Bacton Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 17th December 2025





A message from Mrs Houghton

This term has felt for many to be a very long term, and I think it is, quite possibly, the longest one in my teaching career! The start of September certainly feels like an exceptionally long time ago but what amazing things we have achieved in that time. The second part of the autumn term is always very busy with lots happening both in the school day and outside of it, and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our school community during this time.

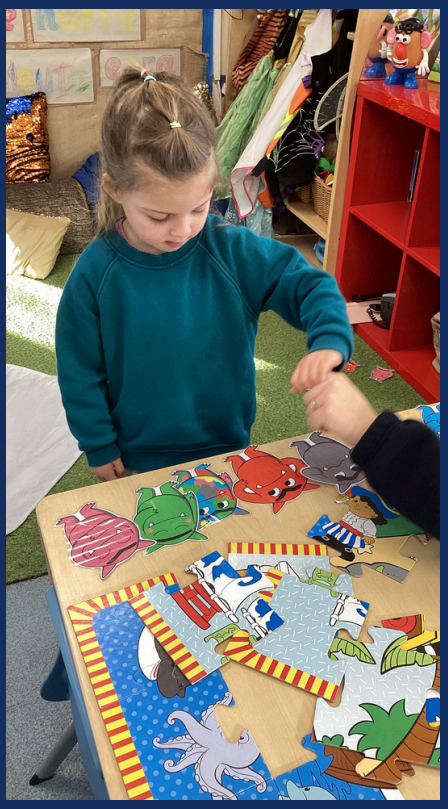
From visiting alpacas to learning about the coastguard; from felting wool to learning how to make bread; this term has taught the children many new skills, alongside broadening their knowledge in so many different areas of the curriculum. I hope that you are able to enjoy conversations at home with your children about the experiences they have at school, as they are always so enthusiastic talking about their learning in class.

Yesterday evening, we enjoyed our Christmas Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church, Bacton, and what a performance it was, with beautiful singing and a wonderfully festive feeling created for all involved. The children really did themselves proud performing in front of a large audience and celebrating the Christmas story.

As we head to the end of this week and into the holiday, I hope the break provides time to rest, recharge and enjoy precious moments with your family and friends. I look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the new year - school reopens on Tuesday 6th January. On behalf of myself and the staff, I wish you a happy and peaceful holiday.

STARFISH PRESCHOOL





Baking, fireworks, Remembrance and Children in Need are just a few things Starfish have been up to over the last few weeks.

After half term, the children asked if they could do some baking so we chose to make some biscuits for snack time. Starfish were brilliant at taking it in turn to measure and mix the ingredients and then rolling out the dough to make heart and star shaped biscuits. They were delicious!



Starfish then had an extra treat in that first week as they made 'Sparkler Breadsticks' which involved dipping breadsticks into melted chocolate and adding sprinkles around the top.

This was part of our Bonfire Night Celebrations where the children also used chalk and glitter to create their own firework pictures. They looked beautiful! Friday the 14th of November was Children in Need so we came to school in our pjs or comfy clothes and brought our favourite teddy with us. It was a very cosy day with one of the children even baking us some special Pudsey biscuits to enjoy at snacktime. Yum!

Starfish have also been busy looking at our colours and favourite books. Using a variety of tools and materials, the children have explored colour mixing and textures, talking about their favourite colours and materials to paint on.

We have then had a focus on two books - The Colour Monster and We're Going on a Bear Hunt. These are very popular in Starfish with the children being able to recite them off by heart! The children then worked together to create their own Bear Hunt tray and used stick puppets to retell the story.



RECEPTION, Y1 & Y2 SEAHORSES

The Seahorses have been fully immersed in their Woven Worlds topic, exploring the journey of wool from sheep to finished creation. They learnt how wool is produced and how sheep are sheared, before getting hands-on by washing, dyeing and felting real wool. The children loved discovering how water and movement could transform the fibres into different shapes, sparking curiosity and creativity throughout their learning. It was then great to have the alpacas in and compare their wool and how thick and soft the fleece was to the sheep fleece.

In English, the class have been enjoying Wallace and Gromit - A Close Shave, using the story to explore adjectives, noun phrases and conjunctions. After watching the moment where Preston steals the sheep and Gromit falls from the cliff, the children used their imaginations to write their own endings to the story.

In phonics, Reception have begun learning their Phase 3 sounds, Year 1 have been exploring alternative sounds in Phase 5, and Year 2 have been working on spelling patterns. It has been a busy and exciting time of learning for the Seahorses!

