

# 2021

Crescent  
School

2020-21  
Staying on  
track in all our  
learning...



**C**ircular



# Welcome...

to this year's edition of the Crescent Circular.

The Circular is always such a lovely way to celebrate the hard-work and endeavour of the children in the year gone by. This year has been unique in many ways and we have had to innovate and adapt to the rapidly changing circumstances that we have found ourselves in.

With this in mind, this edition pays special tribute to the resilience of the children and the teachers in making sure that life and learning have gone on as near to normal as you could hope for. Throughout the lockdown and home-schooling earlier in the year, I was lucky enough to see children's work coming in from all year groups and was regularly delighted with all of the colour and effort and determination that they showed.

Certainly, we have found out that the children are really adaptable to change and soon get used to a new normal, whilst demonstrating that unquenchable desire to get on with those two most important things in school, having fun and learning.

I hope you enjoy seeing just a few examples of the children's work on these pages as much as I have.

Best wishes and happy reading.

**Joe Thackway**



## Upper School Academic Achievement

We say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6s, they have been a joy to work with as they have made their way through the school.

We pride ourselves at the Crescent on putting the child first and working with them and their families to support them as they move on to secondary school. This year there were extra challenges as the entrance examination arrangements were impacted by the pandemic. The class were supported throughout both with their exams and with pastoral learning to cope with the nerves and added stress; they were all well prepared and we wish them all well as they move on.

Once again we were delighted with the outstanding Year 6 exam and scholarship results, in both the 11+ and independent school examinations:

- 93% of those who applied to independent schools were offered a place. 11 are going to Princethorpe.
- 65% who took the Princethorpe College exam were offered a scholarship
- Over 50% of those who took the 11+ this year were offered a grammar school place

We wish them all the very best of luck in their senior schools and future endeavours.

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**Good Friends**

- We are kind to each other
- We forgive each other and work things out together
- We are gentle and caring
- We use our manners all the time

**Good Learners**

- We work hard and try our best
- We never give up and always try again
- We are calm and sensible
- We listen and don't interrupt

**Good Citizens**

- We try to keep safe and be responsible
- We respect everyone and we are tolerant
- We are honest and tell the truth
- We keep our school tidy and take pride in our clothes and our uniform





# Attainment Report Pre-Prep 2020-21

This year has proved to be another very happy and successful year for children in Pre-Prep.

We continue, each day, to welcome happy children who love school and who strive to be good friends, good learners and good citizens. This year above all others they have demonstrated a resilience and application we are so proud of and made hugely encouraging pastoral and academic progress. We believe that these starting points enable children to be the best they can be across and beyond the curriculum now and in the future.

- In Reception 88% of Crescent children attained a 'good level of development'. The national average is 72%. This data is based upon the children achieving the expected level of development across 12 key Early Learning Goals (they include Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal Social Emotional; Literacy and Maths). The average national point score is 34.6, at Crescent it is 41.
- In Year 1 90% of children met or exceeded expectations in Reading, in Writing and in Maths.
- Year 2 children have also continued to thrive. In Reading 90%, Writing 85% and Maths 100% of children met or exceeded national expectations.

## In terms of exceeding age expectations:

- 17% of Reception children exceeded expectations across all 17 Early Learning Goals. 58% exceeded expectations in Reading, 50% in Writing and 58% in Maths (a real achievement for these children in a very difficult year).
- In Year 1 in Reading and Writing 35% of children exceeded national expectations while in Maths it was 40%.
- In Year 2 35% of children exceeded age expectations in Reading and Maths and 25% in Writing. We are very proud of the huge amount of work that children, parents and staff put into achieving this super progress.

YEAR 1

**90%**  
of children met or exceeded expectations in Reading, in Writing and in Maths.



## Crescent pupils on track despite the lockdowns

Independent assessments confirmed that Crescent pupils stayed on track in 2021 either meeting or exceeding expectations in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. A result that really pleased the school's Head of Curriculum, Deputy Head, Bryony Forth.

Ms Forth, explains, "When you heard of the news of children needing to 'catch up' after the disruption of the lockdowns, as a teacher it made your heart sink. Right from the very start of the pandemic, the Crescent was determined to continue providing a high standard of teaching and learning and the pupils were able to access their lessons through the learning platform, Seesaw. Over the past year our teachers worked really hard to engage our pupils through stimulating home learning tasks and live lessons. Throughout this challenging period teachers and pupils were hugely supported by our fantastic parents."

Post the lockdowns, pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 took GL Assessments and achieved great results. The independent formative assessments happen every year for the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science (for Year 3 to Year 6) and for 2021 the overwhelming majority of pupils scored at either the 'expected' standard for their year group, or 'exceeded' expectations.



- ★ In Maths 100% of Year 1 to Year 6 pupils met or exceeded expectations.
- ★ In English 99.3% of Year 1 to Year 6 pupils met or exceeded expectations.
- ★ In Science 100% of Year 3 to Year 6 pupils met or exceeded expectations.

Ms Forth, continued, "We were thrilled with the pupils' achievements as they were. It's a resounding endorsement of the school's approach. The scores demonstrate just how well the classes performed through the disruption of two lockdowns and the resilience the children showed towards learning despite all the changes they experienced."

## Prizes for 2020-2021

### Academic

#### Barrett English Prizes

Year 6	Isla Barrack
Year 5	Katherine Lee
Year 4	Tegan McLeod
Year 3	Alice Diamond

#### Maths Prizes

Year 6 Ovens Cup for Maths	Jay Patil
Year 5	Aryan Satsangi
Year 4	Zahra Nadeem
Year 3	James Mercer
Taylor Trophy for Science	Michael Mercer

Abu El Gasim prize for Languages

Orla Melges  
Amelia Yates

Ovens/Davis Trophy for Computing

Isaac Nelson  
Alyssa Barnett

Page Music Prize

Henderson Eckersley Cup for Drama

Bella Amblard  
Josh Olnor

Heyes Art Prize

### Behaviour

Morley-Boys Pre-Prep Cup for Resilience

Maya Tarnauceanu

Clayton Star for Outstanding Behaviour in Reception

Evie Mitchell

### Sport

The Barnes Cup for Outstanding Sports Girl

Amy Robinson

The Hunt Trophy for Outstanding Sports Boy

George Crowfoot

Noyce Trophy for most promising Girl Sports Player (Year 5)

Evie Bierton

Phillips Trophy for most promising Boy Sports Player (Year 5)

Rohan Somerset

### Other

Junior da Vinci Shield for Boys

Jay Patil

Junior da Vinci Shield for Girls

Alyssa Barnett

Head Boy

George Crowfoot

Head Girl

Alyssa Barnett

The School Promise Cup

Amy Robinson

House Point Trophy

St George's House



# Reception RE



**Reception Teacher: Mrs Emery**

**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Olnier**

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Finn Capper       | Penelope Poskett |
| Felicity Faith    | Alice Rindler    |
| Henry Fouracre    | Eve Shepherd     |
| Max Gowney-Hedges | Katie Sim        |
| Flora Le Poidevin | Jonny Thompson   |
| Evie Mitchell     | Beau Williams    |

## Marvellous Maths

Maths is about investigating and exploring and building strong foundations, and Reception children have had the opportunity to do this in a hands-on, practical way. From sharing a picnic to understand division, to making a pizza to explore halves, creating spooky potions at Halloween to explore capacity and using our shoes, fingers and toes to count in multiples. We have blasted off in rockets counting backwards to zero, learned how to recognise and add coins to buy food in our shop, hunted around school to identify 2D shapes and built our own imaginary worlds with 3D shapes to explore their properties. We have discussed ratio by baking bread like the *Little Red Hen* and learnt to tell the time enjoying the game *What's The Time Mr Wolf*. Huge fun and huge progress!



### Crescent Cress Heads

Linked to their topic on Growing Reception enjoyed a super activity with Mrs Olnier. Working together they decorated small pots with eyes and a nose before planting cress seeds. They popped them on the windowsill and waited to see what happened! Of course there was lots of lovely taking turns, sharing and waiting patiently too – well done Reception!

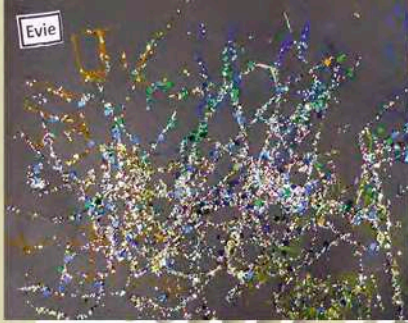


### BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES

The children enjoyed a fabulous day of activities to bring our learning on the lifecycle of a butterfly to a close. We made and decorated butterfly cakes, dressed up as butterflies and took part in a parade, we used our knowledge of symmetry to create some beautiful painted butterfly art, and learnt a lifecycle song and dance. The highlight of the day was for each child to hold one of our class butterflies that we had watched metamorphose before our eyes and then to release them outdoors onto our school flowers. A wonderful day of memories.







## Brilliant Bonfires

In our studies about fabulous Festivals of Light the children enjoyed creating divine Diva Lamps for the Festival of Diwali. These shone and sparkled bringing joy to our classroom.

