavers BBQ

What a fantastic time our Year 6 students had at their Leavers' BBQ! It was a wonderful evening filled with laughter, great food, and lots of fun memories.

The water fight was a huge hit, and it was brilliant to see even the staff getting involved!

A huge thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who made this special event possible, especially those who gave their time to cook a delicious BBQ for our students.





Mr Aston - British Airways talk

A huge thank you to one of our parents, Mr Aston from British Airways, for taking the time to speak to our Year 6 pupils about his career as a pilot. The children were fascinated to learn about a day in the life of a pilot, how aircraft work, the forces involved in flight, fuel consumption, and the ways the aviation industry is working towards a more sustainable future.

Mr Aston also shared that from the age of 13, young people can join the Air Cadets, an excellent opportunity to develop skills, gain experience, and begin to understand the mindset and discipline required for a career in aviation.

There were plenty of fantastic questions and lots of enthusiasm throughout the session. Perhaps the fact that surprised us most was hearing that Mr Aston had once transported a tiger in the aircraft's cargo hold!

Thank you, Mr Aston, for inspiring our children and giving them a fascinating insight into the world of aviation.



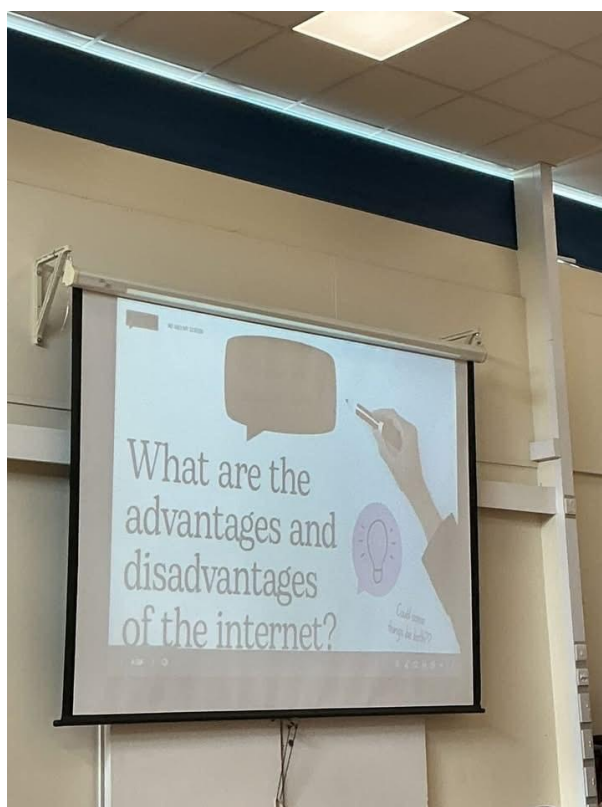


Papaya talk

A huge thank you to Sam from Papaya for coming in to speak with our Year 6 pupils about screen time and developing healthy digital habits.

One question Sam posed was: "What did people do before the internet?" The responses were brilliant, but my personal favourite had to be: "Touch grass." 🙋😊

A wonderful session that got everyone thinking about how we spend our time online and offline. Thank you, Sam, for sharing your expertise with us!



FHES Shrek Jnr

A huge thank you to Farnham Heath End for inviting our Year 5 and 6 pupils to watch their fantastic production of Shrek Junior. All of the children and adults had a brilliant time and thoroughly enjoyed the show. What a wonderful experience for everyone involved!

Kite and Buzzard

We have had such an amazing and busy half term to finish off our academic year! We really loved our annual trip to Kid's Day Out where we got to see some amazing birds, go on some rides, get our faces painted and eat ice cream! We always love Kid's Day Out!

Back at school we have really settled into our Misty Mountains, Winding River topic by now learning all about mountains and the way they shape our natural world. We even did a bit of an investigation into the water cycle by creating our own enclosed environment to see if we could re-create the water cycle.

We have also loved learning more about different states of matter and got to role-play as particles of solids, liquids and gases. We explored what happens when you melt a solid

and freeze a liquid and heat a liquid, and have become confident using words like evaporation and condensation.

In DT, we have been busy continuing our learning about fabric and fabric design and have been working towards creating our own pieces of fabric inspired by William Morris.

Sewing a hem was quite a tricky task but it taught us to persevere!

Finally, we loved getting to meet the new pupils who will be joining Kite Class next year and are excited to share our learning experiences with them next year!

In Buzzard class, we have enjoyed our learning, if not so much the heat in the Woodlands Centre! As well as our English and Maths learning, we continued with our topic of looking at the heart and circulatory system in Science - the highlights of which were making our own blood, and an investigation into how exercise affects the heart rate. Our Science and DT lessons crossed over where we designed healthy, bread-based meals (see photos below). We also continued to investigate the effects of the slave trade in our Maafa topic.

