



EYFS

This month we have really enjoyed our Chatterbooks project. Each day we have read a book that is special to one of the children. We have encountered lots of new titles and we have relished the opportunity to share our passion and enthusiasm for books.

Our new topic for May has been 'Let's Go Outside'. We have been exploring the animals and plants which we encounter in our day to day life. We have explored the lifecycles of some of these animals and plants. We have also planted seeds and cared for the plants as they grow, measuring and making observations. In our classroom, we now have five cocoons which will hatch out into butterflies at any moment!

We have also been taking part in a project (in conjunction with Jigsaw Homes) to create a garden at Buttermere Community Centre. We still have two more sessions to complete on this exciting project. This week we took part in celebrations and experiences linked to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and we have learned two songs, which we enjoyed performing to our parents .

Year 1

May has been a very exciting month with lots of activities and exciting events. We have started our new topic 'What Were Holidays Like in the Past?' We have been focusing on St. Anne's – comparing it to Chorley and using resources from the past to help us to understand what holidays were like in the past and how they have changed over time.

We have also had a visit from 'Life Education'. During our Life Education session, we learned all about our 'Wonderful Body', learning about how our body works and how we can eat healthily and exercise to keep our body fit, healthy and working well.

As part of our school vision, we have left a legacy in the form of a cherry tree planted in our school grounds. We very much look forward to watching it grow and produce fruit for future Gillibrand children.

Our music lessons with Ms. Jones have come to an end and we celebrated through performing a short singing concert for parents, showcasing the two songs that we have learned – 'Oh I Do Like to be Beside The Seaside' and 'Street Party'. It was lovely to see the parents once again and celebrate our hard work.

Year 2

This half term has absolutely flown by – it has been so busy! We have started a new topic all about the seaside and have been learning all about holidays of the past, including how people travelled and which destinations they would go to. We have been fascinated by the differences in swimming costumes and seaside activities and also the significance of local places such as Blackpool and Southport in British history. As part of our learning about the seaside, we have also been learning about plastic pollution and the detrimental impact it is having on our world. We have read different stories all about plastic in the ocean and this inspired us to go litter picking in the local community and we hope this will make a positive impact to the people who live around us. In art, we have continued the seaside topic by making incredible shell sculptures. After initially looking at different shells, children have sketched using tints and tones for shadow and light before moulding them into incredible shell ornaments. Finally, children in Year 2 have left a lasting legacy on the school grounds by planting a class damson tree, the tree will grow as the class continue their Gillibrand journey into Key Stage 2 and beyond.



Year 3

This month, we have been very busy with the start of the Maya topic and starting our planting topic in science. We have been investigating plants and we have even made our own mini-green that we took home. We have so many pictures of the plants growing successfully at home...we most definitely must all have green fingers! We didn't stop there though as we planted our class apple tree, although we did have to have an emergency visit to fix it as it was leaning over. We have also started our Jubilee celebrations this week and are now in the middle of making our cup in DT using paper mache. Since the weather has been a little better, we have been able to use the outdoor areas for our PE sessions: running, throwing and jumping. We've also been able to use the orienteering course for our maths topic, which the children loved to do (despite the rain showers).

Have a great half term.

Year 4

How are we nearly at the end of Year 4 already? We have been working hard and produced some fantastic work once again. This half term, we started a new history and geography topic of 'Ancient Maya' and we have loved learning about who they were and where they came from.

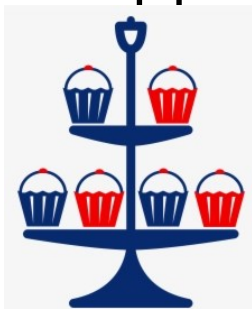
In English, we have looked at different types of non-fiction and fiction texts and we have worked hard to produce work in the different styles. Over the past few weeks, we have thoroughly enjoyed looking at fantasy stories about superheroes and creating our own superhero story!

We have loved DT this half term as we have been looking at food. We were delighted to taste different breads donated by Morris Bakery. From this, we have designed our own type of bread using flavourings which we chose themselves. I hope you enjoyed tasting their final product!

Well done everyone for all the hard work that you have done. Hopefully the sun will continue to smile on us next half term.

Year 5

This month has been all about the ancient Maya civilisation in Y5. We started with a visit from Dr. Diane - the UK's only Maya archaeologist - who delivered a whole key stage assembly before spending time with each year group, teaching us all about the Maya with her expertise and artefacts. We have learned where the Maya lived and how life was different to ours in geography and history lessons. We are close to completing our Maya weaving designs in DT. In science, we have been very practical recently, conducting a range of investigations looking at different forces such as air resistance, friction and water resistance. We are currently practising hard for our Queen's Jubilee performance where we look forward to seeing many of your faces there.



Year 6

This half term, Year 6 have worked incredibly hard and completed the end of KS2 SATs. We are incredibly proud of the children for their continuous hard work. Of course, we celebrated with an end of SATs week party, which we thoroughly enjoyed. In DT, we have been busy exploring and designing cakes for our Jubilee picnic. We became cake tasters, where we sampled different cakes and evaluated shop bought produce before enjoying make our very own cupcakes. In geography, we got creative and created giant 3D maps of the Mayan civilisation.