



Heather Field School

Newsletter Spring Term 1 – February 2023

Another busy half term is coming to a close at Heather Field! It has been a half term packed full of wonderful learning experiences for our pupils. Some of the highlights have been the curriculum visits to Enginuity and Dovedale. All of our classes made visits to local libraries for National Story Telling Week. Several Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils attended the Apprenticeship Fair at Port Vale Football Club.

As we continue to grow as a school, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we now have a Class Waldron! The opening of class Waldron this half term has seen us welcome 6 new pupils and their families to our school community.

One of our main priorities is always making sure that our new and existing families feel a part of our school community. I know that for many parents and carers who have a child in a specialist setting, missing out on the playground drop off culture that happens at most other schools, can often lead to people feeling isolated. That is why we are proud to be able to offer coffee mornings for all our Heather Field families. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or carer, you are all welcome, and have the opportunity to meet other families informally, along with our therapy team, and have a chat. The coffee mornings will take place on Tuesday 28th February, Tuesday 28th March and Tuesday 25th April, at Rising Brook Community Fire Station (Hesketh Road, Rising Brook, Stafford ST17 9NF). You can join us any time between 9.15am and 11.00am. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Best wishes

Richard Leech

Happy Half Term!

We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 27th February 2023.

Upcoming school events to look forward to in 2023:

- ❖ Fairtrade Fortnight
- ❖ St David's Day
- ❖ World Book Day
- ❖ British Science Week
- ❖ World Maths Day
- ❖ Topic Week
- ❖ Independence Week

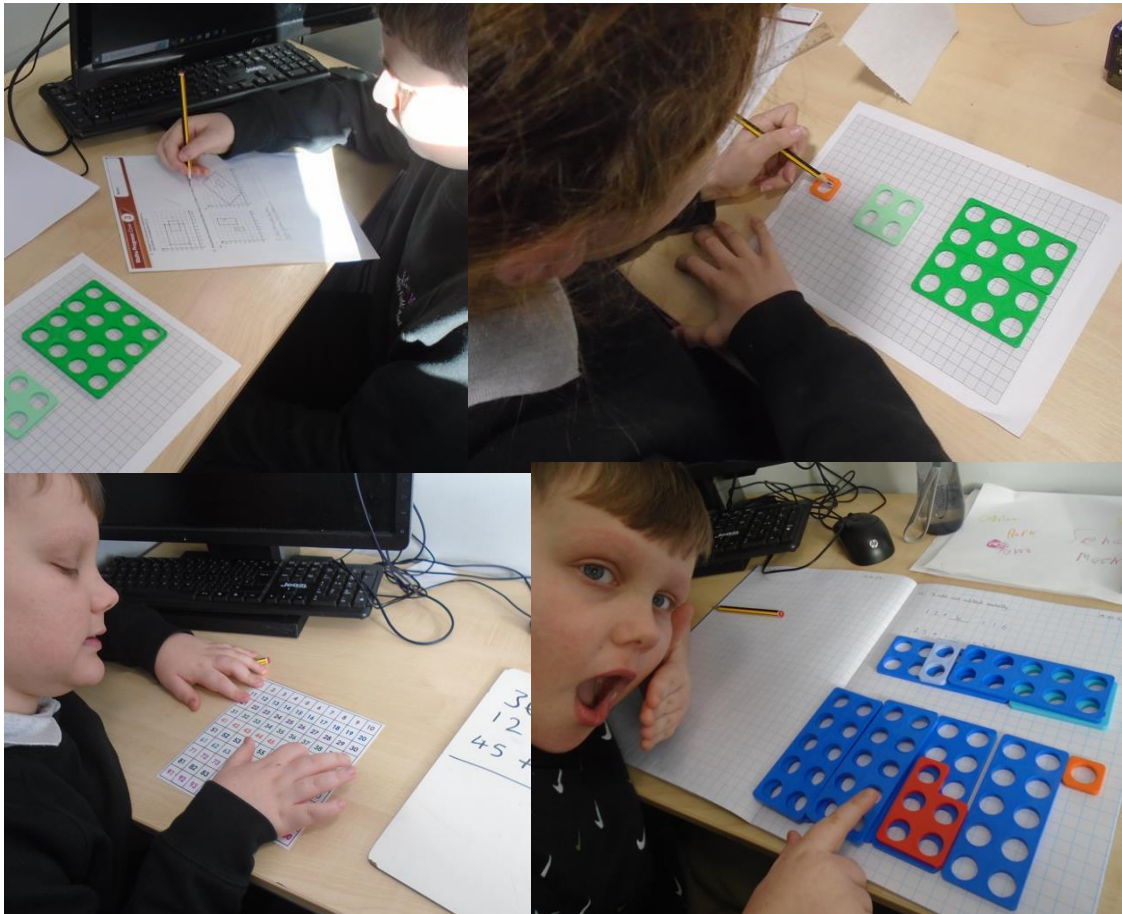


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www.heatherfieldschool.co.uk

