MUNDESLEY INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

13th February 2026



Head of Schools Message

We've had a fantastic three weeks, with pupils thoroughly enjoying their learning about animals, their habitats, and the importance of caring for our planet. We were also delighted to welcome Y3 parents and carers into the classroom to see the Beyond the Desk trial in action and to experience first-hand how engaged and enthusiastic pupils are in their learning. Our Y4s set off on an adventure to Hill Top, creating lifelong memories and building new friendships with children from across the Federation. A huge thank you to Miss Gray and Miss Sambrook from MIJS for supporting the pupils and helping to make the trip such a success (and I'm sure everyone slept well afterwards!)

As we reach the half way point of the year, we really love to hear your feedback! All comments are welcome; positive, constructive, events you've enjoyed, or ideas for things you'd like to see in the future. Please send your thoughts to hos-mijs@aimfederation.org

Thank you all for your ongoing support and we wishing you all a wonderful half-term break!



Our PTFA is recruiting!

If you are already a member please could you email us to let us know you'd still like to contribute to fund raising events that directly benefit the children at MIJS and if you are yet to join but are thinking about it we would love oto hear from you!

Key Dates

Mon 23rd Feb - Welcome Back!

Weds 25th Feb - Porpoise Class Swimming

Tues 3rd Mar - Y5 to see Cromer Academie's production of Annie!

Weds 4th Mar - Hare Class Swimming

Thurs 5th Mar - AIM Career's Fair

Thurs 5th Mar - World Book Day!

19th - 26th March - PTFA Book Fair

20th March - Red Nose Day

16th-19th March - Y5 Bikeability

27th March - Last Day of Spring 2

14th April - Welcome Back!

Coming Soon...





HABITAT HOMES

EYFS



Puffin Class

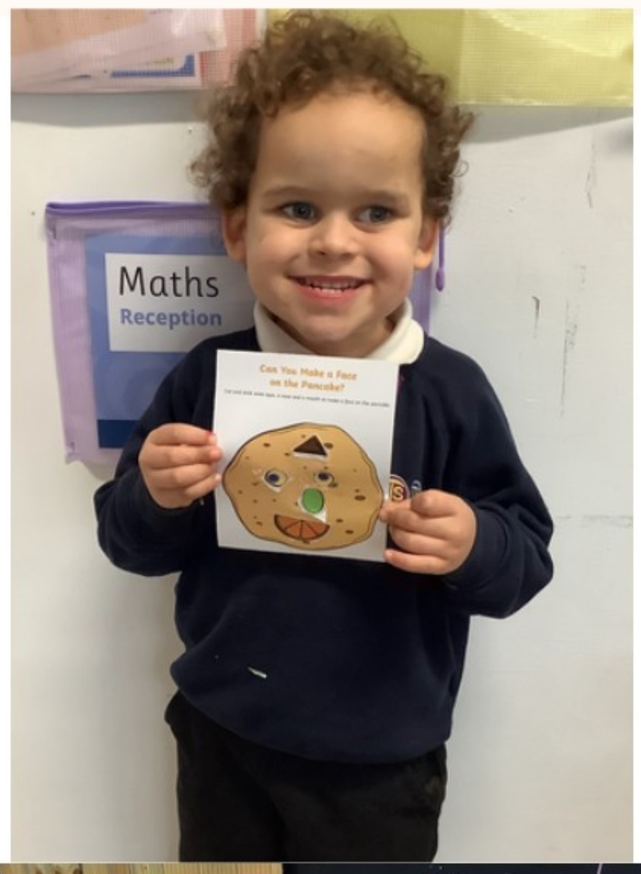
Puffin Class have continued their exciting learning about People, using stories, discussion and practical activities to explore kindness, problem-solving and teamwork.

