

27th January 2023

THE GREYS GAZETTE

Our Fortnightly Newsletter

Congratulations to pupils on staff on their achievement of the UNICEF Rights Respecting Silver Award. You can read the full report here: **https://www.greys.beds.sch.uk/rights-respecting-schools.** Greys pupils have been engaging in a wide range of curriculum activities incorporating life skills and enjoying the great outdoors.

Greys Education Centre receives prestigious UNICEF UK award



Grey's Education Centre, which has sites in Kempston and Bromham, is to be awarded the Silver Rights Respecting School Award by UNICEF UK.

The prestigious award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Greys Education Centre now joins over 1,300 UK schools who have achieved the Silver Award which is given to schools that make excellent progress towards embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum.

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS
unicef
UNITED KINGDOM
SILVER – RIGHTS AWARE

As a specialist education provision providing hospital education and working with primary and secondary pupils who are excluded or at risk of exclusion from mainstream schools Greys is particularly proud of achieving this award.

Headteacher Clare Breare commented" Greys Education Centre are so proud to have achieved this award at Silver. The impact of embedding UNICEF's Rights of the child articles into our school life has made a positive impact on the pupils and the school.

We are very grateful to the staff who have embraced the ethos of the rights of the child in all aspects of Greys and the students who have really benefitted in their learning and understanding."

Primary News—Bike Riding

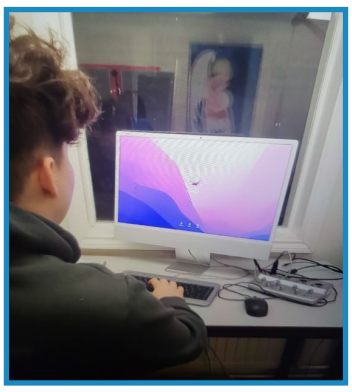




On Monday 16th January Primary pupils took to their bikes and enjoyed an afternoon of bike riding. The pupils cycled from the Dove Cotes in Willington, past the Danish Camp and down to the lock, where we admired the full flow of the river and recognised the different signs of winter. The pupils then cycled back, respecting cycling rules and the general public. All pupils enjoyed themselves but were pleased to get back in the bus just as the hail began to fall.

Arron: I am glad we are not kayaking today.
David: Bike riding in the cold was good, and I had a nice chat with Mr Wiltshire.

Braille



On Wednesday, some of Braille class enjoyed a music day. They were taught how to use a music production software called Garageband.

This was an all day experience and the students were very impressed with what they produced.

Lucas: I used layering to achieve the sounds I wanted on my track, it started with the Apollo 11 take-off voice over.

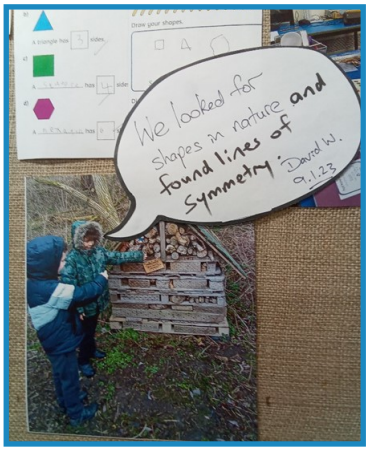
Jay: We were making beats using samples. Each track was two minutes long. It was sick.

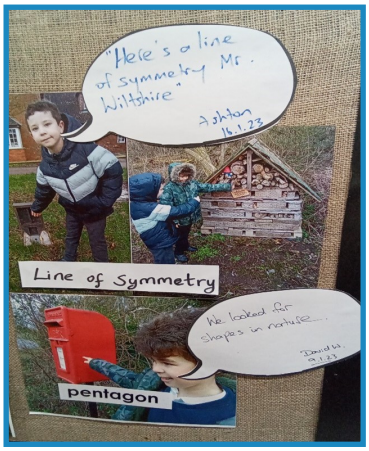


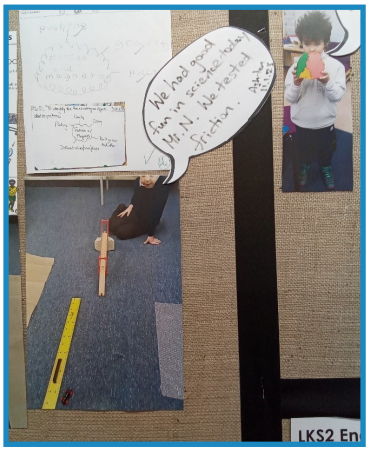
Oak

Maths





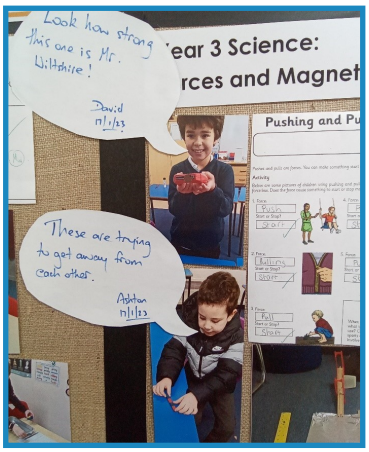




In maths we have been investigating 2-D and 3-D shapes. On our curriculum walks on Monday mornings we identified lots of 3-D shapes like a square drain cover, a pentagonal post-box, a hexagonal L-plate on a scooter, a triangular road sign and even diamond shapes on a car grille. When then returned to class to make shapes from our Polydron kit.

David: Look Mr Wiltshire! I made an eight-sided shape, so it's called an octagon.
Last week we were looking for 'lines of symmetry' in nature. We found lots all around us; one, in particular, was found by Ashton.
Ashton: Here Mr Wiltshire, I found one down the middle of this bug hotel!