Class Dove

Class Dove KS3 have enjoyed maths this half term. They explored enlarging different shapes by various scale factors from specific points of enlargement. They used graph paper and rulers and practiced drawing accurately. The class then learned the difference between negative and fractional scale factors. Shayla accurately recapped how: 'the shapes were inverted when drawing negative scale factors.' Pupils then went on to learn about percentage change and were able to calculate price reductions and work out depreciation percentages. Kieron quickly grasped this topic and said, 'I can now calculate original prices given the sale price and the discount percentage!' Over the half term, Bailey worked on his column addition and subtraction using numicon and his 10 x 10 number board and particularly improved on his multiplication skills, both written and mental.



Class Manifold

Class Manifold have enjoyed science this half term. They began studying electricity and a highlight was making our own circuits using the electronic kits. Ronnie said, "I know how to make the circuit work by trying lots of different things. I know I'm really good at making a circuit with a radio in." They then went on to learn about the dangers of electricity and how to stay safe. Anavara was able to identify how electricity travels; she told us "it travels through cables in the ground and overhead." Lewis was also able to recall lots of previous and newly learned knowledge and facts about electricity, circuits and electrical safety.





Class Severn

Class Severn have had a fantastic half term at college. They began recapping tyre changes and checking a tyre condition. It is great to see how much each pupil can do independently. Aidan said, "I chose this course because I wanted to experience college, but surprisingly I have really enjoyed the course." Class Severn have been able to complete a service check on a car, checking lights, seat belts, tyres and oil, with only a few spillages! Over the next few weeks, the pupils will develop their knowledge on front at back suspension.





Class Waldron

Class Waldron have enjoyed social skills this half term. They began studying our daily routine and enjoyed engaging in discussion with their peers, sharing what they do before and after school and created their own visual timetable. They then went on to learn about having a conversation, all pupils loved creating their own cup telephone and communicating with their peers and using team work to build our own roads and rivers! We had lots of fun. J said, "I love talking to my friends."

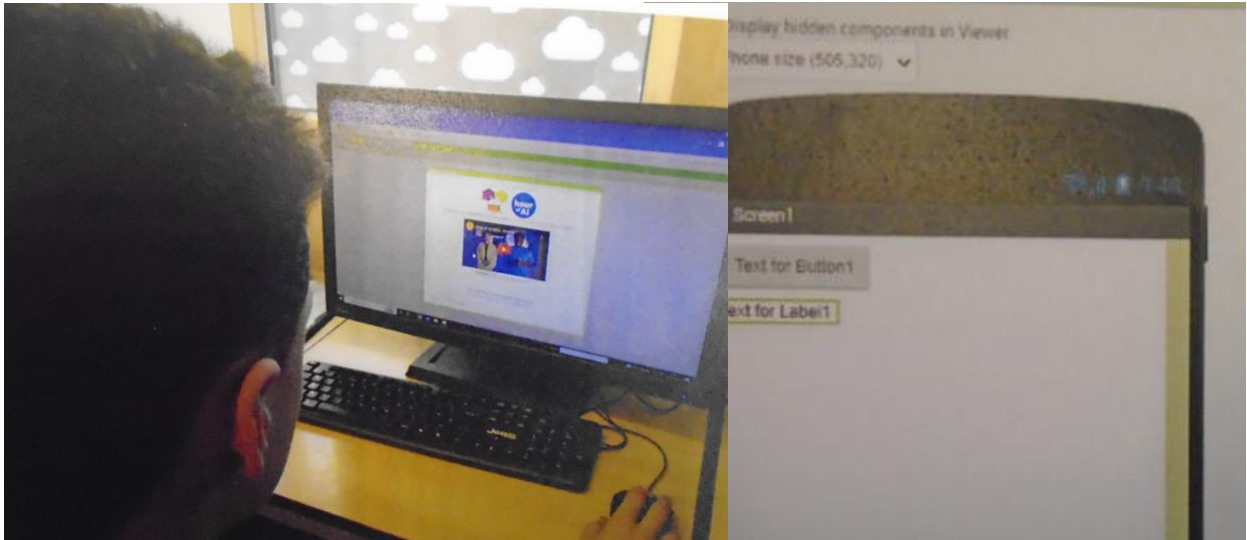


Class Blithe

In Topic during the Spring term, Class Blithe have been learning about water, and the way it affects different areas. In this part of the topic, pupils have learned about the water cycle and how rivers form and flow. They visited Dovedale to see a river flowing during this time and enjoyed standing on the stepping stones over the river.