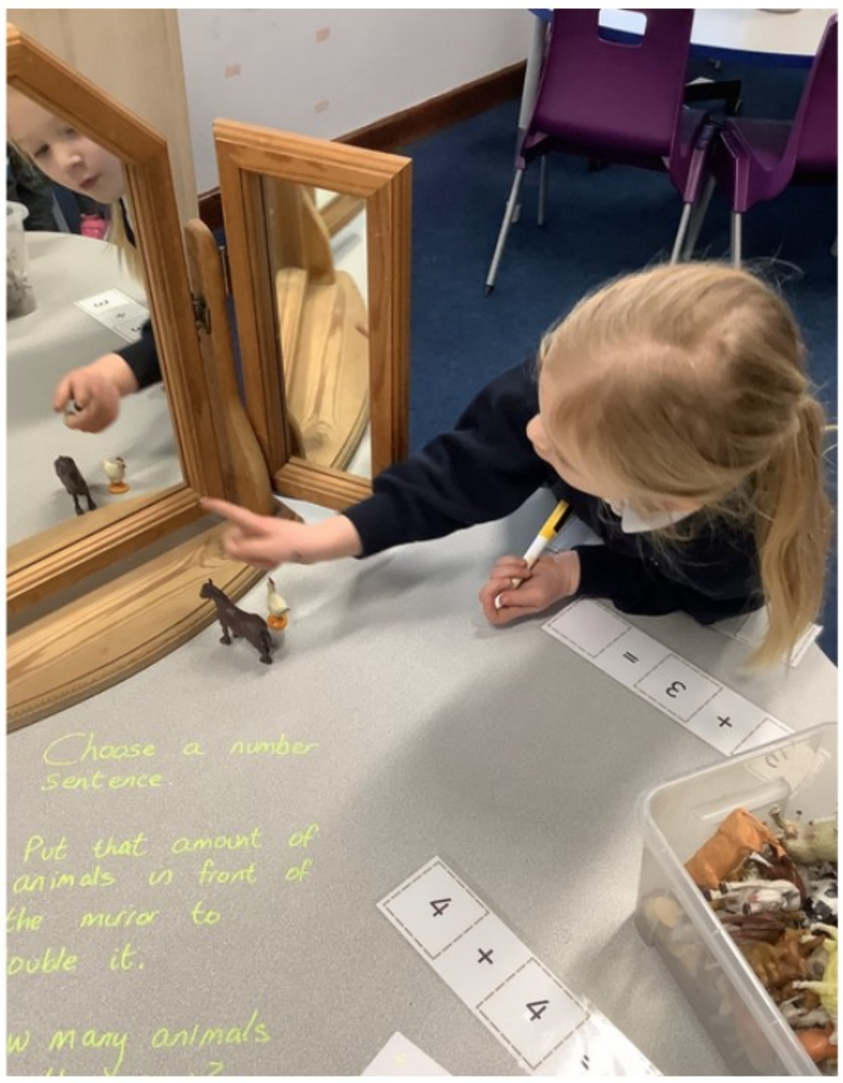
We enjoyed reading The Pirates Next Door, thinking about why the pirates came ashore and imagining what might have happened to their ship. The children suggested creative ways the pirates could fix it and discussed how first impressions can be wrong. They shared thoughtful ideas about the "treasure" we could leave to show kindness — including notes, gifts and helpful actions — showing lovely empathy and understanding of friendship.

For Pancake Day, we read Mr Wolf's Pancakes, which sparked conversations about kindness and being welcoming. The children loved inventing silly toppings and predicting where a pancake might land if flipped too high — from rooftops to the moon — leading to lots of laughter and imaginative thinking.

We also watched BBC Musical Storyland: The Great Race, exploring the animals' different strengths and working together to solve problems, including how to cross a river safely and quickly.
In maths, we focused on numbers 6, 7 and 8, finding pairs, exploring odd and even numbers, and learning doubles using mirrors to show equal groups. We compared length and height by ordering ourselves and creating a class height chart — the children loved measuring and comparing.
Puffin Class have shown great curiosity, teamwork and growing confidence throughout this topic.











HABITAT HOMES

Y1



Seal Class

Over the past three weeks, our Y1 children have become Polar Meteorologists as they explored cold habitats and learned about one of the most extreme environments on Earth. The children discovered the seven continents of the world and learned where Antarctica is located near the South Pole, using maps and globes to compare it with the UK. They explored the unique weather conditions found in polar regions, discussing freezing temperatures, strong winds and heavy snow, and regularly compared Antarctic weather with what we experience at home.

