

Fort Royal Journal

Play. Learn. Laugh. Succeed.

No. 145 May 2024



This is a photo of the completed Voices and Visions Artwork created by Key Stage 2! It is being displayed at the Cathedral in the cloisters from Sunday 26 May until Sunday 23 June.

A Wild in Art trail, forty big, brrr-illiant, yellow-eyed penguins will go on display for eight weeks alongside forty chicks designed by other local schools and community groups. They'll waddle in on Monday 22 July until Sunday 15 September 2024. Save the date and go out and about looking for those amazing creatures, hopefully you can find Fort Royal's blue penguin chick called Sean.



Eid Celebrations

The children had a fantastic day celebrating Eid. They made coconut ice, glass candle lanterns, henna designs, dressing up, storytelling, music and dance.



Letter from the Head

It was great to see so many of you at the sports days last week, we were very lucky with the weather, and all seemed to enjoy the experience. Thank you so much to the school organisers, for your own support and to the friends for providing the refreshments. Our recruitment drive for next year is going well but is still ongoing. After an agreement with WCF, next year will be the first year when we begin to reduce our class numbers (starting in reception) to more manageable levels, but it does mean we will become even more over prescribed and many more will be disappointed that they have not secured a place here. We are still hoping that the council will finally step in to provide more local capacity and we are working on this behind the scenes. Unfortunately, the impending general election is bringing a barrier down on big decisions, so we may need to wait until 2025 for any further updates. We have had two parents who have expressed an interest in becoming governors, but we are still looking to fill some non-parent slots. If any of you have any contacts who could contribute, please point them in our direction. *Ed Francis*

Friends of Fort Royal

We had a busy week attending your sports 🏆 afternoons and think you will agree, selling some yummy cakes 🍰. Do not worry if you are in classes 1-4 we will be at the rescheduled date and hopefully it will be a little less wet ☔. We are looking forward to Soccer Aid ⚽ on the 8th of June at Droitwich Rugby Club where we will have games to play, inflatables and a BBQ. It is hosted by Worcester Snoezelen who will be setting up a sensory corner. We would love to see you there, come and say hello to us on the Tombola. Funds raised will go towards new playground equipment which we will hopefully have proposed plans and photos to share with you soon.

Thank you for all the clothes donations on 25th April, we raised £160 👥😊.

Another date for your diary is our family friendly summer disco 🌟 Friday 21st June. Tickets will be available soon, join our 'Friends of Fort Royal' Facebook page and 'friends.of.fortroyal.school' on insta to keep up to date.

Remember to send any used printer cartridges to school as we can earn money from recycling them. Our next meeting is online on Monday 3rd June 7.30pm, details to follow. If you can't make that, come and see us at the coffee morning at school on Wednesday 5th 9.30-10.30am with Julie, Family Support Worker 😊 Annie and Kate x

Governors' Corner

It has been another busy half term for governors, where we have been focusing our time on the budget for the new financial year. You will have seen communication internally from Mr Francis about our ongoing "lobbying" for more funding and capacity for our children which also hit the local news. We are very grateful for those of you who have shared your support for this vital change needed and will continue to keep you updated on how we progress with the local authority and local MPs who we are inviting to visit the school to see the need for more investment themselves.

I am delighted that we have had a couple of parents that have come forward to enquire more about joining the Governing Body and hope to have some more news at the end of term. In the meantime, I hope the sun shines and you all have a fun half term. Best wishes Emma

Early Years - Reception

Nursery Rhymes

In EYFS this half term the children had lots of fun learning through Nursery Rhymes. The children explored the rhymes with props and chose their favourite one as part of literacy. They explored big and small bowls and spoons and counted currant buns in maths. In communication and language, they listened to the rhymes and selected named objects. The children explored lots of different media including cake ingredients and fish in water. They also did mark making with a range of tools, painted cakes and made playdough spiders.



Key Stage 1

Minibeast Safari

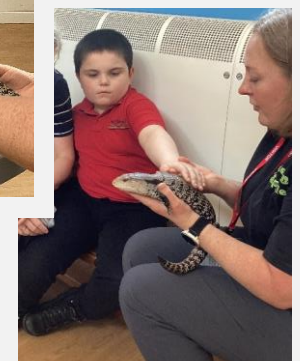
What a busy half term! The 'Minibeast Safari' topic has enabled the children to learn all about a variety of insects and minibeasts in their environment. They have been busy hunting for insects during outdoor learning, creating butterfly prints, exploring clay, as well as finding creepy crawlies in sensory materials! The key text has been 'What the ladybird heard' and the children have looked at non-fiction texts too. In Maths they have been comparing heights and lengths, along with lots of number work and games. In Topic the children have explored sound through instruments, used paints and created sculptures. In PHSECC they have been learning about being healthy with lots of exercise and healthy food tasting.