We also learned about Bonfire Night and developed our 'Understanding of the World', exploring different sources of light – from glowing neon signs to the reflective beauty of the stars.



## Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning provided many idyllic afternoons spent baking in the Mud Kitchen, creating tasty 'rock cakes' and 'Crescent mud pies'!

We went out searching for signs of the seasons in Autumn and then again in the Spring and were amazed to see the school had transformed into a new and fresh world of buds and blossom.

We splashed in puddles and danced in the rain and set sail for far off lands, all whilst improving our gross motor skills and building our confidence.

## FRENCH FLAGS

Reception enjoyed colouring in French flags in readiness for learning the colours in French. It was the start of our fantastic language learning and everyone concentrated very carefully!



Reception enjoyed PE lessons out on the Sports Field back in September. After warming up they practised key skills including balancing, throwing and catching. It was great fun on a warm and sunny afternoon.

## Once Upon a Time

Our topic on Traditional Tales provided learning across the curriculum. We enjoyed making our own porridge and thought about how Goldilocks could apologise to the Bears. We investigated which materials would be best for the *Three Little Pigs* to build their houses and painted our own. We learned to work together to pull up *The Enormous Turnip* and how to defend Grandma from the Wolf!

We retold these tales in the traditional way and made up exciting and innovative alternative endings. Many Junior *da Vincis* were earned!



## EXPLORING OUR SENSES

Some fantastic learning took place exploring our senses. After learning about which body parts control each sense, we began a carousel of activities to bring our learning to life. For our sense of smell, we decided which our favourite was between mint, perfume, coffee and fabric conditioner. For hearing, we made our own shakers, played them to a rhythm and then played a game of 'identify the instrument' based on sound alone. Touch incorporated hot, cold, rough, smooth, fluffy, silky as well as great fun playing with gloop and seeing how the texture changed by adding water. For sight, we learnt how the lens in our eye works and how binoculars make things bigger before making our own colourful binoculars. Our favourite sense to explore was taste and after learning that there are four categories of taste, we tried lemons for sour, crisps for salty and chocolate for sweet. We weren't keen on the sound of the fourth category – bitter!





# Reception RP



**Reception Teacher: Mrs Pullen**

**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Noyce**

- Anaya Ali
- Dudley Ball
- Isabella Broekhuizen
- David Caprici
- Sophia Elshazly
- Elliott Farr
- Lucas Grove
- Joshua Jardine
- Uma Patel
- Feranmi Remi-Omosowon
- Nellie Thomas
- Hermione Wigley

## TRADITIONAL TALES

Our topic on Traditional Tales provided opportunities in all areas of the curriculum. We wondered how Goldilocks could apologise for her unkind behaviour and investigated which materials would be best for the Three Little Pigs to build their houses from. We planted beans in the hope that they would grow into a beanstalk - Jack would have been proud! And we even made a gingerbread man - he couldn't escape from us - yum!

We retold these tales in the traditional way and made up exciting and innovative alternative endings.



## Frère Jacques

Reception have enjoyed learning French this year and in their first lesson Mme Tatton read them a story in French about a friendly character, Emilie, before they watched and then learned to sing the traditional French song *Frère Jacques*!



## Marvellous Maths

At Crescent we build strong foundations in Maths investigating and exploring in a hands-on, practical way. The children develop their knowledge through daily activities that reinforce the concepts whether they are sharing a picnic to understand division, or pizzas to explore halves, or even making potions at Halloween to build their knowledge of capacity. The children became spacemen and counted back to zero when their rockets blasted off, learned how to recognise and add coins for their trips to the shops to buy food, hunted around school to identify 2D shapes and built imaginary worlds with 3D shapes. Familiar tales were another wonderful learning opportunity as the children discussed ratio by baking bread like the *Little Red Hen* and learnt to tell the time enjoying the game *What's The Time Mr Wolf*. So much fun and so much learning!









# Year 1



## Shape Detectives

We have been learning about the properties of 2D shapes including the number of sides and vertices each shape has, as well as remembering all the different names. We used them in our Maths, in our Art and even created a pizza shop! It is amazing how many we could find when identifying shapes around our classroom and in our everyday routines and homes.



**Year 1 Teacher:**  
**Mrs Stapleton**

**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Hanson**

- Thomas Birkinshaw
- Esme Farr
- Kian Gill
- Evelyn Hosegood
- Isabella Jackson
- Everly Kemp
- Aria Khunti
- Tomisin Ladele
- Theo Ma
- Nimeeta Matharu
- Theo McBean
- Alfie Millward
- Amber Morley
- Seren Rougeolle
- Harry Rule
- Taran Shah
- Albert Toller
- Kiran Toor
- Lilah Wigley
- Charlotte Wood

## End of year Picnic

In English, the children wrote instructions and simple recipes for their end of year picnic, it was wonderful preparation for their feast! Each table group was given an item to plan, write out the instructions and then to make. They all made enough for everyone in the class, and enjoyed a lovely afternoon sharing and having fun together!



## Nocturnal Animals

During home learning, Year 1 enjoyed their cross curricular learning about nocturnal animals in English, Science and Art. They demonstrated their fantastic learning through very creative crafts and by publishing their own non-fiction book all about owls. They enjoyed sharing their projects through Teams meetings and felt proud of what they had produced.

## The House That Jack Built

In English, Year 1 used the story of *The House That Jack Built* to describe settings and characters; and to use 'and' and 'because' to develop their sentences. So, it was natural for them to go on to re-create their own houses in their Art lessons. Some painted, some used collage techniques, some built Lego and some even used the furniture!





# Earth Day

Year 1 considered the issues our planet faces. Even at such a young age, the children felt a responsibility to do whatever they could to help. They were creative in showing ways they can commit by doing simple things such as picking up rubbish, recycling more and choosing to walk to school.



# Christingle Celebration

Year 1 learnt all about Christingles in RE in December and the symbolism of each part. The orange represents the world in which we live and the red ribbon is for the blood when Jesus died. The candle shows that Jesus is the light of the world and the four cocktail sticks represent the four seasons, or some people think the four compass directions - north, south, east and west.

We had fun decorating our Christingles with sweets, chocolate raisins and marshmallows to celebrate all the good things that God has given us.



# The many faces of Picasso

Continuing to develop their drawing skills in Art, Year 1 learned about Picasso and his unique way of creating portraits. The children planned and created a fantastic colourful display of their work!



# Author Michelle Robinson Shared Her Funny Tales

Year 1 welcomed a very special guest in March, children's author Michelle Robinson. Michelle is a prolific writer having written over 40 books including her brilliant books *The Day The Banana Went Bad* and *She Rex*, which she read aloud and performed to the children during her visit.

Michelle entertained and inspired everyone in a very lively session and the children were all eager to put her words of wisdom into practice and enjoyed writing their very own funny tales.



# PUPPET PLAY

Year 1 had a great time designing, making and evaluating hand puppets in March. They all decided what character they wanted to make and set about drawing and labelling their puppet thinking about what colours they could use. Sewing came next, followed by decorating where the features and extras were cut out and stuck on.

Finally, the puppets were played with, and evaluated, and some even joined forces with a friend to create a mini puppet play.



# ART PORTRAITS - IN A CLASS OF THEIR OWN!

Year 1 discovered how to draw their self-portraits by using mirrors, practising the location and size of their features, and finally sketching and colouring their own artwork. Kiran, Isabella and Thomas developed their skills so that we're sure you'll agree, their portraits are very lifelike! What excellent work.





# Year 2



## Collaborative Learning

Year 2 children were thrilled when they were allowed to move tables into groups of four rather than metre distanced. This really enabled us to further increase their collaborative learning. Here the children are working in pairs to scrutinise our 'Quest' story and together find deeper meaning comprehension answers in the text: learning from one another and stimulating each other's thinking and explaining.



## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



Having examined real fridge magnets the children then designed their own. Year 2 loved using clay and used their clear success criteria to create some wonderful masterpieces.

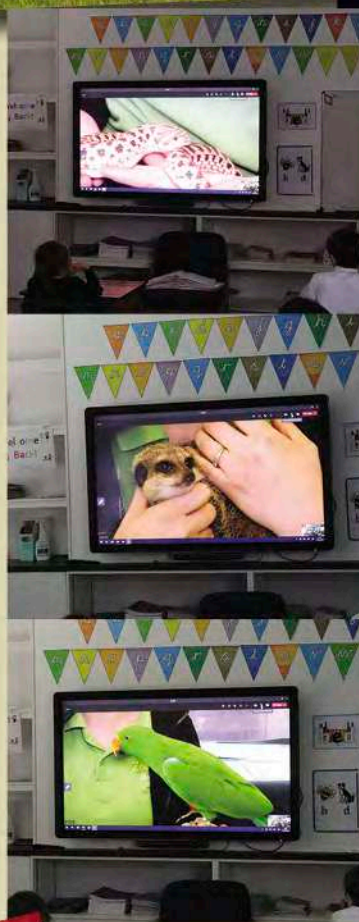


## VIRTUAL ZOO VISIT

Year 2 had a fantastic virtual zoo visit when they got to meet some furry – and not so furry – friends.