Pupils also investigated the animals that live in Antarctica and learned how they are specially adapted to survive in such cold environments. Through hands-on science experiences, the children tested how blubber helps animals stay warm, explored icy materials, and discussed what living things need to survive in their habitats. Alongside this, they expressed their learning creatively by producing beautiful watercolour images of polar landscapes and weather scenes.

Throughout the project, children talked thoughtfully about why it is important to care for our planet and protect habitats, developing early awareness of climate and environmental responsibility. The project sparked great curiosity, teamwork and excitement, helping pupils build strong foundations in geography, science and environmental understanding.











HABITAT HOMES

Y2



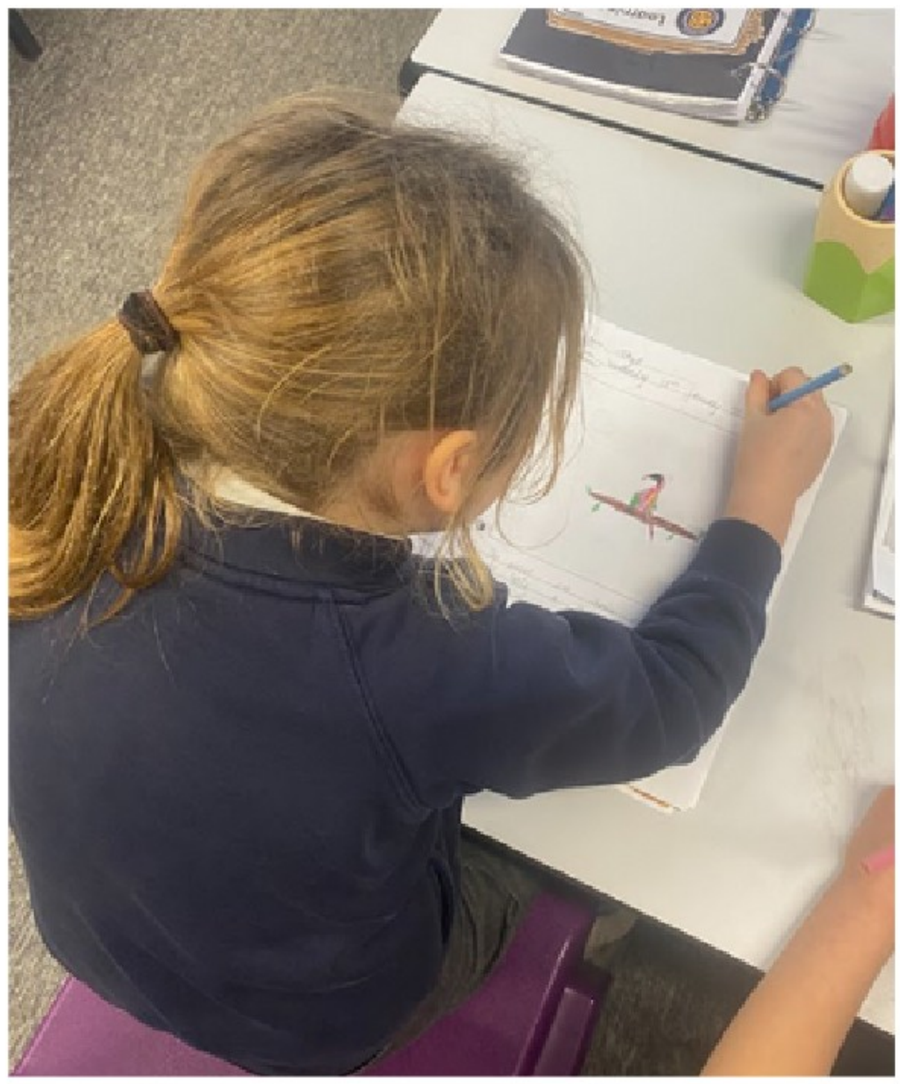
Turtle Class

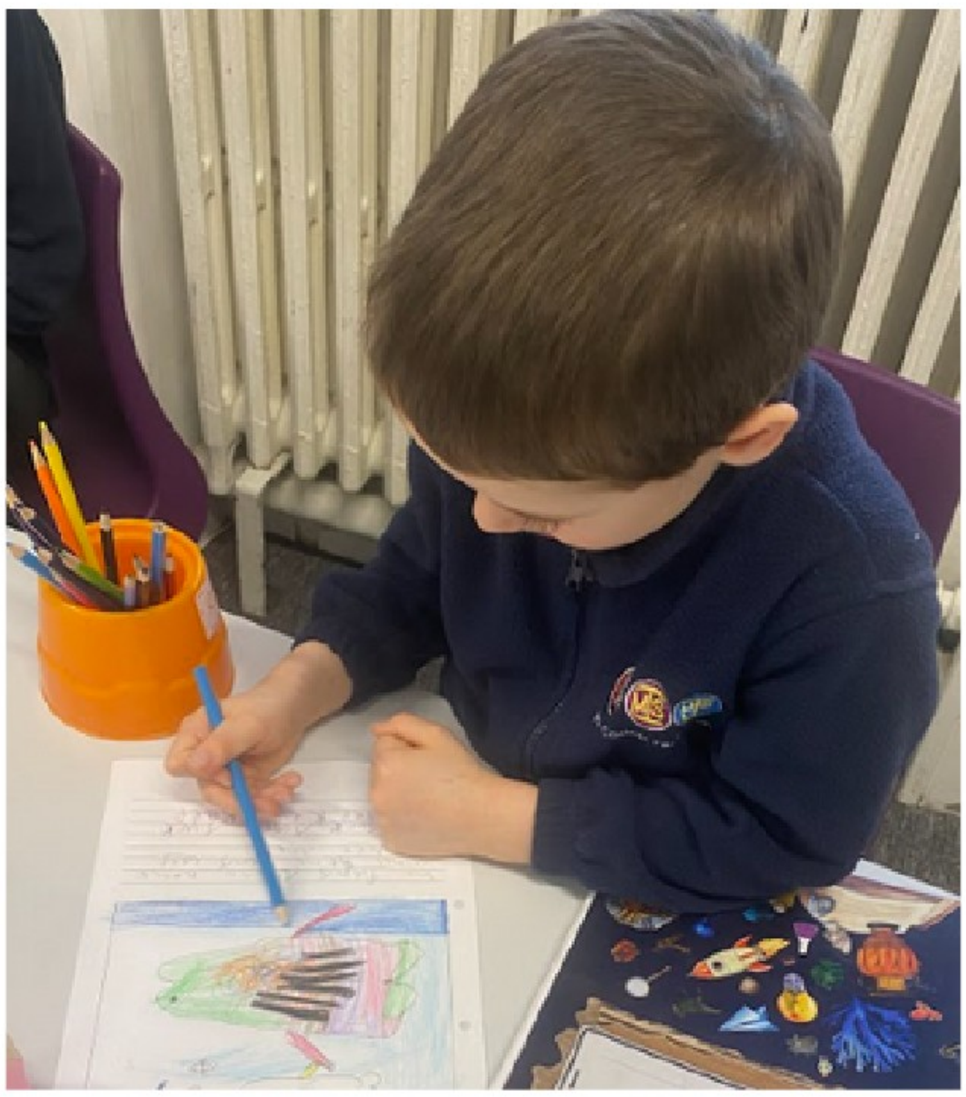
We have really enjoyed our latest project, "Habitat Homes," where the children have been learning about Antarctica and exploring how animals have adapted to survive in this extreme environment. We have compared Antarctica to the UK, looking at similarities and differences in climate, landscapes and wildlife, helping the children to develop their understanding as geographical explorers.

In English, our writing has been inspired by the book One Day on Our Blue Planet... In the Antarctic by Emily Bailey. The children have continued to focus on using adjectives and powerful verbs to make their writing more exciting, while also developing their skills in using conjunctions to extend their sentences.

In maths, we have begun learning about multiplication and division, with a particular focus on counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The children have shown great enthusiasm and effort across all areas of learning, and it has been lovely to see their growing confidence and curiosity.