In addition to all this, Buzzard joined Kite class at Kids' Day Out (which, sadly, I was unable to attend) and some of our Year 6s went on the Year 6 Residential at Hooke Court (which, happily, I was). We also enjoyed a rather warm Sports Day.

Finally, as you will know, I am departing William Cobbett at the end of this term. I just want to say to all of you how grateful I have been for your support over the last year or so and how wonderful it has been to work with your children. It has been a truly eye-opening experience at times and I have learnt so much from being in the Woodlands Centre. I will miss each and every one of the pupils here and wish them (and you) all the very best for the future.

Mr Chambers







4 - Blood!



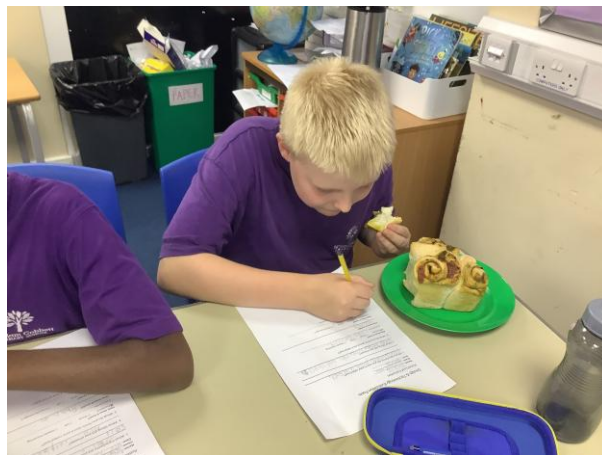














Allsorts



Despite the hot weather, our Allsorts After School Club has been making the most of every moment! The children have been keeping cool with refreshing ice pops, enjoying water play in the trays, getting creative in the sand pits, and spending plenty of time relaxing in the shade. There has been lots of laughter, smiles, and fun all around! Our older children have also enjoyed some well-earned downtime, spending quality time with their friends in a calm and chilled environment after a busy school day. It's been wonderful to see everyone staying safe, cool, and making fantastic summer memories together. We wish you all a lovely summer.







Library News



Another fun-filled term in the library is now done - it has been an incredible year with Bookbuzz for Year 6, World Book Day celebrations, many, many author visits, our big summer book giveaway and nearly 10,000 loans across the whole school for the whole year!!! We hope you will all have a go at our Summer Book Bingo (can be printed from last week's bulletin if you can't find the sheet) - it's designed for fun but if children want to bring back their completed (or part completed) cards to me in September, there will be a tiny treat for them!

I took a couple of days out to attend the School Library Association Conference in Winchester - I came back with a lot of fresh ideas, a lot of books, posters and stickers and met some amazing authors including Jamie Smart, Jaqueline Wilson and Michael Rosen.

Sneaky peeks into the new year, Bookbuzz will now be running for Year 5 as well as Year 6, thanks to Cobweb, more news on what this is in September! With so many of our children now being avid readers, we will be focusing very heavily on "New Titles" to make sure that children stay engaged with their favourite authors and illustrators - we have just installed a brand new display board outside the library so that children can see when their

favourites are due to release a new book. Our most popular book this year has been "Guinness Book of Records 2026" and children are already asking when "2027" will be released! Do take a look at our school wish list as the library will be adding on exciting new titles that you can preorder for us if you are able!

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3AYUOOHUK5JFD/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex?content_source=fb&fb_content_id=Q9-wBQEtqI--0MA-7UyDXITWh-o_YYvMeIEDC-7vJ96dRuPMIfsExWK9PZkrkw64OQ&channel_type=fb&fbclid=IwY2xjawTFIs1hZmRrCTB5aVhYMTY2VmV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNyGGMGYXBwX2lkEDlYmJAzOTE3ODgyMDA4OTIAAR4oq8T0osfYHyuxQpN5xcZdxqdrL8vOhwHXbbPTMPmsme8RcAnUFQyfUTFfqg_aem_nPEtb_tuJrEouzbAFLDcww

A few thank yous before I wrap up -

- *Everyone who has donated used books or new books from our wish list this year*
 - *Cobweb for financing important programmes like Bookbuzz, and buying us books*
 - *Everyone who purchased at our stalls at the Christmas and Summer Fairs (We raised over £300 across both)*
 - *Dempster Trust who have again financed class room books*
 - *Blue Bear Books and Farnham Literary Festival who have provided author visits*
 - *Waterstones who provided World Book Day books*
 - *Our amazing student librarians*
 - *Our volunteers, Mrs Teague, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Smallbone*
-

You are all making a huge contribution to our Library!

