



THE FRIDAY FOCUS

Issue 86

10th July 2026



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.

Sports Day Winners



A huge congratulations to Wales House for winning Sports Day 2026!

All the children across the school were fantastic—showing great effort and enthusiasm during the field events last term and the track events on Monday. It was wonderful to see every house cheering on their competitors and celebrating each performance with pride, no matter the result.

A heartfelt thank you to Miss Hagger and Mr Snelling for organising such a brilliant Sports Day, to governors Mr Peters and Mr Briggs for helping at the finish line and to the Friends of Clavering for providing refreshments and support throughout.

We also extend our sincere thanks to all the parents, grandparents and friends who came along to support the children—their encouragement and enthusiasm helped make the morning extra special.

RECEPTION

The Running Rabbits enjoyed their final forest session of the year in the cool shade of Snail Wood. The children did some super balancing, climbing, bug hunting and hammock swinging before welcoming their relatives for our family picnic. What a wonderfully special morning. A huge thank you to Mr Cooke, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Eltis for all their support with forest school this year.



Sports day was a great success and all the Reception children took part with great enthusiasm and team spirit. We are really proud of you all.



YEAR 1

Last week, Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the painting 'Regatta on the Grand Canal' by Canaletto for Art Week. At the beginning of the week, we explored the painting and talked about our senses. The children then wrote a range of sentences describing what they can see, feel, taste, look and hear. We also enjoyed listening to and moving to Italian music with Reception. Later in the week, we focused on small sections of the painting, and looked at the history of water transport, focusing on boats and gondolas.



YEAR 2

During Art Week, Year 2 took inspiration from the painting *A Regatta on the Grand Canal* by Giovanni Antonio Canal, better known as Canaletto, to create their own wonderful collage masterpieces. The painting features Bissone boats, which were traditionally used in parades, processions and celebrations in Venice. These beautiful, long rowing boats were decorated with ornate sculptures, gold-plated carvings and colourful paint. To create our own unique version of the Bissone boat, we carefully tore strips of coloured paper from magazines and layered them onto a boat template to create vibrant collage artworks.

We also learnt about the history and significance of the Colombina, Bauta, Plague Doctor and Moretta masks, all of which have become closely associated with the city of Venice and the Venetian Carnival over time. The children researched the colourful Colombina mask, traditionally worn during celebrations and often decorated with bright colours, feathers, glitter and jewels, before designing and creating their own spectacular masks.

What a fun and creative week we had!



YEAR 3

In Class 3 we have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating art week, and we have been creating art inspired by the painting "Regatta on the Grand Canal" by Canaletto. With Mrs Rudkin we looked at the different shapes within the painting and used cardboard to create prints recreating the city of Venice. With Mrs Tokeley, we have taken inspiration from the ornaments found on gondolas which are often in the shape of seahorse, first we practiced sketching a seahorse before using tissue paper to stain a seahorse stencil. We tore up small pieces of tissue paper and layered them onto our paper before wetting it and leaving it to dry. We then peeled off the paper and cut out our seahorse stencils before gluing them down on black card. We were very pleased with the final results!



YEAR 4

Over the last few weeks, Year 4 have been exploring brass instruments in their music lessons. They have learnt about the different members of the brass family, how sound is produced through buzzing into a mouthpiece and the importance of good posture and breathing techniques. The children have enjoyed trying out new rhythms, learning simple melodies and developed their listening skills.



YEAR 5

As part of Art Week, Class 5 explored *Regatta on the Grand Canal* by Canaletto. Inspired by the bustling scene, the children decided to design their own modern-day regatta. Working collaboratively in groups, they planned and constructed unique boats, showcasing their creativity and teamwork. To complete their creations, the class learned the traditional batik technique, using hot wax to create colourful and decorative sails. The finished boats looked fantastic and demonstrated both artistic skill and imagination.



YEAR 6

Year 6 topic in Science is Electricity. First the class explored the dangers of electricity and how to be safe at home, school and out and about around electrical items. The children created tally charts to collect data for electrical items around school and turned this information into pie charts in maths. The children created electrical circuits, recalling knowledge from year 4 learning. They investigated which type of battery would power the light bulb the best – we soon discovered 9V batteries blow bulbs! This led on to discussion about AC and DC power supplies. After that, children were challenged with eight different variations to test the impact on powering a bulb – long wires, short wires, open switch, old bulb etc.



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