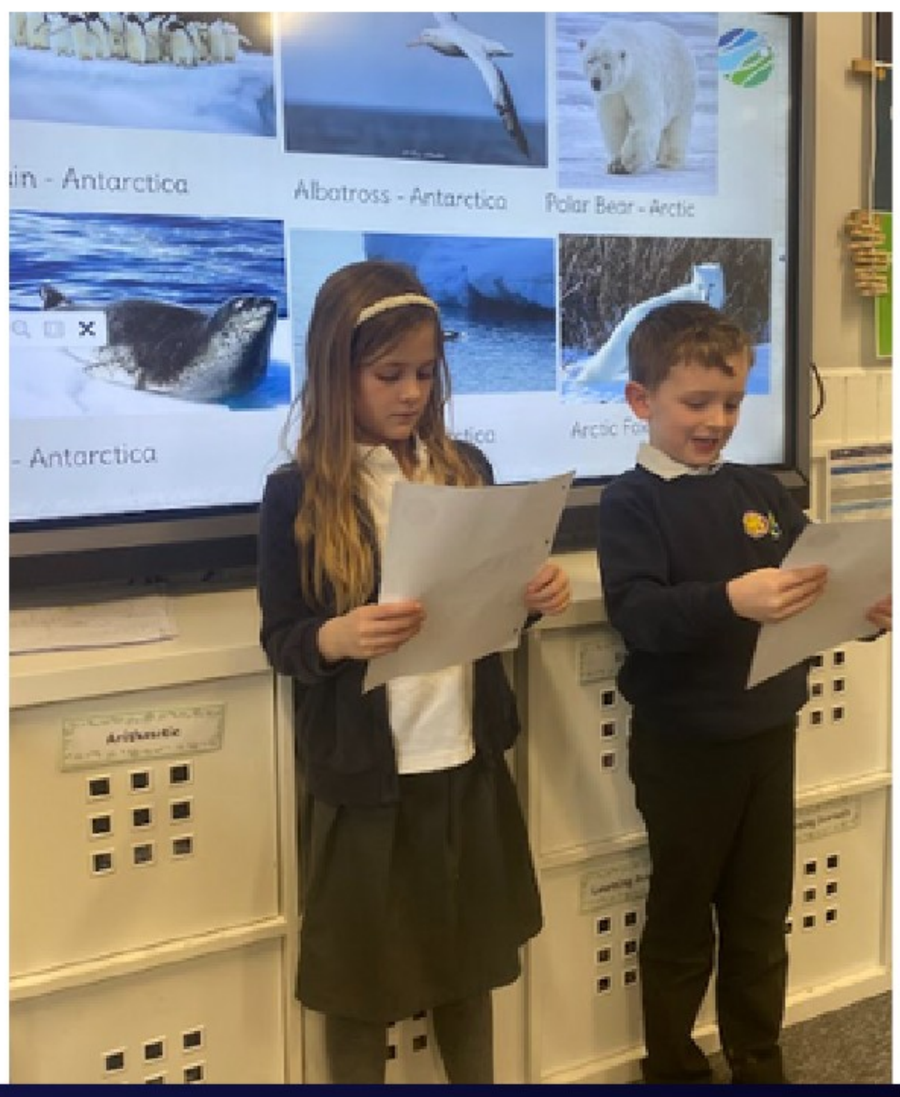




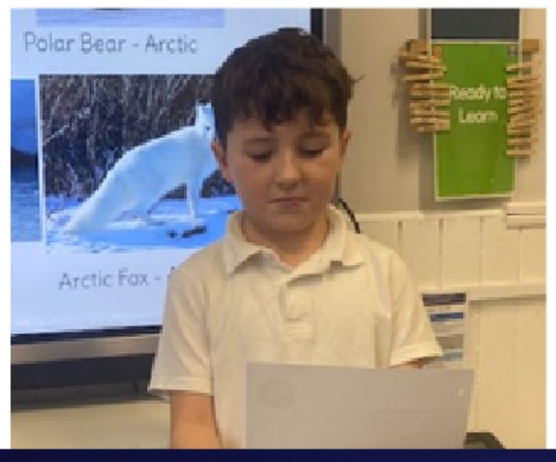


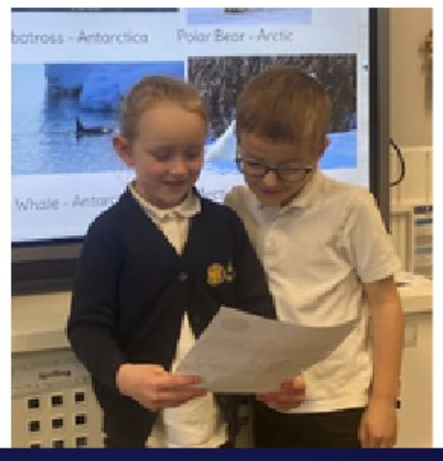












HABITAT HOMES

Y3



Hare Class

Hare Class have had an exciting and positive start to the new term. The children have enjoyed exploring their new classroom and making full use of the wide range of new resources available to support their learning.

