

This term our Big Question is

“What makes our environment special?”

Science Week

Reception

Reception have been exploring living things and changes. We looked at lifecycles of a frog and butterfly. We have tadpoles and caterpillars in our classrooms. We watch them, observing changes that happen daily!



Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed investigating the effect yeast has on dough. They made bread rolls with and without yeast and compared them. We were excited by the chemical reaction that occurred when we added vinegar to bicarbonate of soda. It really fizzed! We explored changing states by making jelly. We used brilliant scientific vocabulary to describe how it started as a solid, dissolved into a liquid and then became a solid again when it is cooled. We also made rainbows by pouring warm water onto skittles.



Year 2

We started the week by looking at a range of different scientists and learning the names of these including; archaeologist, astronomer and volcanologist. We first investigated apples using our senses. We used descriptive words for colours, textures, and scents as well as explored how to measure and compare the circumference of different apples. We used our cutting skills to cut open the apples, looking at their core. We enjoyed tasting each apple and discussed how different apples have particular tastes. We looked at the journey that apples took and explored the packaging that the apples arrived in, comparing the distance that each apple took. We now have the apples cut open, hanging in our classroom in a zip lock bag and are exploring how these apples are changing throughout the week. We then moved onto nature stamping in clay. The children enjoyed picking a range of natural materials and stamping them onto their clay to create a pattern. The children enjoyed exploring sneaky shadows using torches and objects from within the classroom. They looked at how we can make shadows and how the position of the light can affect the length of the shadow.



Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed using their observational skills to study weather over time. They have even used time and light to create some prints which will be revealed at the end of this week. They had great fun at the science workshop looking at all the amazing experiments that can be created with just air!



Year 4

Year 4 have really embraced the theme of 'Time'. They started the week looking into disappearing dinosaurs and trying to disprove or prove the dinosaur theory, we tested different fruits in jelly to see how long each different one might set and we designed 'schools of the future' using our knowledge of recycling and sustainability. The children also delved into adaptation and how animals adapt to their environments and the children made their own moths using natural resources and had to find the perfect habitat for them. Another exciting activity was that the children made their own pendulums, recording the time it took to swing back and forth under the influence of gravity.

The children have been using their scientific enquiry skills all week to explore, investigate, predict and evaluate what they have learnt.



Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed building on their scientific enquiry skills under the theme of 'time' this week - we have built and recorded pendulums to accurately measure a unit of time, made our own biodegradable plastic as an alternative for the future, presented our findings on the extinction of the dinosaurs and designed our own moths to prove the evolution of camouflage!



Year 6

Year 6 have been investigating how farming will adapt in the future. They have researched how technology is being used today and then designed their own farms of the future. They have also taken part in a big Plastic Count. Recording plastic use in their own households and then creating a campaign to reduce the use of plastics and looking at alternatives. They created radio adverts, TV adverts and posters to encourage people to change their habits. The children were shocked at the amount of plastic being used! The children enjoyed the workshop and assembly, taking part in the proof that air exists!



Science workshop fun!

The children were excited to experience an experiment using a candle and balloons to demonstrate heat transfer principles and the different ways materials respond to heat. They witnessed the speed of air - activities involving an Airzooka – to show principles of air pressure and motion, providing insights into how air speed can be measured and perceived. There was a visual demonstration using a 'gravity well' to illustrate the concepts of gravity, orbital mechanics, and the influence of mass on space-time. In addition to this they were able to hold bubbles.



Science Fair

One of the highlights of the week was the after-school events, where STEM activities took centre stage. Led by the school's science lead and assisted by enthusiastic science ambassadors, these events provided students and parents with the chance to delve deeper into scientific concepts in a fun and interactive environment. Children could make electricity with potatoes, convection snakes and launch rockets.



Many thanks to Mrs MacFarlan for organising such a fun and enjoyable week!

Competition time!

This week four of our Year 5 children took part in the annual St Lawrence's Science and Engineering Competition. The children put on their thinking caps for the challenge and demonstrated amazing team work in the "egg-drop" section!