In maths Year 1 and 2 have been looking at numbers to 100 and how they are split into tens and ones. Reception have been learning about the numbers 1, 2 and 3 as well as circles and triangles.











The Seahorses thoroughly enjoyed their final topic of the autumn term, immersing themselves in a hands-on exploration of clay. They began by discovering what clay feels like and how it can be shaped, before practising a range of skills that helped them confidently create their own clay pots. Once finished, the children took great pride in decorating their pots, making each one unique. Alongside this creative work, the Seahorses had a wonderful time practising for the nativity and then performing it, with fantastic support and encouragement from the KS2 children, making the experience both memorable and rewarding for everyone involved.





Y3 & Y4

STINGRAYS



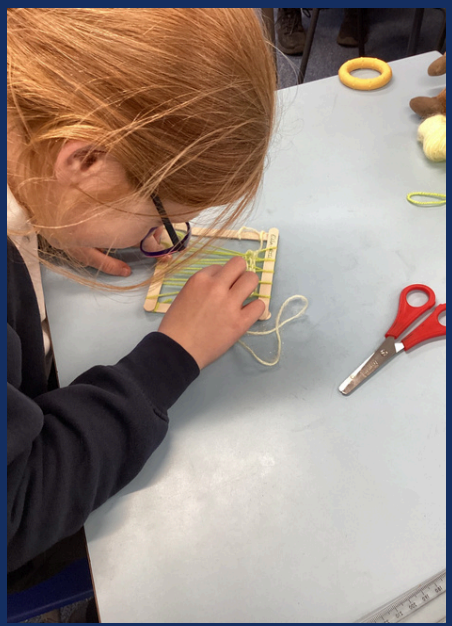
Over the past few weeks, the Stingrays have been fully immersed in our topic, Woven Worlds. This unit has allowed the children to explore the art, history, and purpose of weaving, and they have shown fantastic enthusiasm and creativity throughout.

In our topic sessions, the children discovered how weaving has been used across different cultures and time periods. We explored traditional techniques, materials, and the reasons weaving has always been an important skill.

The Stingrays then had the chance to practice weaving for themselves, experimenting with a variety of materials. One of the highlights was creating their own friendship bracelets.

In English, we looked at the inspiring true story One Plastic Bag, which follows a woman from The Gambia who used weaving to transform her community and care for the environment. After exploring the book, the Stingrays worked hard to create their own information texts, teaching others about the impact of plastic waste and how weaving can be used to help the planet.

In Maths, we have been investigating how to multiply numbers, exploring the structure of times tables and the patterns hidden inside them. The children looked closely at number relationships, repeated addition, and how multiplication facts are connected.

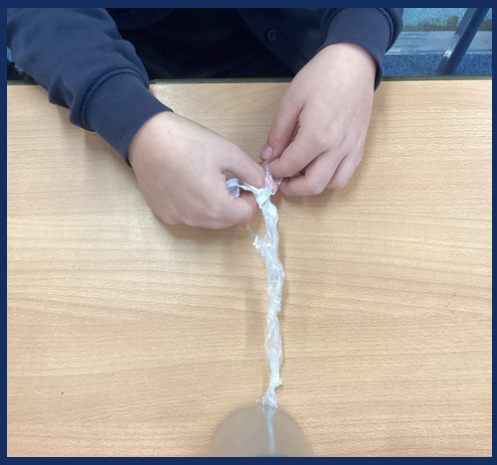


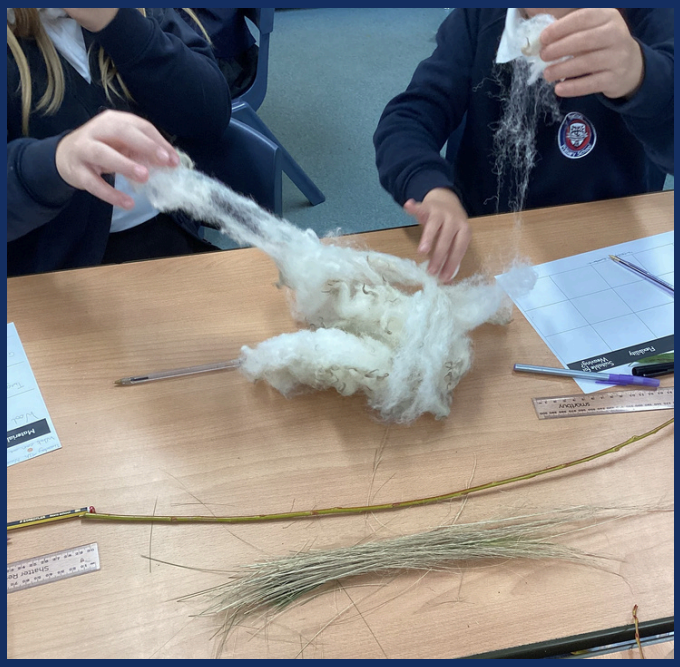
We've been especially impressed by the strategies they are beginning to use to explain their thinking and spot links between times tables. This understanding will be a great foundation as we move into more complex multiplication.