Our first project of the term, "Let's Explore", has seen Year 3 learning about historical geographers and the key features of different world biomes. To deepen their understanding, the children have been working in the new learning stations to create a variety of topic-linked outcomes.

Activities have included designing and building rainforest and desert models using LEGO, creating detailed explorer fact files on the computers, and producing beautiful watercolour paintings of poisonous dart frogs inspired by rainforest habitats. In PE, Year 3 have begun learning the fundamentals of hockey, developing skills such as passing, dribbling, teamwork and spatial awareness.

It has been a busy and engaging start to the term. Hare Class have embraced new challenges with enthusiasm and curiosity and are fully immersed in "explorer mode".













HABITAT HOMES

Y4 & Y5



Falcon & Porpoise Classes

Porpoise and Falcon Class have deepened their knowledge of rainforests in our project "Habitat Homes." We used retrieval from our previous project, Let's Explore, to help us understand rainforest biomes and key features, including why they are hot all year round and experience heavy rainfall. In maths, we explored hundredths, including adding and subtracting money, and even created our own Nando's orders to calculate bills and change — which was great fun! In English, linked to our project, we wrote a narrative inspired by The Tin Forest, using time adverbs, expanded noun phrases and powerful verbs to describe the patient old man and the tin-filled setting around his home. Year 4 also had an amazing time on their Hill Top residential. Pupils showed excellent resilience and teamwork while tackling activities like biking, tree climbing and evening games — and had lots of fun challenging themselves and supporting one another.