World Downs Syndrome Day:
21st March

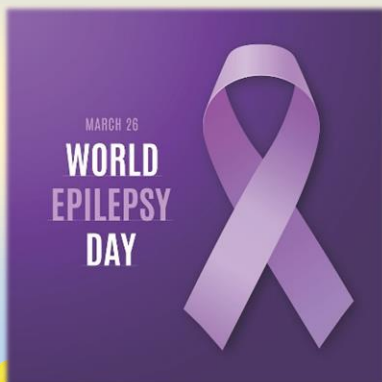
Wear crazy, odd or fun socks!



World Epilepsy Day:
26th March

Every child will receive a purple wristband (*thank you to Mrs Kelly for arranging this*).

Our Head Boy and Head Girl will be taking the assemblies this week to tell the children more about epilepsy.



Thank you for supporting Red Nose Day... the children look very vibrant today! Thank you for your donations this money will be sent to Comic Relief.

**Sports news**

187 girls from Thanet Primary Schools took to the pitch at Ramsgate Football Club last Friday at the #letgirlsplay football event.

Well done to...

Holly G, Holly B, India O, Poppy C, Morghane H, Emily C and Maggie-May C.

They took part in the various activities run by Football Futures and TJ Jadama, and finished off with mini matches which Holly B and Poppy C both scored in!





School dinner money

Please be advised that from April 2024 there will be a price increase to school meals. Our Catering Team have been working hard over recent months to absorb these costs through menu changes and negotiating with our suppliers. We have tried to keep the prices as low as possible for as long as possible, however we cannot continue to absorb the rising cost of food, energy increases and the rise of staffing costs due to the national minimum wage increases. At Bromstone, the cost of a school meal has been £2.30 for a number of years.

With effect from 15th April (after the Easter break) the price of a school meal will be £2.50 per child.

All menus will continue to provide children a choice of nutritious meals, while complying with the Government's nutritional guidelines, and catering for those with allergies. We want to assure you that the decision to take this action was not taken lightly. We will always continue to do all that we can to provide you the best possible value for money.

The Government is continuing to support Universal Infant Free School meals and this means that all of the children, from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge. If your child is in Years 3 – 6, they can also have a free school meal if you are in receipt of certain allowances.

All children who are entitled to free school meals also receive a voucher for food during the school holidays. This is currently £10 a child per week.

If you believe you may be eligible please contact the school office for help in completing forms or complete the online form [here](#).

Year 1 trip

Year 1 enjoyed their visit to Ramsgate Fire Station. They had a tour around the fire station and got to sit in a fire engine. Rocky's Grandad, who is a firefighter, even went down the pole for us!



**Kent Fire &
Rescue Service**

We will soon be using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

We are excited to announce that we will be moving our management information system to Arbor after the Easter holidays.

Moving to Arbor will allow us to communicate with you more efficiently and bring all core school data and communications into one system. We will be using Arbor for bookings and payments for all school clubs, school dinners and school trips.


We are really looking forward to getting started with Arbor and invite all our parents to familiarise themselves using the link below.



Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App

Arbor also offers access to many training resources which are completely free for you to make the most of! These can all be found [here](#).

We will send further communication on the parental app and how to register towards the end of this term, please look out for this information and register your child when prompted.

We hope you are looking forward to using this new feature as much as we are!
If you have any queries please contact the School Office.


Arbor

We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic
W10 5BN, London, 6BR

Enter your password

Log In

[Forgotten password?](#)

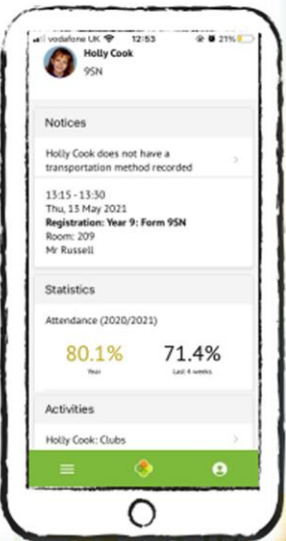
Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.





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13TH & 14TH APRIL 2024
MARGATE CAVES

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