Spring newsletter

Welcome back

Welcome back! We hope you all had a safe, relaxing and fun Christmas holiday. We were so proud of how sensibly the children settled into Year 5 last term and also by their dedication to learning - they are certainly maturing into upper school role models.

This term brings plenty to keep us all busy, not least with our Assembly next Friday at 9am. There will be an introduction to Bikeability (road cycle training) ready for the training course in Year 6; we'll be meeting the wonderful Jeremy who will begin to get us thinking about our puppet show in May; some of us will be heading to Wembley to sing in the Young Voices concert and after the February half term, we'll begin swimming lessons. Naturally, there will be much other learning taking place too!

Mrs Berry is now very much part of the Year 5 team, so she will be continuing to teach Kingfishers on Thursday mornings and Kites on Friday mornings.

Homework will continue as it was last term. The expectations are:

- Reading at least three times a week with a clearly dated journal about what has been read as per the example in the front of the home books.
- Spellings will be set every Tuesday and these should be practised ready for Friday's test.
- Times tables to 12x must be able to be recalled at speed. If you know your child cannot do this, please practise with them. It makes a huge difference to their ability to access much of the Maths curriculum and really boosts their confidence.

Child-led parent's evenings will be on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th February. This will be a good opportunity for them to discuss, among other things, their organisational skills in terms of their home learning. Therefore, this half term is a good opportunity to really focus on this area of their education.

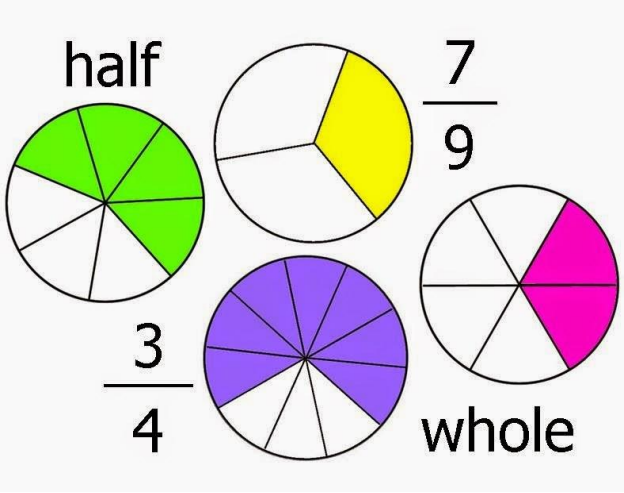
We will continue to send Marvellous Me messages, so remember to check your notifications and of course we are also on email or at the door if you need a chat.

English

Another exciting event taking place this term is the Poetry By Heart competition. In English, children will be analysing, learning and writing poems linked to our theme. In particular, children will learn how to write a cinquain. A significant part of the unit will also involve performing poetry to the class which will help them develop their confidence ready for the competition. More details to follow later this term.

Later this half term, children will write explanations about the circulatory system building on the knowledge that they will have gained from our theme and science lessons.

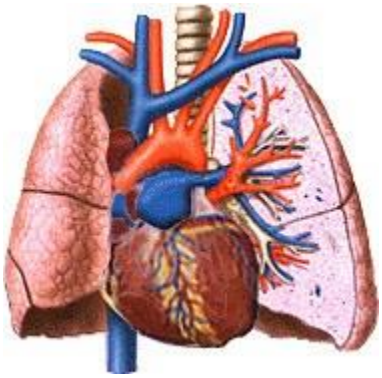
Maths



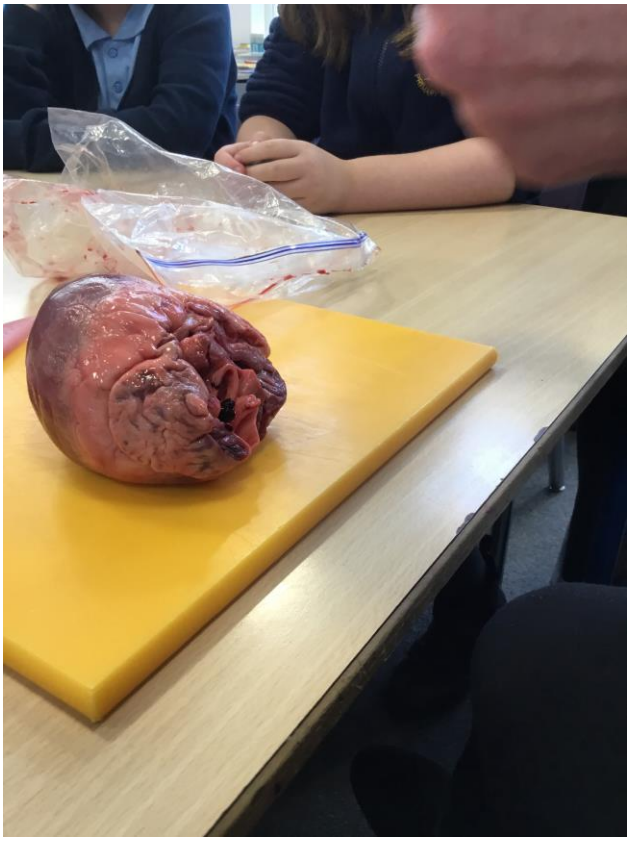
1 - This half term we will be focusing on fractions and decimals. We will also continue with our weekly arithmetic test and daily fluency work.

