

Curnow School

Newsletter



April 2023

Welcome to Curnow's latest Newsletter—it is lovely to hear what Sowenna Class and Mylor Class have been learning about recently - I am very much hoping we have reassured the children in Sowenna that it is highly unlikely that a tiger really will pop round for tea! And I am super impressed with how busy Mylor have been lately whether in the kitchen or at the rainforest!

Time continues to fly at Curnow and we have had a busy start to the Summer Term. I had a fantastic time at the Jubilee Challenge joining Colin, Natasha and Maddie on our 8.5 mile walk—Huge congratulations on completing the walk with a smile and a lot of fun and laughter, I continue to be in awe of what our students can achieve!

It has also been lovely to see parents in school enjoying learning about some of the work of our Specialist Intervention Therapy Team (SITT) Marci our school SITT lead and Lou Thrower have been sharing information and lots of ideas of how sensory needs are being met in school and at home. If you would like to find out a little more please go to our website; Our Learning tab then SITT. Lower School hosted the first training and parent feedback was fantastic—our Upper School session is booked for 23rd May & 6th June letters have come home and it is not too late to join.

Early heads up for a family summer fun day—instead of our usual Summer Fayre we will be offering something a bit different—make a note in your diaries for Saturday July 15th at 10am—more details to follow (and yes of course there will still be a raffle!).

Dates for your diary!

Lower School

Flambards trip June 14th

Upper School

Activity Week 22nd—26th May

Upper School

Performance - 16th June

All:

Parents coffee morning
5th June 10am Lower School

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Lower School News

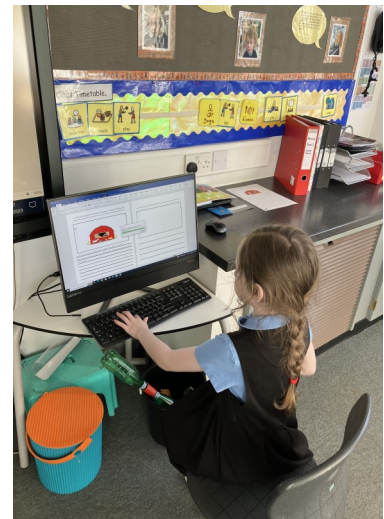
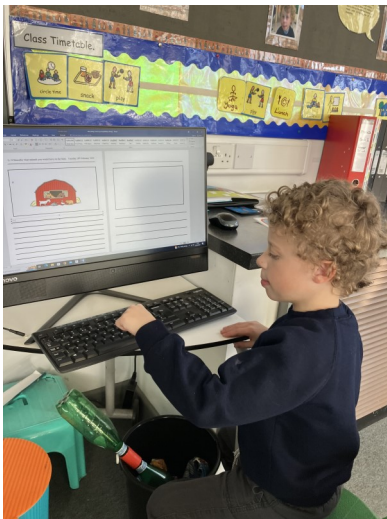


News from Sowenna Class!

Our topic this term is all about Opposites and Familiar settings.

We are looking in particular at the tiger who came to tea which is set in a kitchen. Our big question we look at during every lesson is could a tiger actually come to tea at your house?

Sowenna have used a number of ways to record their information from the use of computers to working on our letter formation. We have also looked at a number of books to help us answer the big question.



Lower School News



We were lucky enough to have Kris from Bristol Bears come to Curnow and run some fantastic PE sessions for everyone.



We were moving to different types of music. Rolling and throwing balls and picking up cones and putting them in the bin!



Lower School News



In PSHE we are looking this term at keeping healthy. In particular we are focusing on brushing our teeth and keeping hygienic which will support our independent living skills.



We are using the dolls as part of role-play in learning how to take care of ourselves and others.



Upper School News

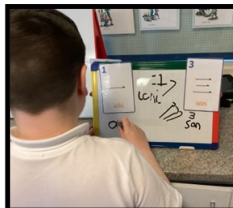
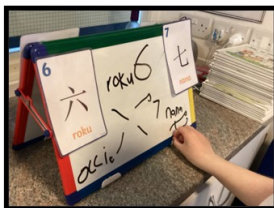


Upper KS2 — Mylor Class

Mylor Class have settled well into Upper School life and we can't quite believe that we are already in the Summer Term! We loved our Spring Term Topic focus, learning all about the traditions of Japan. We sampled sushi, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, dressed in kimonos, had a go at writing the Japanese numbers, created our own miniature Zen gardens, made: Geisha girls, Koi carp, Ninja Warriors, Cherry Blossom & Snow Monkeys to decorate the Topic Corner in the classroom!



Kimonos & writing
Japanese numbers!



Geisha girls in action!

Upper School News



Mylor Class had an exciting day out at the Eden Project experiencing the Rain-forest that we had been learning about. Emily, our guide, told us lots of facts about the plants and encouraged us to use our senses to explore them! We were so lucky with the weather as it was absolutely glorious!

A super day out with great company!