Y5 & Y6

SHARKS

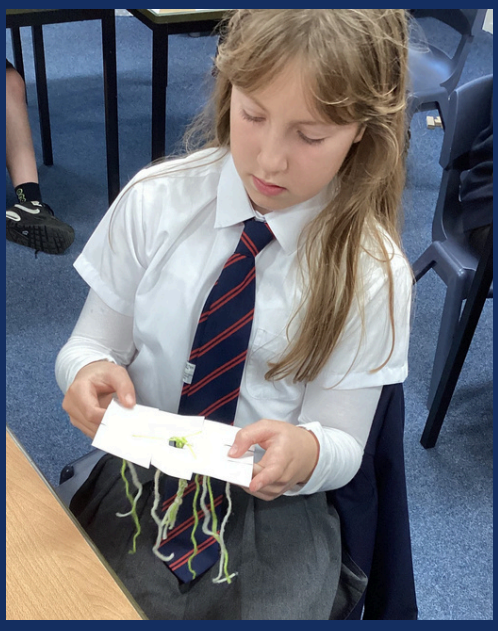




Sharks have continued to have a wonderful few weeks! Following half term the children all came back ready to look at our new topic ' Woven Worlds'.

In English the children looked at 'One Plastic Bag'. The children were all interested in the effect plastic has on the environment and how it can make the outside look ugly and injure animals. The children used this knowledge to create an information text.

In topic, the children were lucky enough to see some alpacas to assist them in their understanding of different materials which can be used in weaving. The children had the chance to have a go at weaving and find out more about different styles of weaving. The children were intrigued to find out some cultures use weaving as a way of showing their traditions.



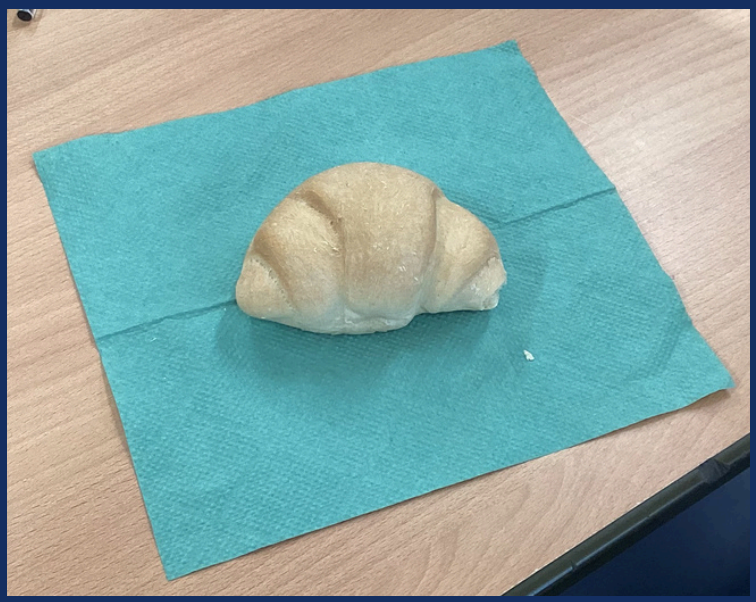






Following on from Woven Worlds, Sharks and Stingrays have had an enjoyable few weeks working on their final topic: 'Fire and Forge'. As part of this topic the children had the opportunity to taste different breads before baking their own bread. All the children thoroughly enjoyed making their bread and as part of the learning process they looked at how bread is made and how yeast aids the process.





Going hungry?

North Norfolk Foodbank can help you with food and other support.

Ask the staff here for advice or contact us directly by phone, text, or WhatsApp on 07826 376343

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