HABITAT HOMES

Y6



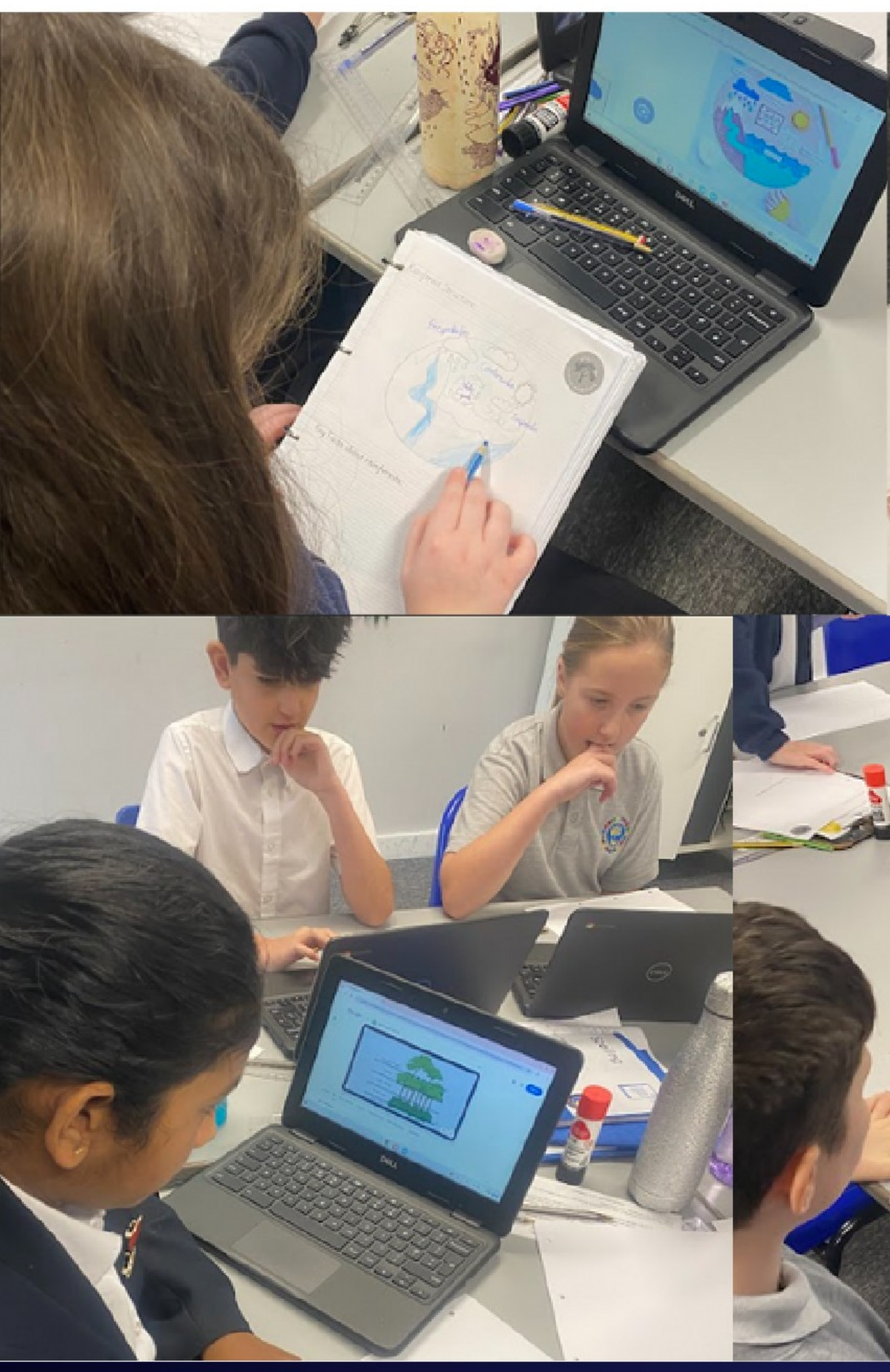
Bittern Class

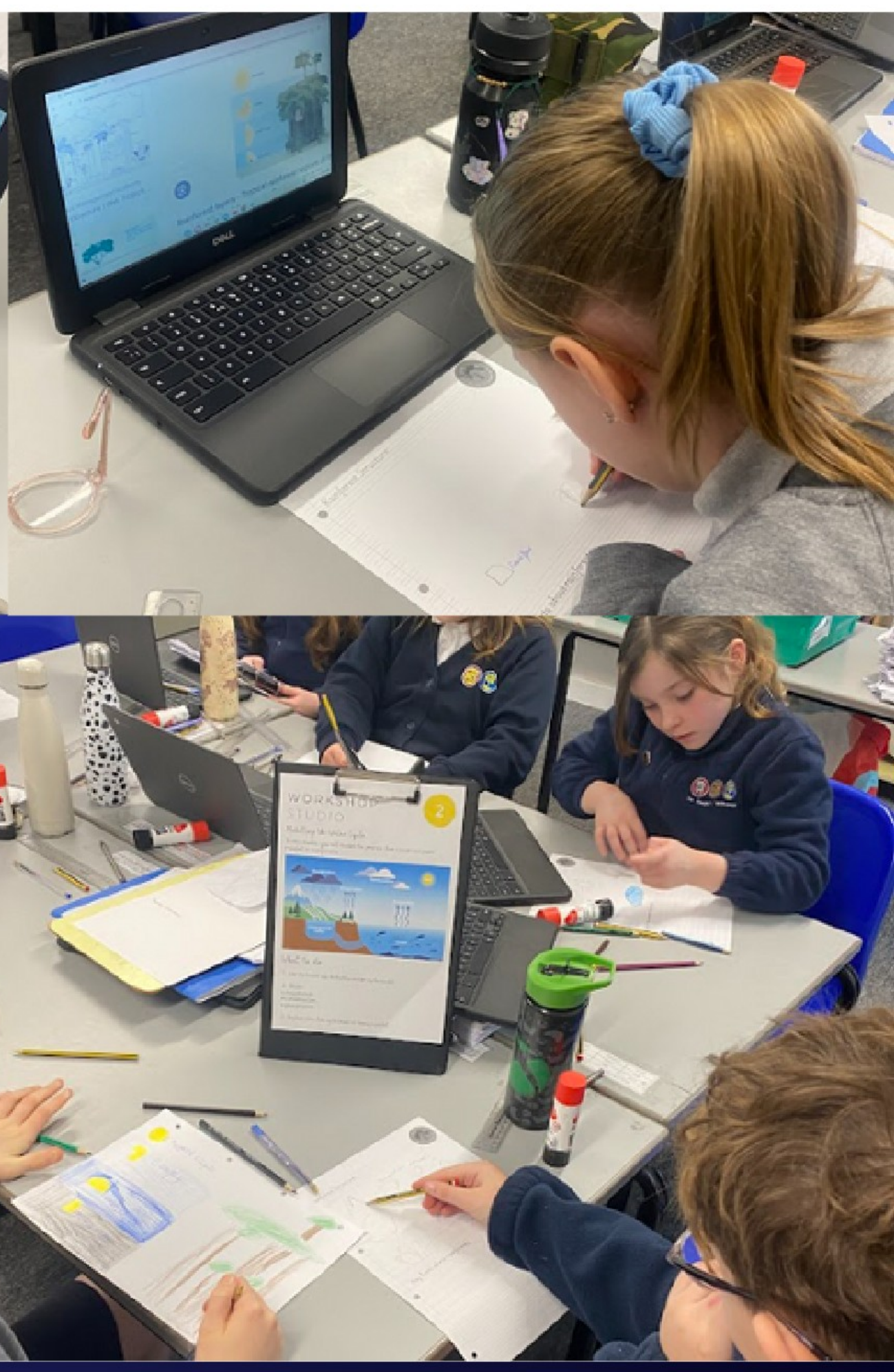
Bittern Class have had a busy and exciting time across the curriculum, showing great enthusiasm and determination in all areas of learning. In Maths, pupils have been strengthening their arithmetic skills with fractions, alongside a range of reasoning and problem-solving challenges involving money, bar charts, missing numbers, rounding and number comparisons. They have worked hard to explain their thinking clearly. In English, The Jungle Book has inspired both narrative and explanation writing. The children have focused on rich vocabulary, clear structure and engaging descriptions, while also developing their reading comprehension skills and confidence in answering questions in depth. Our topic work has taken us into the world's rainforests, exploring where they are found, their key features, how they change and the importance of the water cycle. Pupils have shown great curiosity about the natural world.

In SPaG, the class has been learning about prepositions, conjunctions, determiners and articles, applying these skills in their writing. In Science, they have studied living things, including plants and microorganisms. Computing lessons have focused on planning, creating and editing videos.

In PE, Year 6 have continued to enjoy cheerleading with Mrs. Grey, building teamwork, coordination and confidence.

Well done to Bittern Class for their hard work and positive attitude — keep it up!





COMING SOON...

BIG WALK AND WHEEL!

16th - 27th March 2026



Info sheet

16 - 27 March 2026