Educational organisation Zoo2U joined us to introduce them to a range of animals, insects and birds. The children learnt about where the different animals live, what they eat, how they have adapted to their habitats and got to ask lots of questions about owls, parrots, stick insects, kookaburras, snakes, a bearded dragon and even a very cute baby meerkat.

Everyone enjoyed meeting the animals and watching the amusing antics of the meerkats who were keeping a beady eye on all the fun.



## French role play

Year 2 have studied both French and Spanish this year. They marked the end of the Lent Term with a role play at a vegetable stall.

Madame Tatton was the shop-keeper and the children were the customers. All spoke with a lovely French accent and used the key phrases practised in class, such as "je voudrais" "s'il vous plait" and "merci".





**Year 2 Teacher: Mr Webb**  
**Teaching Assistants: Mrs Barnett**  
**and Mrs Ashton**

- Alex Barnett
- Patrick Beecham
- Roisin Capper
- Maximillion Edge
- Sophie Gower
- Lewis Husbands
- Zac Jardine
- Sophia Khan
- Fred Le Poidevin
- Matthew Lee
- Aryaan Morjaria
- Shaylan Patel
- Akaal Rai
- Maya Tarnauceanu
- Herbie Thomas
- Max Thomas
- Nora
- Barnaby Williams
- Edward Woolley
- Samuel Yates

## Maths measuring

Year 2 children were detailed and careful in their practical measuring maths lesson. They measured classroom items and looked closely at the ruler to record their answers in cm and mm.



## PSHE

Following on from the interest they showed in the life of British nurse Mary Seacole, Year 2 children explored their feelings and opinions on fairness and equality. They listened to various fair and unfair statements and then had to decide to stand in the agree, disagree or not sure zone. The justifications and reasonings they gave were fascinating – we clearly have good future citizens here.



**QR Treasure Hunt!**

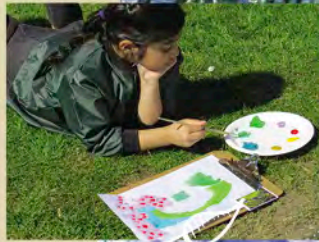
PIC-COLLAGES

## QR Treasure Hunt

To finish off our Computing unit about the use of IT all around us and in the wider world, the children took part in a special QR Code Treasure Hunt! We used our iPads to scan QR codes hidden all around the playground, which opened up secret video questions that we had to answer!

## Magnificent Monet

At the start of the Trinity Term Year 2 studied landscapes and cityscapes and where better to begin than with the famous artist Monet. We looked at his history and what influenced his style of impressionist painting before recreating his famous garden painting. As he loved painting outside, we too headed out with our palettes and brushes and enjoyed becoming real life artists!



## KNIGHT SCHOOL FOR YEAR 2

Warwick Castle's very own Sir Jay joined us for a virtual Middle Ages Teams lesson.

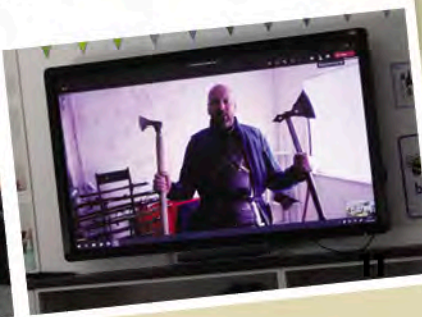
The children were captivated and entranced as Sir Jay took them through a Knight history lesson. Together they debated the advantages of Motte-and-Bailey castles over Stone Keep castles, then considered the pros and cons of Norman, Crusade, Great Helm and Sallet helmets and finally they investigated the serious business of wicked weapons.

It was fascinating to find out that to be a knight you had to be really, really rich, that knights were great big show offs and that young knights began their training at just six-years-old.



## CREATIVE WORD GAMES

Year 2 applied their understanding of words to create their own game with cut out word cards. There were no initial rules so they had to look at the words and be ingenious to work out a learning game they could play from the given objective. Homophones snap was a very popular idea!







**Year 3 Teacher: Mrs Yates**

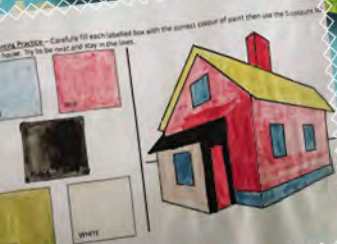
**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Dowling**

- Roisin Banks
- Emily Barnwell
- Sam Bierton
- Alice Diamond
- Edward Fouracre
- Edward Gowney-Hedges
- Alex Grove
- Albert Iles
- Darius Ionescu
- Maggie Johnson
- Timi Ladele
- Hattie Little

- Sofie Major
- Leela Matharu
- James Mercer
- Grace O'Connell
- Sam Oldham
- Shayla Panchal
- Shiv Patel
- Remi Ponchaux
- Harry Slaytor
- Alex Thomas
- Maisie Tucker
- Oliver Wright

## Lowry Art

Year 3 studied the artwork of L.S. Lowry. After exploring his work and learning about the history of his paintings, pupils explored how to draw cityscapes, thinking about the layout of a city scene and the kinds of buildings found in towns and cities. Year 3 pupils practised careful painting and then used their new painting skills to create their own Lowry inspired city painting, complete with matchstick men.



## ROMAN SHIELDS

During their topic on The Romans, Year 3 designed their own shields, fit for a Roman soldier. They included some traditional pictures, such as lightning bolts, wreaths and eagles, alongside more personal symbols, such as suns, moons, flowers and animals. They used striking colours and created imaginative designs.



## Geography

Although totally disallowed at the beginning of the year, Year 3 enjoyed booking virtual holidays the old-fashioned way with brochures, something quite a few of the pupils had not seen before! During the lockdown they used the wonders of technology to learn about their world topic of Biomes. Then in the Trinity Term their environmental topic focused on the plights of endangered animals. They had a particularly heartfelt debate on deforestation to create farmland for poorer famers versus the lemurs losing their homes in Madagascar.



## TASTY TENTHS

A key objective in Year 3 Maths is to be able to count up and down in tenths and recognise that tenths are derived from dividing by 10. What better way to learn this than by the manipulation of food! Much fun was had finding tasty tenths. The children used a range of treats to explore tenths. They were able to identify, order, add and find equivalents of them. Super Maths skills.







## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to the Covid restrictions we were unable to have our usual trips to the theatre for Christmas but that didn't stop our fun! An afternoon of toilet paper snow men, paper plate fishes and doughnut challenges got us all in the festive spirit!



## French



Year 3 studied the Planets in French. They had great fun practising the French names for the planets in our Solar system on the playground. They used their listening skills to run to the correct planet cards as it was called out and then named the next planet in turn as the ball was passed to them. The children then made models, posters and other jigsaws about the Solar System while speaking in full sentences in French. Children learn better when they are moving and associating actions with words.

## Super sunglasses

The children enjoyed learning about light in their Science lessons. They found out that the sun is bad for their eyes and that they need protection. In class they carried out experiments to decide which material was most suitable for sunglasses. They then designed and made their own pair and tried them out on their way home in the sunshine.



## Tiger Projects

Our English unit on traditional tales used the beautiful book, *Tiger Child* by Joanna Troughton. This lively folk tale from Orissa, India, explained why tigers eat their food uncooked and why cats live with people. The tiger child is sent to fetch some more fire from the village, but on the way he gets distracted by his friends. By the time he gets to the village, he has forgotten what he has been sent to fetch. The children got creative using tigers as their theme and produced some beautiful work.



## PREPOSITION HIDE AND SEEK

Year 3 enjoyed bringing the tricky concept of prepositions to real life in a great game of hide and seek. They were able to act out 'behind' 'underneath' 'on top of' and 'inside' 'outside' whilst having a great time.



## Remembrance Day

We watched some first-hand accounts of life during WW2 and then created our own acoustic poems. The children were thoughtful in their creations and all of them expressed their gratitude for the sacrifices made by those in conflict so that we can live in peace today.



## World Record attempts

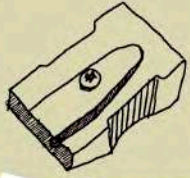
The very interesting topic of world records was explored using the highly amusing 'The World's Laziest Duck and other Amazing Records' by John Yeoman & Quentin Blake.

The children were encouraged to ask Who? What? When? Where? Why? When they looking at the records to find out as much information as possible. The children explored the Guinness World Record site and attempted their own world records at home. In school the children had lots of fun creating their own records and then attempting them.