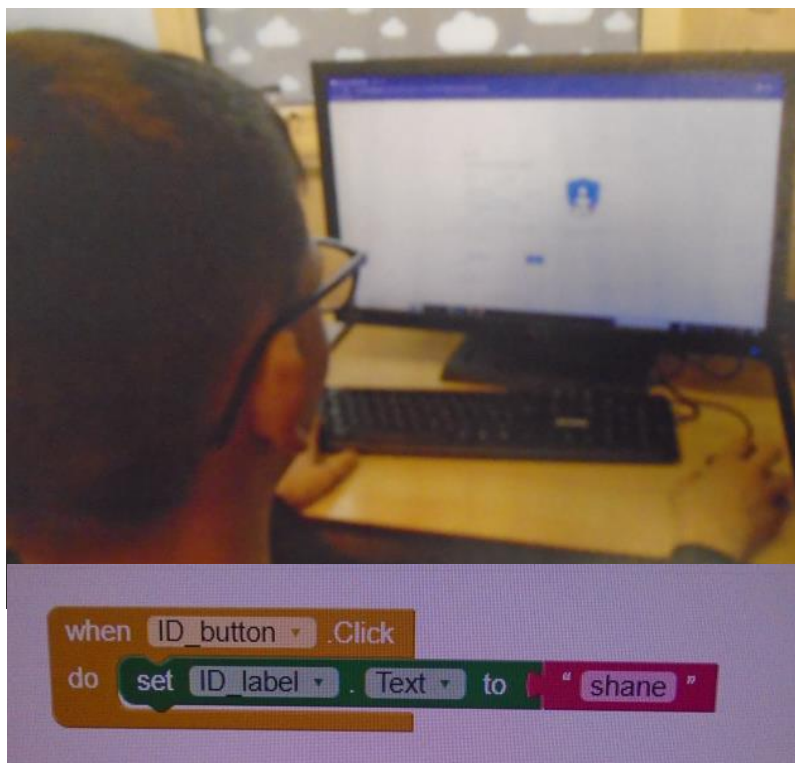
Class Blithe have also begun to learn about landscape painting and the different styles they can be painted in. They have learned about Van Gogh's impressionist style and Seurat's pointillism. As part of this, Class Blithe have taken photos of different landscapes and painted them.

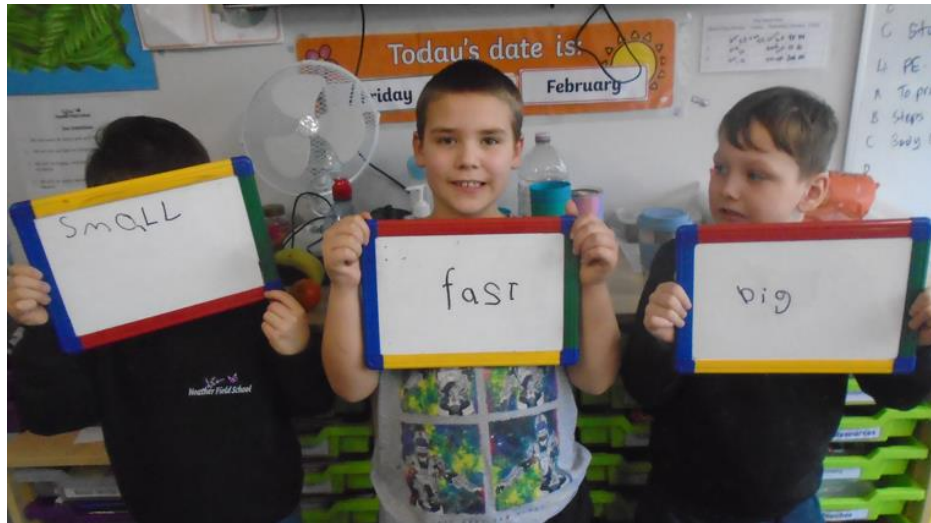




Class Churnet

Class Churnet have enjoyed ICT this half term. They have all created their own email address and used this to create a log in for App Inventor. The students have started to create their own ID app and designed their own interface. They are now in the process of creating a code to run the app. They are fascinated by how this works and the complexity yet simplicity of computer commands. Adam said 'so when I have done all this, if I click that button my face and all my information will come up!' We are all very excited to see the finished products working.





Class Dane

Class Dane have enjoyed English this half term where they have been using grammar terms and phonics knowledge in their writing, the boys enjoyed identifying nouns in written text and in the classroom. The boys have also identified and used adjectives and nouns in their writing allowing them to complete expanded noun phrases to make their writing as exciting as possible. To celebrate National Storytelling Week the boys all chose their own storybook from the class library which they enjoyed reading and working from during the week, allowing them to demonstrate their love of reading.