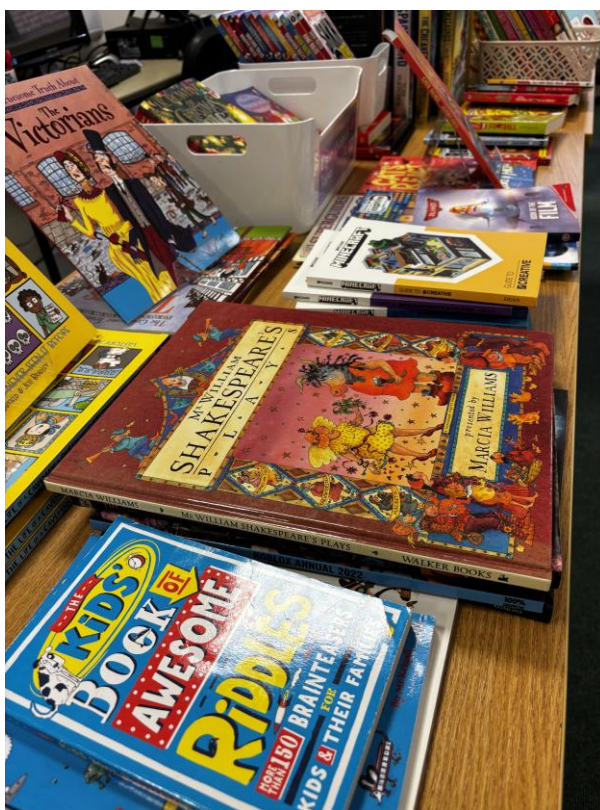
While we work hard over the break to make our libraries even better, don't forget your local libraries who have lots of exciting activities running and can loan you books, audio books (it's still reading!) and magazines for free!

Can't wait to see everyone in September, have a readingful holiday!!

Mrs Clary



5 - Our Shiny New Titles Board!!



6 - Our Summer Book Giveaway (Set up by our Reading Ambassadors)



7 - K R Thompson Meeting Libearian (after visiting Year 3 and 4)



8 - Mrs Clary About To Draw Bunny!!!!

Book Give Away

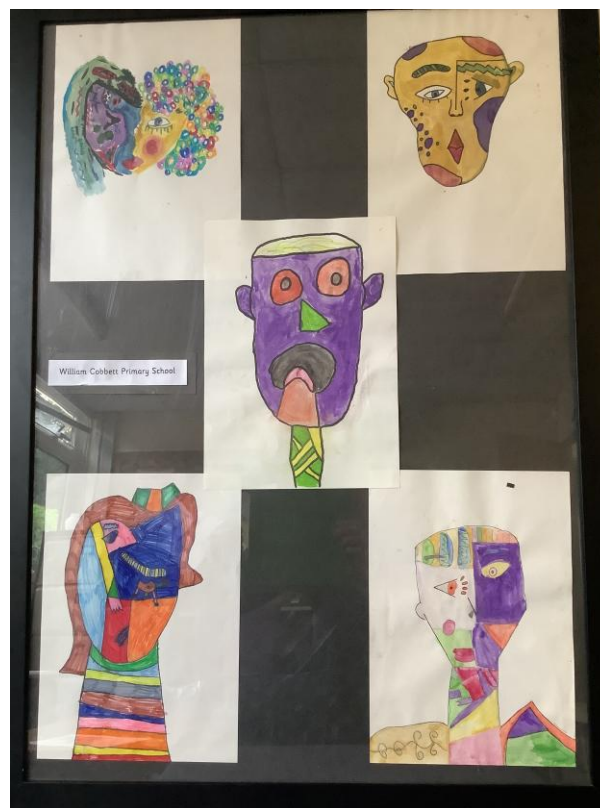
On Tuesday 14th July, Mrs Clary and the reading ambassadors organised a book give away for every child in school. Thank you to the ambassadors for helping set up the books and a special thank you to Mrs Clary and her lovely volunteer who enabled this to go ahead!



Art Exhibited at Farnham Train Station

Do pop down to Farnham Train Station this Summer to see art works exhibited by some talented artists from William Cobbett school!

On display are beautiful art works created by children in Year R and Year 6. The Year 6 artists are: Oliver, Tia, Padamsa, Maria, and Josephine. The Year R artists are: Rex T, Rex L, Ava B., Delilah M, Delilah K, Harper, Omer, Rodi, Alethea, Jasmine, Enyinnaya, Luna D and Luna F.



9 - Year 6 children painted portraits after studying Picasso, taking inspiration from what they discovered.



10 - These jolly jellyfish were created by children in Year R as part of their topic On The Beach.



11 - Year R children created undersea collages after reading *The Tiddler* by Julia Donaldson.

Carnival

Lights, camera, CARNIVAL! 🎬 🌟

Wow, the William Cobbett Primary School community had the most incredible time at the Farnham Carnival! From Disney classics to West End magic, our WCPS props department on wheels brought all the drama and colour to the streets of Farnham. As you can see, even E.T. hitched a ride in our basket! We were so incredibly proud to showcase the creativity, talent, and dedication of our amazing children. A massive thank you to everyone who supported us—our superstar children, the parents, and of course, the wonderful crowds who cheered us on so loudly!