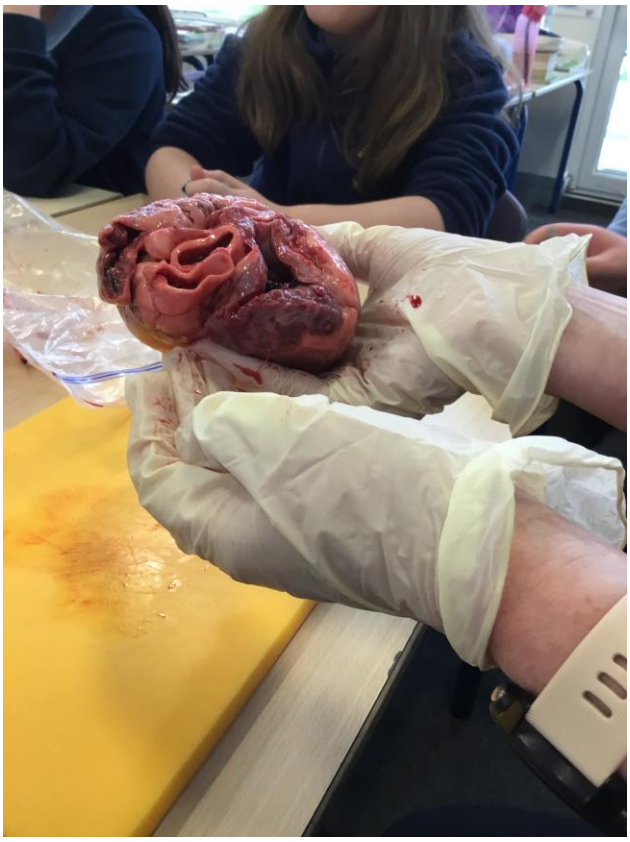
Revising last year's previous learning will help children with this topic. On Purple Mash, go to the fractions section and look at the age 7-9 folder.

Science/Theme



To kick off our new topic Circulation we dissected a pig's heart today! This is a great introduction to a fascinating topic which covers both science and history, as we learn about the function of the heart and the circulatory system, the impact of diet and exercise on the health of your heart, blood types and important biologists who contributed to our understanding of the blood.





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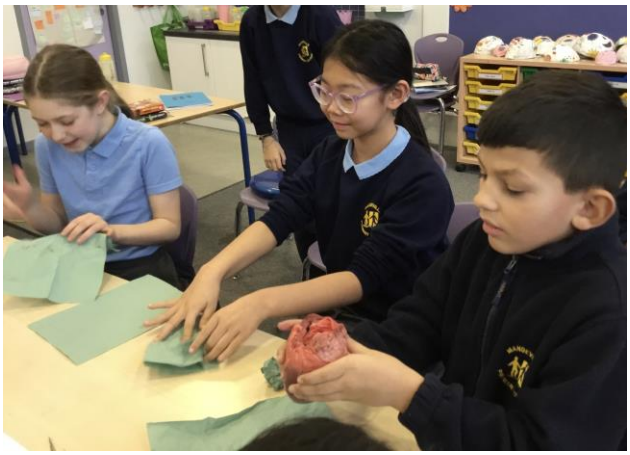