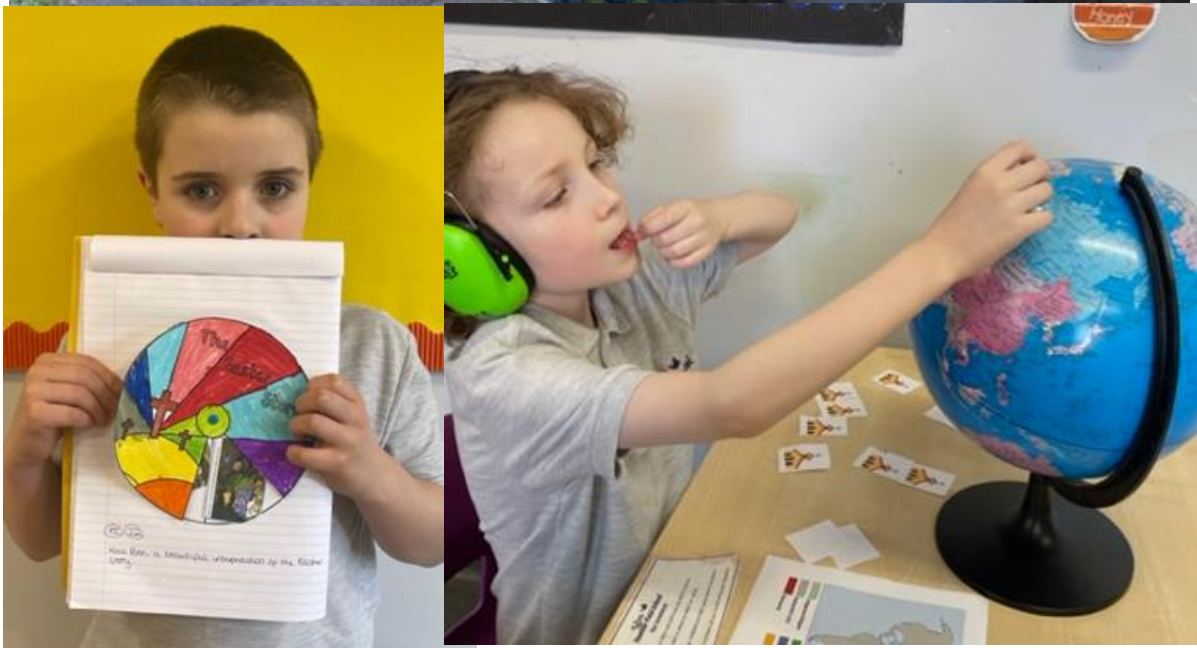
Class Dove KS2

The key stage 2 pupils in Class Dove have enjoyed music this half term. They began studying musical instruments and researching the sounds that they make. The children have also enjoyed listening to different types of music and explored all different genres and even made their own musical instruments out of junk, Esmai said 'it's got to be pink', she chose to make a pink guitar.



Class Penk

Class Penk have enjoyed RE this half term. In KS1 they began by drawing how they believed God to look. They were then able to discuss the qualities that they believed God to have. Harry said, "I think God looks after us all, he is always there for me." In KS2 the children began by discovering where in the world Christianity is most prominent. The children were then able to enjoy visiting two local churches one being a more modern church and the other a more traditional church. Maisy said, "that church looks newer than the other one." The children enjoyed making comparisons between the two churches. Towards the end of the half term the children have begun to discover the story of Easter.





Class Sow

Class Sow have enjoyed French this half term. KS2 began studying healthy eating and a highlight was the work of Ella. Ella said, "I never knew learning French could be so tasty." They enjoyed learning how to pronounce the French words for different types of fruit and particularly enjoyed tasting the healthy snacks. KS3 have been learning about seasons of the year and have explored France through the seasons. They expanded their vocabulary by learning the French word for each season and explored what France is like during the four seasons.



Class Stour

Class Stour have engaged well with their PSHE lessons this half term. They have been studying how we grow, change, and recognising different ways of staying healthy. Adar and Amelie really enjoyed engaging in the tooth brushing sensory tray, with Adar commenting 'I need toothpaste to make these teeth clean!' The class have enjoyed making a healthy 'eat well' plate, yummy smoothies from a variety of different fruits and taking part in lots of different exercises. George especially enjoyed practicing his jumping jacks!





Class Trent

Class Trent have had great fun in PE this half term, taking part in swimming and gymnastics. All students have made some really good progress over the term and have gained in confidence. In swimming, all students have learned how to scull, both head first and feet first. In gymnastics, Class Trent have learned how to vault, how to use the 'A' bars and have also developed their floor work. "Gymnastics has been really fun. I have learned how to do many new things and hope we get to do it again. I have loved doing the jumping!" stated one student. Another commented, "I loved doing the vault, I have never done it before and it was so much to try something new. I hope we get to go to gymnastics again soon!"