Big Walk and Wheel is the UK's largest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge. It inspires pupils to make active journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world.

In 2025,
4,550kg
of nitrogen oxide avoided as a result of the 10-day challenge*

In 2025,
2,880 tonnes
of CO_2 avoided as a result of the 10-day challenge*

In 2025, pupils at
2,024
schools made
2,840,575
journeys to school by foot, wheelchair, scooter and cycle

Big Walk and Wheel challenge

Active travel is a great way to build physical activity into children's daily routine. It helps them arrive to school more relaxed and alert, and is great for their mental wellbeing. This year the challenge will run from **16 - 27 March 2026.**

It is free and easy to take part in Big Walk and Wheel. You can register your school for the challenge from January 2026 at www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk

How it works

On each day of the challenge schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school.

A school's best five days will determine their final position and schools at the top of their leader boards will receive an exclusive Big Walk and Wheel certificate.

Prizes and badges

All schools will be entered into daily prize draws for rewards if over 15% of your school takes part on each day of the challenge. Prizes up for grabs include accessories and equipment to help your school travel actively. All schools that participate in Big Walk and Wheel will also have the opportunity to earn virtual badges.

*Based on the assumption the journeys logged in the challenge would otherwise have been made by car.

CALLING YOUNG CARERS

FREE OPPORTUNITY

1st April 2026