# Year 4



**Year 4 Teacher: Mrs Monteith**

**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Calder**

Esme Barlow  
Chloe Brosnan  
Annalise Capper  
Libby Cooke  
Grace Crowfoot  
Bella Davies  
Zara Eccleson  
Erin Ferguson  
Ellie Gane

Finlay Hammonds  
Lara Lorimer-Allen  
Harry McBean  
Sam McCormick  
Tegan McLeod  
Grace Mercer  
Charlie Millward  
Poppy Morris  
Alex Mulhall

Zahra Nadeem  
Saira Pandhal  
Yash Patil  
Ava Sheppard  
Bryson Taylor-Jackson  
Mya Toor

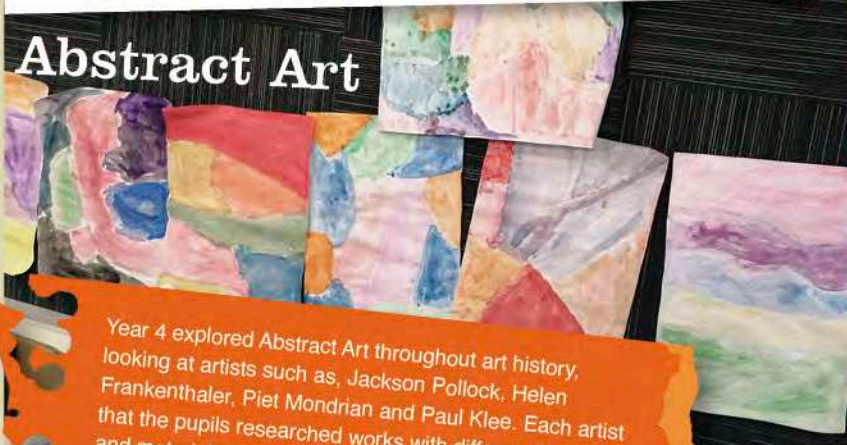
## Getting Inventive!

During the Lent Term, Year 4 were set a *Billionaire Boy* 'Dragon's Den' Activity. In the book, Mr Spud made his millions through his own invention, 'Bumfresh', a loo roll that was moist on one side and dry on the other.

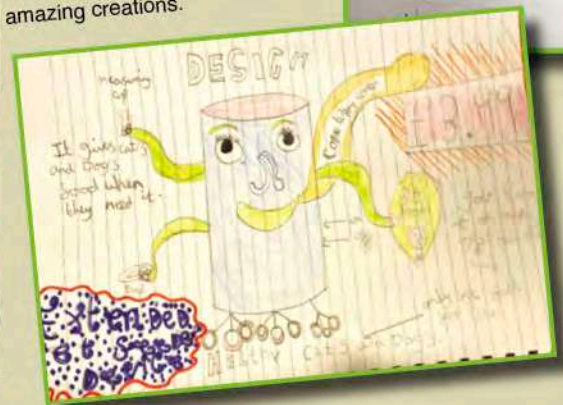
This time, it was the turn of Year 4 to come up with their own 'Billion-pound' ideas for an invention. They certainly rose to the challenge and there were some amazing creations.



## Abstract Art



Year 4 explored Abstract Art throughout art history, looking at artists such as, Jackson Pollock, Helen Frankenthaler, Piet Mondrian and Paul Klee. Each artist that the pupils researched works with different techniques and materials so pupils could explore different types of art within the same genre. Year 4 pupils created their own version of a piece of art by each artist, applying their knowledge of abstract art and the selected artist using specific techniques.



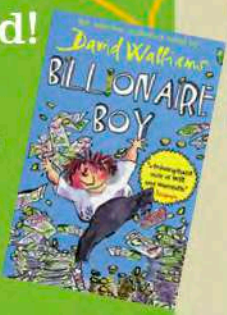
## WW2 Afternoon

Year 4 studied WW2 in History and the children spent the day attending school as evacuees. The class took part in a range of activities including listening to war time music, baking carrot cookies from a ration recipe and planning items to pack in their suitcase. Esme brought in a book which featured her great-grandma's story of evacuation from Coventry to Warmingham, and this really brought this time in history to life for the class.



## Having fun with foul food!

Inspired by Mrs Trafe's disgusting meals in *Billionaire Boy*, Year 4 created their own revolting menus. They were truly stomach-churning with delights such as 'Bellybutton Fluff on Toast', 'Sloppy Witch's Soup with Wart Croutons', and 'Fish Gut Pie with Mashed Manure'.





# GEOGRAPHY

Year 4 tackle some big topics in Geography. They explore how earthquakes are caused and how people in areas prone to earthquakes prepare for them - 'The Rock says, 'Drop, Cover, Hold on!'' Through lockdown children thought about how the reliance on single use plastic could be reduced. In the summer term Year 4 raised money for the Bwengu projects, choosing to fix school rooves and feed hungry orphans in Malawi.



## Fantastic Fairy Tales

Year 4 considered what the traditional elements of a fairy tale are and studied three very different versions of *The Princess and the Pea*. The authors had 'innovated' the story in exciting ways, but the plot and characters were the same.

The children then looked at how to break the story down into its relevant stages, to lead the reader through the tale in creative ways. They each selected their favourite fairy tale and created a story map, using banners, speech bubbles, arrows, and colourful illustrations to bring their tale to life. The results were fantastic, and they went up on the wall in our classroom. Well done Year 4!



## Soma Cube Challenge

In the Trinity Term the children studied measurement in Maths, and they attempted the 'Soma Cube' challenge. They created specified 3D shapes using 2D representations using connectable cubes and then combined these to create other 3D shapes.

They enjoyed using their mathematical reasoning to explore their ideas and improve using trial and error methods.

## NONSENSE POETRY

To finish off their Nonsense Poetry topic, Year 4 studied the famous poem, *The Quangle Wangle's Hat* by Edward Lear. Over the Easter holiday, they drew the creatures from the poem and used their imaginations to think what they might look like. The results were fantastic, and they made a beautiful display in our classroom.



## Humorous Fiction!

Year 4 kicked off their Lent Term in style with a topic on the fiction of popular author, David Walliams. Using his novel *Billionaire Boy* as inspiration, the children thought about an imaginative idea for a school and created a dynamic timetable for it. Ideas included 'Aquatic School', 'Sport School' and 'Phenomenally Fun School'. Some of the schools sounded like great fun, with extremely imaginative lessons!



## Viking Projects

The children spent time developing their own learning styles and skills through the open-ended learning Viking project. It was fantastic to see the huge range of items created so beautifully with such attention to detail and authenticity. From long boats to shields the children really excelled and their work made a fantastic display!

## Thinking Skills

Year 4 is where Thinking Skills are taught as a formal lesson. It's a time to learn strategies while being aware of accuracy and timings. We study verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning, sometimes we explore the concepts in a kinaesthetic manner, as you can see in the photo, using the cubes to explore the rotation of 3D shapes.





# Year 5



**Year 5 Teacher: Ms Forth**  
**Teaching Assistant: Miss Wrzesniacka**

- Faris Akbik
- James Ashton
- Evie Berton
- Eva Birkinshaw
- Stephanie Bolton
- Charlotte Corbin
- Abigail Cowell
- Dorrit Davies
- Sophia Deery
- Liana Fairlie
- Sachin Gupta
- Rory King
- Katherine Lee
- Sophie McCormick
- Harriet Mulhall
- Drew Ovens Gibbs
- Kai Panchal
- Chloe Sarkies
- Aryan Satsangi
- Freya Smith
- Rohan Somerset
- Grace Symons
- Rosina Watson
- Caspar Webb

It has been a year like no other for Crescent and Year 5 returned to school on a staggered day, playground zones, three lunch sittings and staying in their form room for nearly all their lessons. Being in the music room was an absolute bonus for this as they had plenty of space to socially distance! The learning has continued albeit a little different in places and standards remained high. A happy New Year brought a second lockdown and a swift and smooth return to home learning and many more live lessons until they returned once again in March. The children enjoyed Remembrance Day with the rest of the school, but every other event was virtual. This included Year 5 taking the lead in the Easter Service. Although they have missed out on a few things this year, it has not stopped Year 5 being a really close-knit bunch of fantastic children.

## FRENCH FRIENDS

Borders closed, lockdown, home learning... nothing was going to stop the children's enthusiasm for the pen pal venture! Children in Year 5 have just loved exchanging letters with their new friends in France!



## GEOGRAPHY GRID REFERENCE GAMES

Year 5 enjoyed their Geography lessons with Mr Thackway where they studied four figure grid references. They used their new skills to create fun board games to share with the other children. There were so many brilliant ideas including treasure islands, lost birds and eco-disasters. The most fun of course, was in actually playing the games, which was a great way to embed their learning.



## Maths

Year 5 is a very challenging year in term of Mathematics. There are so many new ideas and methods to explore, plus starting to combine foundation skills to apply to other areas of the syllabus. There is more opportunity to 'talk maths' and collaborate on learning. Children usually find Year 6 much easier if they have laid the building blocks in Year 5.





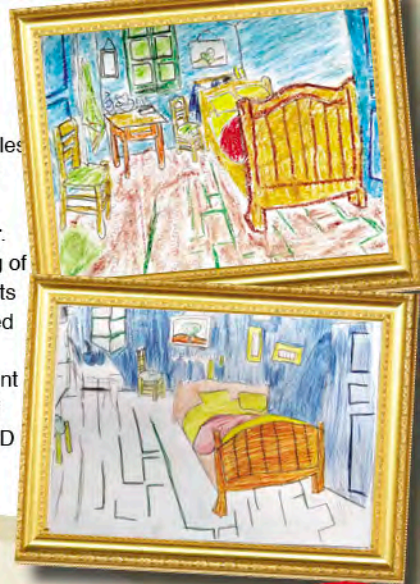
## DT Desk Tidies

In Design Technology Year 5 designed and made brightly coloured Desk Tidies. They began by considering requirements, thinking about the objects that might go in the desk tidy and the basic shape it would take, before developing and building their designs. We had lots of wonderful and colourful projects.



