



THE FRIDAY FOCUS



Issue 68

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The fortnightly Friday Focus is the chance for every class at Clavering to share their learning with the Clavering school community. This is a great opportunity to find out what each year group has been up to and engage in conversations around learning.

RECEPTION

We had a very special family picnic at Forest School. We stayed a bit longer in the wood and welcomed the families. The Fantastic Foxes showed them around and then shared food together. It was a wonderful time and the families really appreciated the wonderful space and environment the children experience while at Snail Wood. A huge thank you to Mr Cook for arranging extra car parking on the day and putting up signs and information about the history of Deers. Thank you to our families for supporting this lovely morning.



YEAR 1

Year 1 had a fantastic trip last week to Mountfitchet Castle. They had so much fun! Children learned all about the castle and how it was a Motte and Bailey Castle. There were deer, lambs, peacocks and lots more animals to see. The children were able to look around the Bailey to see how people lived all those years ago. What an interesting day we had!



YEAR 2

This week, Year 2 have been busy becoming engineers as part of our exciting car making project in DT. We began by exploring how wheels and axles work. The children examined a variety of everyday objects, including Lego cars, stickle bricks, toy cars, a suitcase, a scooter and even a skateboard! We discussed how the wheels help things move and how axels play an important role in keeping everything turning smoothly. Next, we tested different materials for axles to see which would be the strongest and work best. We experimented with art straws, string and wood, thinking carefully about strength and how well each material helped the wheels to turn. With this knowledge, it was time to design our own cars. Using rulers, scissors and plenty of imagination, everyone planned out their own car design, using cardboard for the chassis and deciding how they would attach their wheels and axles.

Then came the fun part - making our cars! The children cut, glued, hole punched, sawed and assembled their vehicles. Once the cars were finished, we headed to the hall to test them on ramps to see how well they moved. It was exciting to see which cars rolled smoothly, which were the fastest and which ones needed a little extra work.

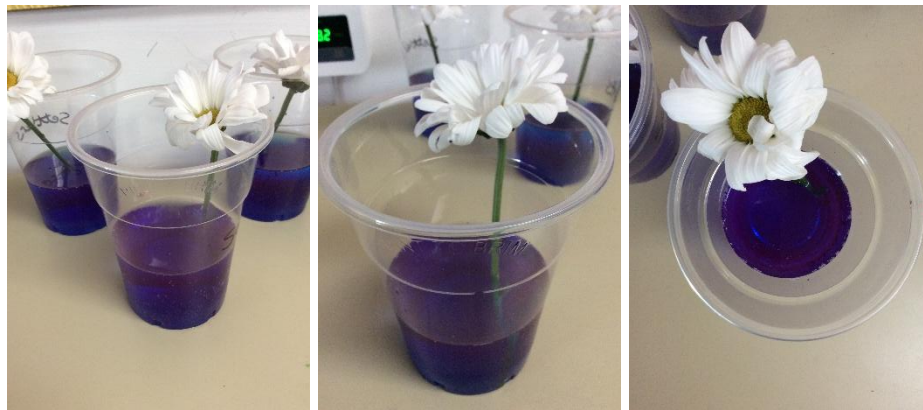
The next day, we reviewed our designs and had the chance to make improvements. Some children adjusted their axels, others strengthened their chassis, and a few made changes to the wheels.

Finally, we evaluated our finished cars, thinking about what worked well and what we might do differently next time. The project has been a brilliant way to learn about design, materials, testing and improvement - all while having lots of fun building and racing our very own cars!



YEAR 3

In Science, Class 3 have been learning about how water is transported to the different parts of a plant. The stem receives water from the roots which absorbs water from the soil. Water is then transported through small tubes inside the stem and finally arrives to the leaves and the flower. We conducted an experiment where we added blue food colouring to a cup of water and placed a white chrysanthemum inside each cup. After an hour, we noticed that the petals had turned blue; this is because the water absorbed the food colouring molecules, and these were transported through the plant along with the water.



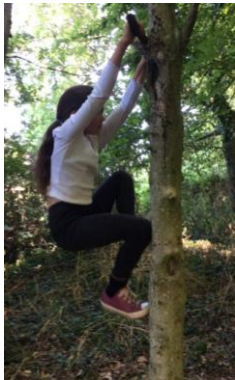
YEAR 4

Class 4 have really enjoyed their WWII History Topic. Over the past 3 weeks we have had a project to complete! We were given a grid containing optional tasks varying from design and make a gas mask box to writing 10 ways that life has changed since the 1940's. We had to choose 3 (or more) tasks to complete. Here are some of our finished products!



YEAR 5

Year 5 are enjoying a wonderful end of the year with mornings at Forest School in Deer's Wood, building dens, making swings, climbing trees and exploring the natural environment.



They also had an amazing day at Harlow Outdoor Centre, pushing themselves to face challenges such as rock climbing, canoeing and raft-building in teams. This is a great experience and the children did themselves and their school proud, earning praise from the Harlow team for their behaviour and their enthusiasm.



YEAR 6

In class we have been developing our science, design & technology and computing skills over many lessons. Last week, we brought all those skills together to programme a Micro:bit, create a circuit to power a motor and design sails to attached to a wooden disk (powered by the motor). The children had to attach the Micro:bit and circuit to a vehicle using different fixings (elastic bands, masking tape, paper clips) in the hope the motor and sails would propel their vehicle.



The following day, the children took their work and shared it with the Reception children. The children were very impressed with Class 6's work and spent a long time looking at and testing the vehicles. Well done Year 6, we have engineers of the future!



Well done year 6 for an amazing year! Everyone at Clavinging wish you all the best as you move onto Secondary School.

Watch out for the next edition of the Friday Focus in the next academic year!