Lower Key Stage 2

It's been another busy half term in LKS2! In Literacy the children have been reading the story 'The Leopard's Drum' and studying poetry using 'Rumble in the Jungle'. Maths was all about money, multiplication, division, and estimation. The children continued to develop their number skills through songs, games, challenges, and written tasks. In Topic the children improvised and composed music based on the study of Madagascar and they also learnt about the classification of living things. Using the money raised from our Christmas Fayre we were able to fund a visit from Roaming Reptiles which all the children thoroughly enjoyed!

This half term we also had the opportunity to have a share a story afternoon as well as our Sports Day which was enjoyed by all!



Upper Key Stage 2



'Knock, Knock! Who's There?'

The children learnt about the text 'The Jolly Postman' in literacy focusing on describing and explaining the events of the story through role play and giving descriptions and explanations. They also wrote non-chronological reports, such as letters and postcards and exploring rhyme within the story and linking this to poems. In maths the children explored geometry, shape, number, and place value. As part of topic, they have explored a variety of songs and sounds with opportunity to compose music to create sound stories and explored direction whilst looking at our local community. The children also had fun designing products, such as sewing their own bags or making a teddy bear. UKS2 also enjoyed a fun (and almost dry) sports day with events such as the javelin, egg and spoon and relay race. It was lots of fun for all involved.

Other News

A big THANK YOU to all who helped organise Arts Week

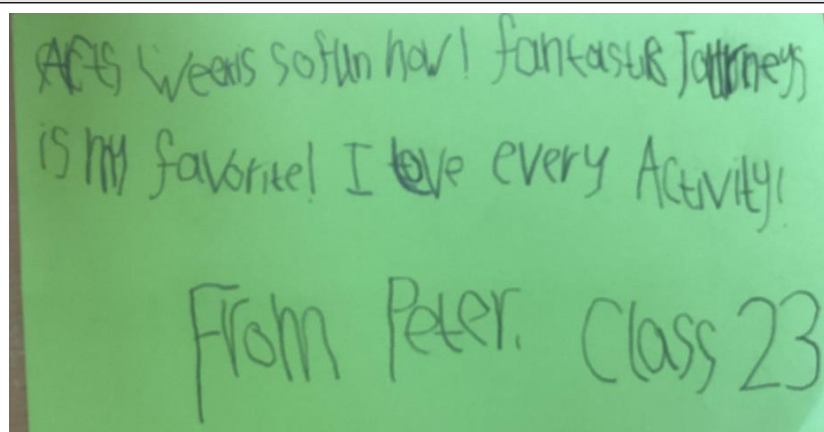
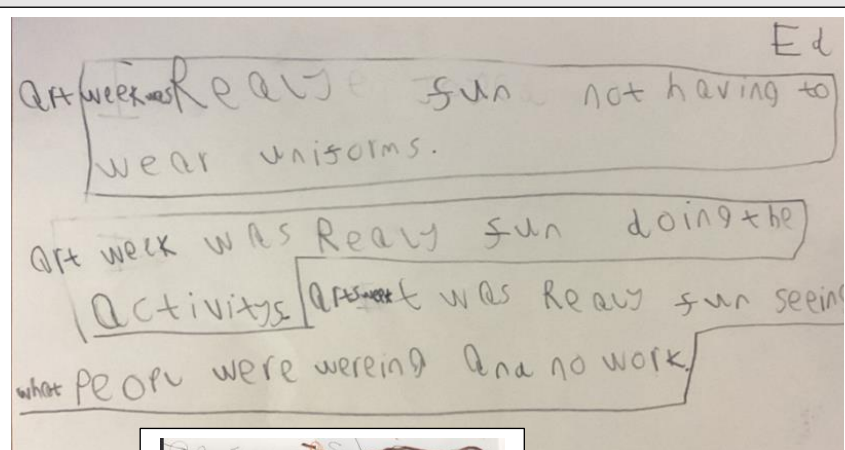
On Monday the children enjoyed visits from African Adventures where they played, danced, and sang along. Some children also experienced a sensory music session with Tom Peel where they used equipment such as microphones and experienced the vibrations. On Tuesday we explored the story of 'Tiddalik the Greedy Frog' during an interactive story telling session with Rose and Joe from Fantastic Journeys.

On Wednesday, some children did some dancing with Beth with props and scarves and enjoyed showing off their own moves. Drumlove and Vamos Theatre visited us on Thursday for a fun and noisy day.

On Friday we had Anjali Dance Company to create some fun dances; they are a Birmingham based company whose dancers have SEND and have performed all over the world.

Throughout the week children have had the opportunity to enjoy sensory sessions with massage and resonance boards and an active sports session. All the classes have also done lots of creative activities in their rooms.

We ended the busy week with a Disco and Arts Week assembly!



Other News

Arts Week Fun