## Art

Year 5 have explored 'Painting Interiors', looking at various examples of different paintings of interiors by artists such as Vincent Van Gogh, Henri Matisse, and Edward Hopper. This developed their understanding of perspective in rooms and how artists use perspective. Pupils then created their own drawings based on the painting *Bedroom in Arles* by Vincent Van Gogh using their knowledge of perspective to help them achieve 3D shapes and space.



## EGYPTIAN PROJECTS

Year 5 created amazing Egyptian projects for their History homework. From death masks to hieroglyphics, sarcophagus to pyramids and make up to mummification; the standard of work produced was fantastic. It's always interesting to see how the children interpret the task and the beauty of self-directed projects are that they allow the children to follow their own interests within a topic. We're sure you'll agree; the final pieces were fantastic.



## Sixties Specials

In March Year 5 enjoyed learning about life in Britain in the 1960s in their history lessons. It was fascinating to explore the differences between then and now. They especially enjoyed honing their culinary skills by recreating some iconic dishes from the sixties.

I'm sure you'll all agree they look delicious!

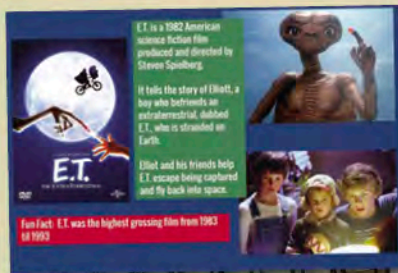
## British Monarchy

It was so nice to be able to get out of the classroom and do some group work outside! In our History lesson, the children had to match pictures and clues to order the British monarchs from 1066 to the present day, they really enjoyed learning some interesting facts and were able to practise key historical skills of sequencing and making connections between events.



## Forces and Friction

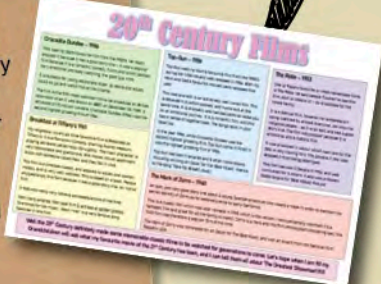
Year 5 studied forces and enjoyed using Newton meters to measure force. They used different coloured force meters to measure different size forces and then went on to investigate which surfaces cause more friction than others.



**Forrest Gump**  
 It was released in 1994 and is loved  
 World War 2  
 It started Tom Hanks as  
 Forrest  
 478 million  
 The story  
 Forrest's Mum  
 Life is like a  
 box of chocolates you  
 know what you're  
 gonna get

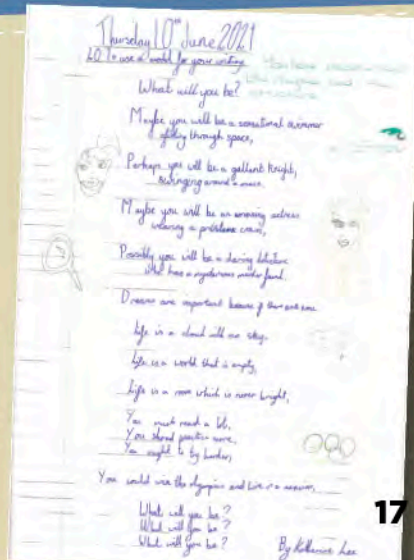
## 20th Century Life

In January, Year 5 studied 20th century Britain and they really enjoyed finding out about many different aspects of 20th century life. They interviewed their families and friends to find out about popular films of the 20th century and presented their findings by producing brilliant fact files and posters.



## ENGLISH

Year 5 have enjoyed using their mastery techniques as the year has gone on. They are able to recognise the language and structural features that are evident in different pieces of writing and can recognise the impact on the reader. They have been self-motivated and wanted to extend their learning through the further challenges on offer.





# Year 6



**Year 6Y Teacher: Mrs Webb**  
**Teaching Assistants: Mrs Nelson and Miss Wrzesniacka**

- |                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Bella Amblard   | Isaac Nelson          |
| Alyssa Barnett  | Joshua Olnier         |
| Isla Barrack    | Jay Patil             |
| Amber Betts     | Ayla Plumb            |
| Ella Brown      | Amy Robinson          |
| George Crowfoot | George Rule           |
| Emme Edge       | Hany Sakr             |
| Eve Ferguson    | Hattie Sarkies        |
| Eden Iles       | Caitlyn Simpson-Vince |
| Orla Melges     | Ollie Stevens         |
| Michael Mercer  | Sahana Talwar         |
| Asha Mistry     | Esther Tovey-Keane    |
| Jack Moyney     | Amelia Yates          |

## English

In Year 6 we have the final preparations for exams but it is important that we keep learning alongside this. We focus on different genres of books, enjoying historical fiction, fantasy and modern classics. This is a year of consolidation and mastery, it is important to give the children time to use their knowledge independently through open learning tasks. They are very aware of what their next steps are, it is great to see children taking ownership of their own learning.



## A Rugby il y a...

In their lockdown French lessons, the children learnt to describe where they live, using adjectives and sentences such as "il y a" (there is, there are). We then worked on expressing opinions about the places where they live and the class produced posters using all the skills they had learned. The posters were wonderful, both hand-drawn and digital versions. Mme Tatton really enjoyed discovering Rugby and its surrounding villages without leaving the comfort of her study!



## INTER-HOUSE GEOGRAPHY

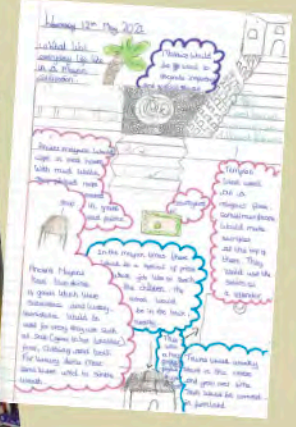
During the Lent Term, Year 6 children developed their knowledge of the major cities, rivers, seas and mountains of the UK and Europe. It's a great bank of general knowledge that will hopefully stand them in good stead as they move on to their next schools.

In April they took part in the Inter-House Geography Challenge. It was a very close fought event, with the lead changing hands a number of times as the rounds developed. In the end however St David's came out as clear winners and received the congratulations of the rest of the class as well as the Year 5 children who came to watch and offer their support.



## HISTORY

In History we enjoy exploring the past. In Year 6 we travel to Ancient Greece, investigate local history in Victorian times and question why the Mayan Empire died out.

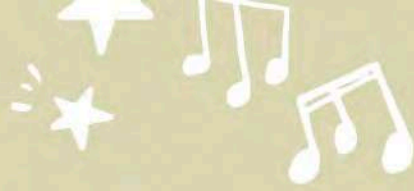








# Music



## Easter Service

Members of Year 6 learned and performed most of the songs as solos. The whole class learned and recorded the final two songs.

You can watch the performance here:  
<https://vimeo.com/528016662/f4d3158523>



## Virtual Concert Showcases Talented Musicians

Crescent's talented young musicians showcased their wonderful skills in a superb second virtual concert in November.

The children were all preparing for music examinations at the end of the November so the concert was a great opportunity for them to polish their examination pieces. The performances included 24 musicians from Year 3 up to Year 6, and featured nine different instruments, including singing, at levels from the Prep Test up to Grade 5.

Even though school concerts and performances in assembly weren't possible, pupils were able to showcase the results of all their effort and practising. The results of the exams were testament to their dedication.

“ The results of the Music exams were testament to their dedication. ”







## Year 5 Orchestra

Members of Year 5 learned to play *Yesterday* by the Beatles in their extra-curricular Orchestra group. In the group were four trombones, four cornets/trumpets, three flutes, two clarinets and a violin. In only three weeks they were able to play to a high enough standard to record their work. You can listen via the link and enjoy what they achieved in such a short time.

You can watch the performance here:  
<https://vimeo.com/527816931/a79d9b9d6e>

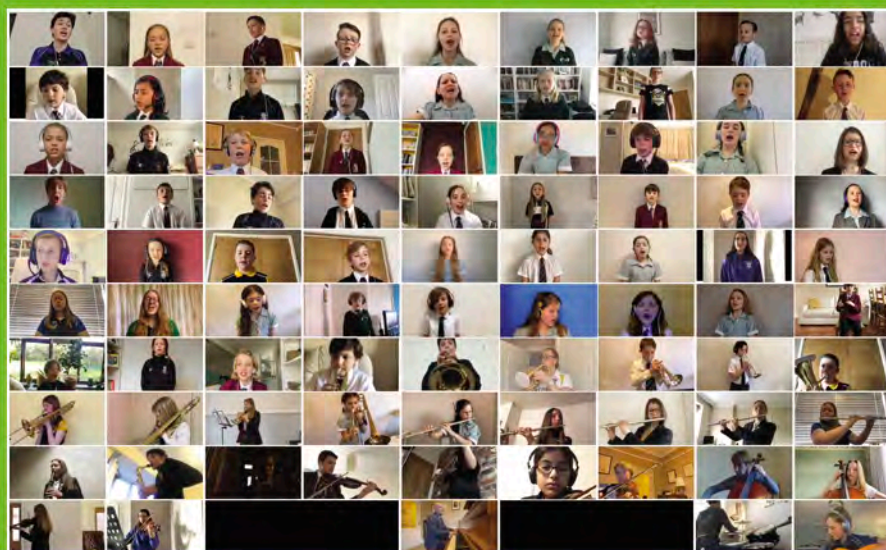
“In only three weeks they were able to play to a high enough standard to record their work.”