Science



In Year 3 science we are investigating Forces. So far we have looked at pushes and pulls, friction and magnetism.

Ashton: We had great fun in science today Mr N. We tested friction by rolling a train down a slope onto different materials. The best one was tin foil as the train went off the edge!

We then tested what materials were magnetic.
David: Look how strong this one is!

When Ashton was investigating bar magnets he discovered that when the same two pole ends meet
Ashton: They try to get away from each other!

Kye: Look, my white chocolate is melting before the dark and milk because it's got more milk in it!

In Year 4 science we are investigating solids, liquids, and gases. Last week we were investigating whether gas has any weight. We did this by weighing some fizzy drink on digital scales then shaking it to make it flat then re-weighing it to see if it was lighter.

Arron: My lemonade has lost 3g that's more than the Tropical Crush and Orangeade!

Thus proving that some gases do have weight.



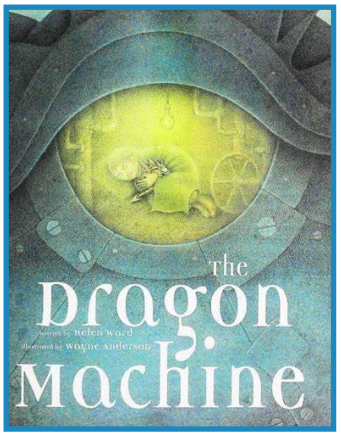
This week we were 'changing the state' of different kinds of chocolate from solid to liquid by melting in order to discover how long it took each type to melt.

English

In English we are looking at Fiction Fantasy and reading stories about dragons.
One story was called "The Dragon Machine" and we had to suggest ideas to the publishers about writing a sequel called "Dragon Machine 2".

We came up with lots of ideas, including: building a dragon boat to sail the oceans to Antarctica to rescue a polar bear and some missing penguins.

Arron: Let's put ice blocks in the dragon's tail to help keep them cool and safe.



Forest School News



Kian, Oliver and Lucas have very much enjoyed dismantling the Christmas trees. Initially the pupils worked hard using the loppers and secateurs to remove the branches and cut into small sections ideal for starting fires.

They then moved onto the bow saws and sawed the trunks of the trees into small sections, ready for drying out for firewood.
The pupils worked well together sawing, cutting and stabilising the wood for each other. It was lovely to see St. John's pupils come over and participate in this forest school session, and they also very much enjoyed using the bow saw and secateurs with Mrs Price.

Oliver: "I enjoy using the loppers more than the secateurs. I am giving the Christmas tree a haircut.



Secondary News

Secondary pupils have been learning painting skills from the preparation, having the correct equipment and techniques on how to produce

Louie: I've learnt a lot about using the proper techniques and equipment to get a good quality finish.
Mr McGrath (Teacher): The students had a positive attitude and a good start. They had a good understanding of the processes and why they needed to be completed.







The HIVE

The rain certainly didn't dampen the HIVE's spirits as pupils made the most of muddy puddles. It was fantastically uplifting to see the children connecting with nature with such joy and practising their social interaction skills to share the experience with each other.

Everyone agreed it looked like chocolate milk but didn't fancy drinking it.

Pupil Comment: I love jumping in puddles and splashing.
Pupil Comment: I got super-duper dirty and I just love getting dirty.
Pupil Comment: Jumping in the puddle was fun because I got to splash and play.

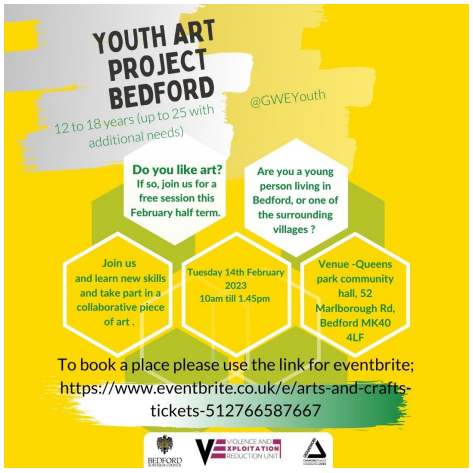






Other Notices







To see the other events for this project go to our website **https://www.greys.beds.sch.uk/letters** and click on Half Term Events.

DVD and Book Donations



As part of BILTT's commitment to charity work (both nationally and internationally), and the amazing work we started with our partner schools in Ghana previously.

We are joining forces across BILTT this term to ask our families to donate any unwanted DVDs and books suitable for nursery to secondary aged pupils for two schools in Nigeria. Bezai Nursery and Primary School (shown in our picture) and Arigbajo High School will benefit from any donations you can give.

We are looking for:

•Good condition DVDs up to 15 certificate
•Good condition books suitable for nursey to secondary aged pupils

Please send in your donations to your school Office marked Nigeria Fundraising. Thank you for your assistance to support underprivileged pupils and teaching colleagues in Africa.

Internet Safety Day



Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online. Safer Internet Day will take place on the 7th of February 2023, in the UK we are putting children and young peoples voices at the heart of day and encouraging them to shape the online safety support that they receive. Across BILTT we will be asking parents, carers, teachers, and policy makers:

- What issues really matter to children and young people?
- What changes do they want to see?
- How we can all work together

Nearer the date I will be sending out a Padlet link, an interactive noticeboard which will show the activities taking place at each school, read leaflets about staying safe online, watch videos and much more. With your help and involvement Safer Internet Day 2023 can be a catalyst for conversations that shape how we, as a Trust, talk about and respond to online issues, not just for one day, but throughout the whole year. Thank you in advance for your support. **Claudine Rowley, BILTT Digital Lead.**

Diary Dates

Internet Safety Day	**Tuesday 7th February 2023**
Half Term	**13—17th February 2023**
Pupils Return to School	**Monday 20th February 2023**