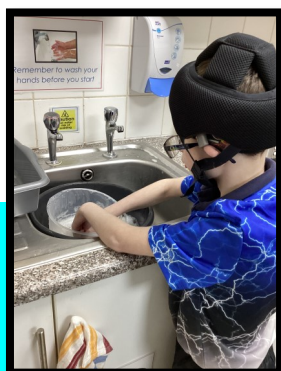
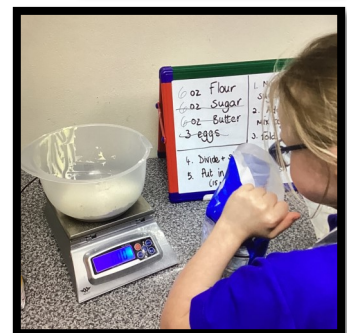


Sunshine and smiles whilst exploring the Eden Project!

Upper School News



Mylor Class have also enjoyed using the Teaching Kitchen to practice their cooking skills, as well as their Maths & English, making a selection of foods to share with family or friends in class! They have all enjoyed working alongside one another in our small but bijou kitchen! Experiencing the whole process from washing hands before they start to washing up when they have finished!

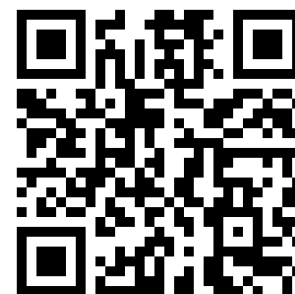


Lots of independence shown in the teaching kitchen sessions!

Curriculum focus— Computing



Scan me with your smart phone camera for our interactive science newsletter!!



Can't scan?—copy this into your web browser:

<https://padlet.com/ebirch8/computing-flwxdc6a4gzhm2bu>

Computing
Computers are a part of everyday life and for most of us technology is essential, from turning on a switch or activating the blender to sending an email or using a self service till. 'Computational thinking' is a skill that must be taught to enable our students to participate fully in this digital world. Knowing that if I do this particular action then I will produce this specific effect: At Curnow our learners follow their own learning journey and learn in ways and at a pace that is best for them. We are individuals who may need assistance and adapted resources such as switches, eye gaze technology, audio or magnified screens.

- Computer Science**
What is it?
Computer Science is all about computational thinking, simply put this means "If I do this... this will happen" It includes computer programming and coding, sequencing and algorithms.
At Curnow this means learning that....
I can... make something happen
I can... press a switch
I can... understand that different switches do different things
I can... follow instructions
I can... give someone instructions in a sequence
I can... create a pattern
I can... understand symbols for specific operations
I can... create a simple algorithm
To think computationally you don't need to be using technology and the best ways to learn are to begin with the above in everyday activities, following simple instructions and intentionally making something happen for...
- Information Technology**
What is it?
Information Technology is all about knowing how to use a device; a PC, laptop, camera, ipad, and many more. It includes the skills of research, storing and organising files and online communications.
At Curnow this means learning that....
I can... understand the information on a computer screen and what I need to press
I can... use a mouse/touchpad
I can... understand simple symbols on a device (on/off, print, save, close)
I can... search for something specific
I can... add text appropriately to a screen
I can... save, print or send my word document
I can... take an image/video/audio and use it appropriately
- Digital Literacy**
What is it?
Digital Literacy is all about using technology safely. It is about being literate in a digital world, ensuring students are able to express themselves and develop ideas whilst being responsible, competent, confident and creative.
At Curnow this means learning that....
I can... say when I've heard/seen something that I don't like
I can... understand the term 'friend' and what this means online and in real life
I can... keep my personal information secure
I can... understand the importance of telling people about what I am doing online
I can... understand the importance of not meeting people I have met online
I can... stay safe when using the internet
At Curnow we have our STAR poster of points to remember every time we use technology.
- STAR points for Online Safety**
Security: Don't give out your personal details or passwords
I tell someone: If you do not like what you see, have an adult
Ask for help: Everyone makes mistakes
star poster e-safety rules
- Useful Links**
Online Safety specific to children with SEND- NSPCC
nspcc.org.uk
Online safety for families and children with SEND
Inclusive Technology- switches and switch adapted toys/resources
Inclusive.com
Inclusive Technology
Childnet- help, advice and resources for being safe online

This month's focus is Computing. Computing is part of our 'Understanding the World' curriculum and is divided into 3 key areas—Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy. The 'Padlet' above will give you more information about what each area involves and how we teach this at Curnow school.

Computing enables all students to develop the knowledge and skills needed to function practically in an ever changing world of technology. Students will develop the skills required to keep them safe online and in a digital community. Through the subject area of computing students will develop their self-awareness, confidence and understanding of computer systems through computational thinking.

Please check our Computing padlet (follow the QR code) to find out more.

Emily Birch is the school's Computing co-ordinator and for more information email:

ebirch@curnowschool.org.uk



Governor visits



“I visited lower school to meet Jess and find out more about the Physical Development offer at Curnow. I was surprised and amazed at the countless ways in which all children, with a range of disabilities are helped to fulfil their physical ability. All the children were happy and playful in their lesson and seemed to love the yoga and relaxation at the end, it was joyful for me to witness. I am really looking forward to learning more about new training which all staff are getting from Bristol Bears Rugby which has developed a range of inclusive sports sessions for all pupils”

Lee Gendall (Parent Governor)



Coffee Morning



Fancy a Cuppa?



We are holding a parent coffee (and tea!) morning on Monday 5th June at Curnow Lower School (Illogan) at 10am. This is open for all Curnow parents/carers and offers a chance to come in for a cuppa and chat and we will also have Parent Carer Council in to share the work that they do with you. Thank you to those who have already responded to the invite on dojo—we look forward to seeing you soon!