## You Will Be Found

Crescent pupils joined pupils from across the Foundation to perform *You Will Be Found* from the musical *Dear Evan Hansen*.

All pupils in Years 2 to 6 were taught the song and shown how to download the words and record to a click-track. 26 pupils across the classes submitted recordings, including three who submitted two, one singing and one on an instrument. Crescent children constituted over a third of the overall performers and it was wonderful to see a wide range getting involved. All the children enjoyed learning the song and seeing themselves or their friends in the performance.

You can watch the performance here:  
<https://vimeo.com/540681358>



## Music Examination Success

Across the year many children studied for and sat ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) examinations. Despite the upheavals of lockdown and remote learning everyone adapted well and their success in their music exam was a testament to their hard work.

In total 68 children sat exams, from Prep Test up to Grade 6, on the Flute, Clarinet, Piano, Trombone, Descant and Treble Recorders, Cornet, Violin, Cello, Baritone Horn, Percussion and in Singing.

A huge thank you for all the support parents gave at home allowing children to have lessons online and keeping them practising.



## Crescent Musicians Join The National Children's Brass Band

Two talented young musicians from the Crescent School successfully auditioned for the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain.

Alyssa Barnett plays the cornet and Charlotte Corbin the trombone, both have been taking lessons at school since they were seven-years-old and are stalwarts of the school orchestra and brass group. Both also play for the local Bilton Silver Training Band.

With the restrictions of the pandemic, they had to pre-record their audition pieces but play their scales and take the sight-reading test on a Zoom call. It was a nerve-racking experience so they were especially delighted when they received the exciting news that they had been selected.

Crescent School's Director of Music, Julie Barnes, said "This was a huge achievement. Both girls worked very hard in preparation for this and thoroughly deserve their places in the band."





# Drama



## Reception and Pre-Prep Nativities

This year we couldn't welcome parents into school for that perennial favourite the Christmas Nativity - but that wasn't going to stop us and oh what fun the children all had filming the nativity plays!

Reception performed *A Bundle of Joy*, a story of about Grumble, a very grumpy donkey. The children really enjoyed learning all the songs and dances that help tell the story of the birth of Jesus and Grumble's realisation that life isn't so bad after all.

Pre-Prep's nativity was *The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All* and the children also put on an excellent show. The angel chorus really did rehearse for hours to be ready to spread the joyous news and we met a whole host of familiar characters as we followed Late Angel's dash to join in the fun. The children's singing was magnificent and they coped with a small technical hitch brilliantly - we bet you didn't spot it at all!

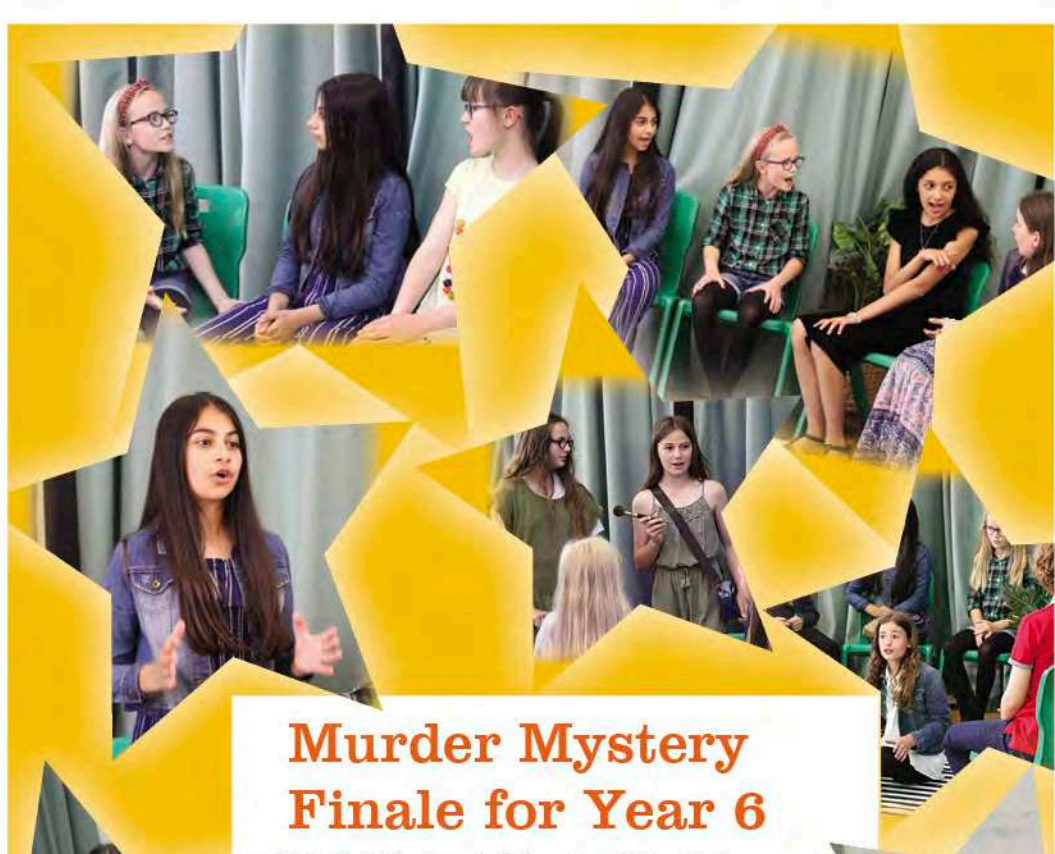
The children sang, acted and danced their hearts out and loved every Christmassy moment and then enjoyed watching the film cosy and safe at home with their family.

Enjoy the photos of their wonderful productions!

“ The children sang, acted and danced their hearts out and loved every Christmassy moment and then enjoyed watching the film cosy and safe at home with their family. ”







## Murder Mystery Finale for Year 6

*Talk About A Murder* debuted in early July to great acclaim. Written, directed and filmed by Drama Teacher, Miss Thompson and featuring our very own Year 6, the end of year production was a marvellous murder mystery and it was just superb.

In the previous weeks the school hall had been transformed into a film set for the cast and crew to record the different scenes and the eager young actors were in and out of their costumes and make-up as the filming progressed. It was all a hive of activity with shouts of 'Action' echoing around the walls.

The stars of the show turned up to the premiere in dazzling dresses and suits for an evening in the limelight. Together with their parents they enjoyed a reception on the school field before the children watched their fantastic film in the school hall.

**A huge well done to everyone involved!**



“The Year 6 end of year production was a marvellous murder mystery and it was just superb.”



# Sport

In the Trinity Term pupils in Key Stage 2 were able to take part in fixtures against fellow Foundation junior school Crackley Hall.



## Netball

**The U11A Team** went out fast and hard in a very evenly matched game which saw the first quarter ending in a 2-2 draw. Hattie and Asha took control of the pace of the game slowing it down, leading to plenty more shooting opportunities for Emme and Sahana, who capitalised on every chance. Wonderful defensive play from Ella, Amy and Alyssa, blocked the balls coming in to Crackley shooters. A fabulous game resulting in a 8-4 win.

**The U11B Team** played fantastically too with some great shooting from Eden and Bella and wonderful attacking play from Ayla and Ameila. Caitlyn read the ball well, blocking and intercepting lots of passes. Isla and Orla worked hard in the circle to try and stop the shooters, making some great rebounds. Final score was 7-3 Crackley.

**The U10A Team** made fantastic progress with their game. After a slow start the team settled and got into their stride playing their own game, recognising that the height of Crackley players meant that had to get around and in front of their opponents to receive the ball. Moving forward to meet the ball, showing fabulous footwork and strong passing all led to more opportunities in our shooting circle. Final score 10-1 Crackley.

**The 10B Girls** came up against a very good Crackley team. They fought valiantly but were unable to stop Crackley's attacks, which their goal shooter managed to capitalise on. Solid work rate from all the girls in their first match for quite some time.

**The U9As** played a fast and furious game, with end to end play in all four quarters. All girls displayed fantastic footwork, strong communication skills and competitive spirit. Solid defence from Zara and Ava made it hard for Crackley to get the ball in to their shooters. Tegan and Mya showed great supportive play and good spatial awareness positioning themselves well to help Ellie and Bella moved the ball swiftly up court to Grace and Esme in our attacking circle. A very evenly matched game displaying lots of promise for the future. Final score 2-1 Crackley.

**The U9Bs** rose to the occasion and thrived under the competition, dodging in to space to receive well timed and executed passes. Grace controlled the pace of the game well from centre with Chloe and Annalise giving good options to help move the ball through to Erin and Saira in attack. Lara and Libby worked hard in defence, always fighting for the ball and marking their opponents well to intercept and clear the ball out of the defensive circle quickly. A close game ended in a 2-2 draw.