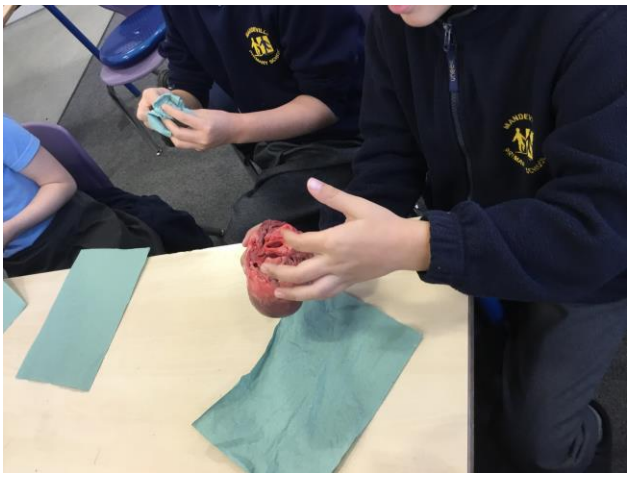

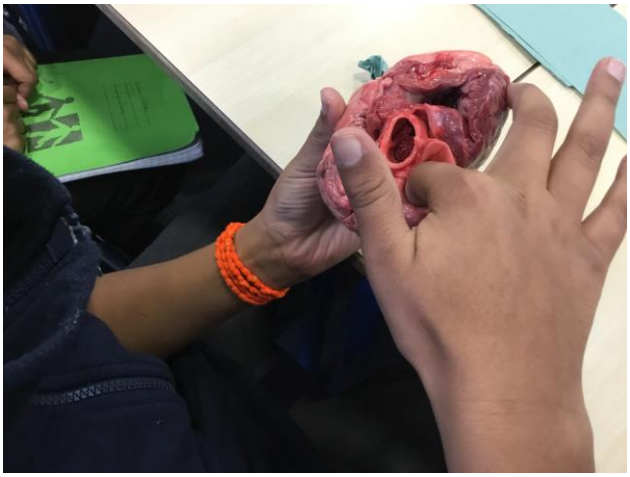

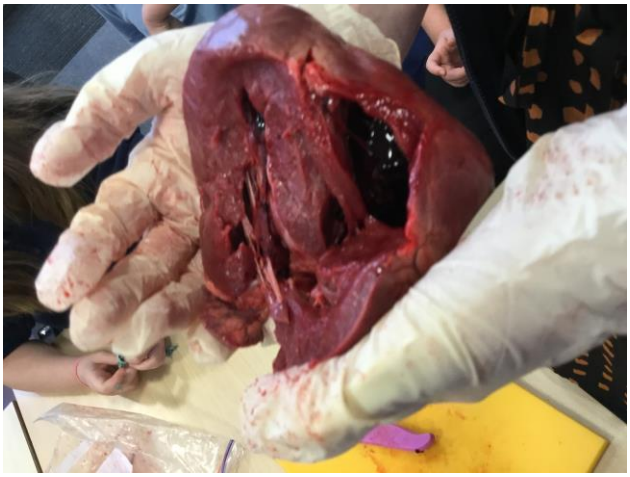

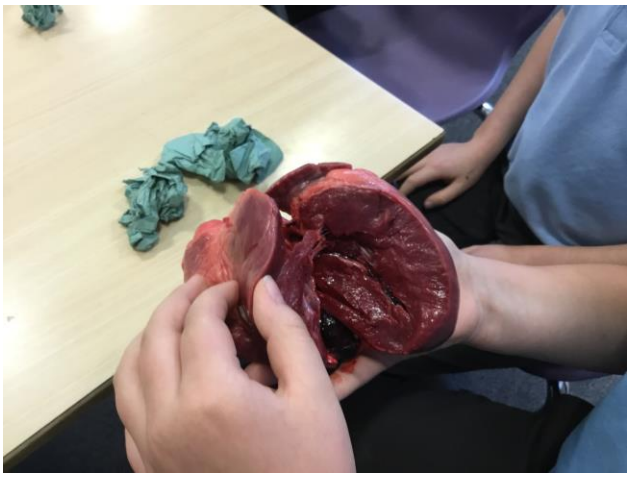

Foundation subjects

PSHE

Today children were asked to set themselves a new year's resolution based on the Mandeville Values. Our topic of Dreams and Goals will allow them to explore how to achieve this. This will prepare children for the child-led parent's evening.

P.E.

We will be playing Tag Rugby in P.E. and taking our weekly Street Dance classes ready for a performance at the end of the term.

R.E.

We will be returning to Sikhism and exploring the importance of Sikh stories today.

Music

This half term, we will be learning how to control tempo and dynamics throughout a piece of music. We will explore using our voices and instruments.

Computing

Our Project Evolve topic is 'online relationships'. This will be a crucial piece of learning for Year 5 as they get older and spend more time communicating with their friends online.

We will continue to learn about spreadsheets as well as databases.

Latin

We will be discovering more about life in Roman towns and follow the family on their excursions to Eboracum (York). We will continue to learn about nouns, verbs and adjectives.

Art

We be using a variety of techniques which will help us to draw a detailed drawing of the heart. We will be using inspiration from some of Leonardo DaVinci's art.