**The U8 girls** were both nervous and excited at the prospect of their first ever netball match. Leela, match Captain, had a master plan so all was well!!! In the weeks leading up to the game the girls had worked incredibly hard, learning their positions and the rules of the game. The Crackley girls started strong and managed to get through our tenacious defence. In the second half the Crescent girls started to find their rhythm and managed to produce some excellent passing play. The girls were shattered at the end, and it was a testament to the effort they put into the game.

## Cross Country

Staff and pupils were excited when Crescent's Year 5 and Year 6 boys and girls raced against Crackley Hall in our first ever Inter-Foundation cross-country race.

There were a few nerves, but all pupils were very keen to compete, and enjoyed the winding 1600m course around the school field with plenty of energy and enthusiasm. After lots of hard work on pace running and target setting in home learning and then when we returned to school in March, pupils knew what they had to do, and they all set off showing great determination and perseverance. For each race the first six athletes counted for the team score.

**The Year 5 girls'** race was the first with Evie taking the lead and controlling the race from the outset, she set a great pace which she was able to sustain, and it all came down to the final sprint and she finished gallantly in 2nd place.

Crescent girls then came in thick and fast with six finishing in the top 10 places to secure the team win for Crescent; Eva 5th, Katherine 6th, Stephanie 7th, Charlotte 8th and Liana 9th.

**The Year 5 boys** were next to go, strong competition between the Crackley boys saw a fast pace set but Crescent boys did not let this fluster them and stop them from running their race, solid performances from all boys saw Kai in 6th and Ro in 10th with all pupils working hard and pushing themselves through their comfort barrier to produce their best performance.

**Year 6 girls** showed fantastic grit, determination and maturity, again knowing their bodies and their pace and not being put off by some speedy starters from Crackley.

Fantastic running from Amy saw her come home in 2nd place, Hattie 4th, Emme 5th, Asha 6th, Sahana 7th and Amelia 10th securing the Crescent team win.

The final race was **Year 6 boys** which again did not disappoint with all students giving their all and showing fabulous work ethic and team spirit, knowing that every score counted. Athletics captain Josh was the first Crescent pupil home in 2nd place with George R in 6th, Isaac 12th, Hany 13th, Ollie 18th and Jay 19th.

It was a fantastic performance by all of Crescent's pupils and their efforts made us all proud not only whilst running but also in the energy and compassion they showed in their support of one another cheering and encouraging each other along.





# Rounders

U8s

U8s played their first ever rounders games against Crackley Hall and did an excellent job!

Lots of good communication and learning on the job meant that they very quickly got into their stride. In the first game the team narrowly lost by only 1½ rounders and the second by 2½ rounders to two strong Crackley teams. Excellent work by bowler Sofie, and Maisie as back-stop, meant that the team really started to work well in the field and understand how to stop the opposition scoring. A fantastic learning experience and a fabulous start for this team.

U9s

The excitement of the U9s was palpable in their first game of rounders ever. They played tremendously well growing in confidence with every ball and making amazing progress within the games. Taking on Crackley A team, they were put into bat. It was a cautious and steady start and after scoring 2 rounders they headed into field. Mya and Alex did a fabulous job mixing up the bowls making it tricky for the Crackley girls to hit, keeping them to 2 rounders too and a draw overall.

The second game saw us take on the Crackley Hall B Team and the progress was incredible, movement was quicker, decision making was quicker, throws to bases were accurate and we did a great job keeping Crackley to 1 1/2.

They then stepped in to bat and with Alex making some huge hits and some savvy running from Chloe the team scored 2 1/2 to beat the Crackley B team.

U10s

The U10s Rounders team had a steady and cautious start, making sure to not run each other out. Then in the last 10 balls they started to push a bit more scoring 5 1/2 rounders in total. Into field they went with fantastic bowling by Evie, accurate long throws from Eva and Katherine to the solid hands on Chloe on 4th base. Crackley went all out taking and capitalising on lots of risky chances. Back in to bat for a shorter 2nd innings we needed to change tactics however, Crackley fielded well and eventually took the win 11-8.

U11s

The U11s returned to rounders after a long break from the sport and although they lost the first game by several rounders they turned it around in the second game with a switch in several positions and more tactical awareness. Great work in the field meant the Crescent girls contained Crackley well with excellent bowling by Hattie. Fantastic work at 2nd base and 4th base by Amy and Emme, as well as Esther as back stop in her first fixture for Crescent School.



“ A fabulous effort by all the children involved. ”



# Cricket



U8s

The U8s played very well, with good bowling and magnificent batting. First to bat were Alex and Harry and both got at least one chance to hit the ball. After an entertaining 3 overs, Crescent were on a roll, getting just better and better. Edward G-H batted brilliantly scoring 2 or 3 sixes and Edward F was brilliant at listening to when he should run.

We did very well when we were bowling and got 5-7 wickets with a couple of appeals.

Crescent won the game after a stunning performance.

Match report by Timi.

U9s

It was an impressive first outing for U9 cricket team. All the players put in a brilliant effort, running well between the wickets and trying really hard with their bowling. Every pair put runs on the board and they only lost 1 wicket! After the first innings Crescent had scored an impressive 278 runs and with this huge total to defend they ran hard in the field to prevent boundaries restricting Crackley's score to 236. A fabulous effort by all the children involved.

U10s

Crescent U10s travelled to Princethorpe to play Crackley Hall. They started batting and got off to a good start amassing a good score. After that we went onto fielding and again started great with an amazing catch for Kai closely followed by Charlotte's amazing bowling getting someone out. Everyone played well. It was a very close match but in the end we lost by just 20 runs.

Match report by Evie.









# Co-curricular & Community Week



## Co-curricular

**Staff have all been keen for the children to experience different things out of lessons and so there was no stopping of co-curricular activities at Crescent School.**

We had clubs running before school, lunchtime and afterschool. We had music, drama, philosophy, times-tables, boardgames, outdoor learning, philosophy, construction, sewing, origami, library, podcasting and sport to name a few.

The children fully enjoyed all that was on offer.



## Community Week

**This is a week we put in place every year for Year 6 to give something back to the local area but also learn life-skills.**

This year we walked around Draycote Water, while we were there we litter picked, filling a couple of bin bags and Mr Thackway ran a photo competition, so the children focused on the beauty around them.

Another activity was bushcraft, team building and archery with local company 10:10 Ventures. The children learnt how to light fires and enjoyed s'mores as their reward, it was good to see them working together through the day.

On Thursday the children were visited online by Parliament education, the children learnt about democracy and the workings of the Houses of Parliament and House of Lords.

Of course we fitted in a few treats like Laser Quest (thanks to a very kind donation) and a water fight as these children have missed out on so much through the year without a single moan and fully deserved their fun.





# The School Promise



**Good Friends**

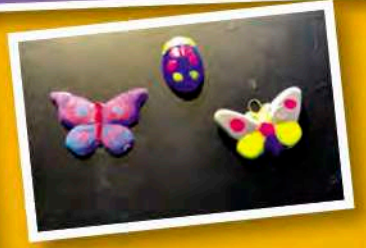
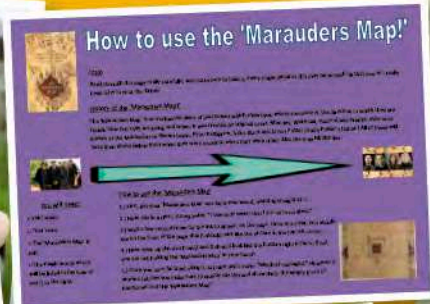
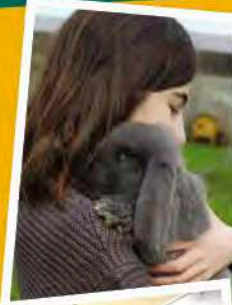


## Good Learners

### Lockdown Learning with Year 6

Year 6 jumped straight into home learning in January without blinking. Most of the children had entrance exams still to do, so as a school we were mindful of the pastoral as well as academic support required during these times. The children could access work from all subjects and there were regular Teams teaching sessions too, so they could meet face to face, listen directly to the teacher, learn from each other and interact with any questions and answers.

Their form tutor set them non-obligatory challenges to get them away from the screen and hopefully spark an area of interest that they had: the children did baking, some even videoed themselves cooking a meal, making smoothies, constructing things (they like Lego), we even incorporated puppets into our work. This all helped to raise a smile and make life a little more varied. They made us very proud with their application and resilience but it was still so good to welcome us back into the classroom.



### Junior da Vincis

This year we carried over any awards from the previous year due to home learning, this has worked well. Mr Thackway takes great pleasure in his Junior *da Vinci* walk on a Friday afternoon, going to each classroom to see the work in which the children have been awarded a mastery, creativity or practice; they proudly receive a sticker from him.

Over 150 Full Junior *da Vincis* have been awarded to 85 children across the year.



### Celebration Breakfast for Year 6

Year 6 faced their 11+ and independent schools' exams through a time of uncertainty, dates were often changed, some were online amidst lockdown and home learning for some of it. Despite all of this they did brilliantly and because of their resilience, stoicism and patience they were rewarded with a delicious breakfast at school.





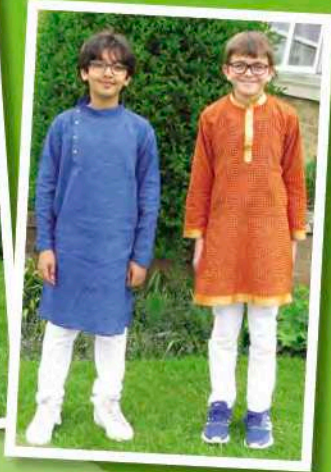
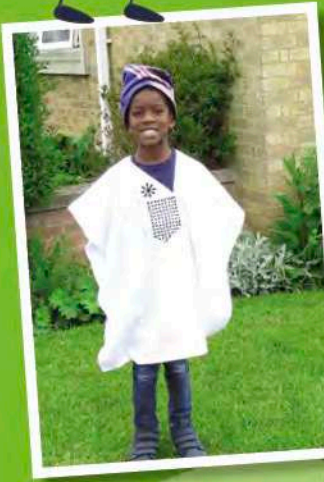


# Good Citizens



## The Last Post

On November 11 Crescent School came together as a school, luckily the weather was fine enough to gather safely on the playground and remember those who had given their lives in wars for our freedom today. It was a poignant service with prayers, the last post and a poem. It was made even more special as it was the first time we had been together as a school in the Michaelmas Term.



## Travelling across the continents of the world

In the Trinity Term, the school travelled across the continents of the world, experiencing the delights of what the world has got to offer without even leaving the school. Games were played, food was shared, art was created, dances were performed, poems were written, masks were worn and the children learned about our world and the vast array of cultures in an engaging and fun way.

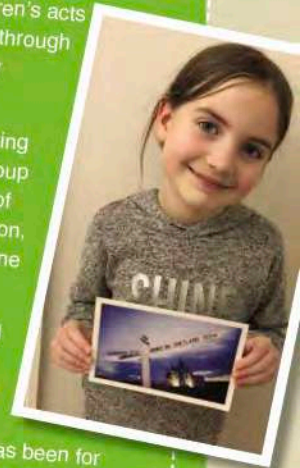


## Postcards of Kindness

Across the lockdowns we celebrated children's acts as good citizens. Recognising their efforts through the school newsletter. There were so many examples of kind and thoughtful acts.

Grace in Year 3, and her mum, enjoyed writing letters and postcards as members of the group *Postcards of Kindness*, writing to residents of care homes to combat loneliness and isolation, and remind residents there is always someone thinking of them.

Dorrit in Year 5, and her mum, went to a local food bank in Leicestershire and helped pack food parcels to be delivered to those in need. It was a really good experience and helped Dorrit realise how challenging the lockdown has been for many families.





# Phenomenal FoC!

The 2020/21 school year required some serious creativity by Friends of Crescent (FoC) but we rose to the challenge to ensure the children didn't miss out. We were hugely impressed by the children's enthusiasm for the alternative events we devised meaning we were still able to raise funds for our designated projects along with the charities we support.

The Michaelmas Term saw us host Active October and this along with two non-uniform days raised a fantastic £1,742.80 – half of which was donated to Rugby charity, Hope4. The rest was split between the classes for the children to purchase games and toys for privilege time.

Then in the Lent Term we held the first ever 'wear the wrong uniform day' and there were some fantastic outfits on show which helped to raise £205. Back in school we invited the children to create an Easter Bonnet and they enjoyed a parade around the playground which was a lovely sight – despite the high winds! The event raised £213.50 and all those who took part received a small chocolatey gift.

We kept up momentum throughout the Trinity Term, kicking off with FoC joining the Easyfundraising App – it's raised £275 so far which is a great start. Then once again we purchased the Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies and it was fantastic to see the children wearing them during the Trinity Term. FoC also arranged for Bag2school to do a pick-up of donations raising another £160.

With the help of the teachers (who facilitated the art content!) we were thrilled to bring back the Crescent Tea Towel featuring self-portraits by the children and teachers. This, along with the tote bag raised a fabulous £760 so thanks to all who purchased one (or three!).

The penultimate event of the term was the fundraising launch for Crescent Adventure – which will provide a safe outdoor play area to engage and challenge the children physically. Our target is £17,000!

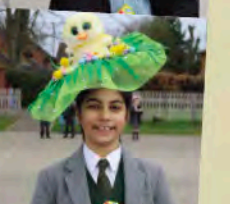
To mark the end of the school year we put the Easter Bonnet money to good use by giving out ice creams to all the children on the last day of term. They certainly deserved it after all their hard work during these challenging times!

Alongside the FoC activities Vicky Morley also did a fantastic job overhauling the second-hand uniform offering which raised over £300 during the year.

Mid-way through the year we said goodbye to Zara Corbin and Amy Sarkies their enthusiasm and commitment to the FoC is appreciated. Nick Brosnan took over as Chair and was replaced as Treasurer by Samantha Woods. Lisa Milward joined the committee as Vice Chair, Laura O'Connell as Secretary and Inez de Koning took a newly created post in charge of Communications.

We offer a massive thanks to all those who have taken part and contributed to our activities this year – whether it be children, parents, teachers and wider family and friends. We have been overwhelmed by the levels of support – whether virtually or in person. We truly hope that next year can see the return of our popular bake sales, along with the fantastic pub quiz, Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fête.

## The FoC team





# Goodbyes

# Thank you

Jo Byrne



At the end of the summer term we said goodbye to Mrs Jo Byrne, our wonderful Science and DT teacher, who we wish all the very best as she moves into semi-retirement on the sunny South Coast.

Jo has been an inspirational teacher at Crescent School over the last 15 years or so, who has been much loved by the children for her kind and caring nature, as well as her most excellent Science and Design Technology lessons.

Helen Plenderleith



We also said goodbye to our wonderful Art teacher Helen Plenderleith. All of the children have very much enjoyed her lessons over the last year and we wish her all the very best as she goes over to Princethorpe College full-time due to the extra demands on her time there. Many thanks for everything you have done here at Crescent.

Mrs Lusty

At the end of the Trinity Term we also said goodbye to Mrs Lusty, one of our trusty lunch time supervisors who is leaving us for a new job. Thank you for all of the care and nurture she has shown the children during her time here.

“ We say goodbye to Jo Byrne, Helen Plenderleith and Mrs Lusty and thank them for all their support at the Crescent.

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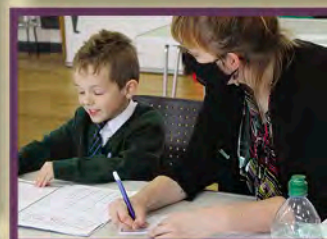
*good luck*

## Pupils Empowered by Learning Mentoring Meetings

During 2020/21 Crescent introduced 'Learning Mentoring Meetings' and they were very successful. The whole school target for the year was: "To embed self-regulation to achieve high performance" and the Learning Mentoring Meetings were an important step for the children towards this goal.

The pupils each met with a member of staff three times across the year to discuss their work, they helped the children reflect on their books, feedback and comments and report targets and encouraged them to choose and agree new academic targets for the year.

This powerful initiative gave responsibility for learning to the children, and all pupils from Year 1 up to Year 6 took part. It was a great way to give the children empowerment and responsibility to strive to achieve their own set goals.





# The Horton Centre

## Crescent School to benefit from enhanced facilities

In May the school was excited to announce that planning permission had been granted for the school to transform a building at the heart of its campus.

Work on the 250m<sup>2</sup> building, which was previously leased to Pathfinders Nursery, started at the end of that month to ensure it would be completed for the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.

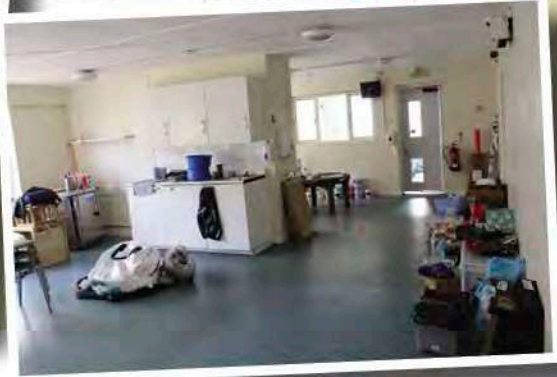
The building, will be known as the Horton Centre, reflecting the school's origins on Rugby's Horton Crescent.

Joe Thackway, Headmaster, explains, "Our vision for the Crescent is for it to be a small but perfect preparatory school. Part of our development strategy over the last few years has been to upgrade and update our facilities. This has been constrained by our site and the desire to maintain the outdoor space we have for sport and recreation."

"We now find ourselves in the unique position of being able to significantly enhance our facilities for the benefit of the whole school community. The Horton Centre will house a classroom for our Year 2 children, a flexible space for the Performing Arts and our Before and After School wrap around care will benefit from a new home."

The approved plans include two new sets of double doors straight out on to the playground which will especially benefit children attending After School providing them with the opportunity for outside play. The new Year 2 classroom will also have its own dedicated outside space, while Years 3 and 4 will gain a dedicated break out space. The finish will be similar to the recent refurbishment of the library and the top of the Green Mile.

Once it started, work progressed rapidly and the children were excited, keeping an eye on all the changes through the windows in the corridors!



“Our vision for the Crescent is for it to be a small but perfect preparatory school.”

