



THE FRIDAY FOCUS

Issue 89

16th October 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.

RECEPTION

Gross motor development. The Reception children really benefitted from having the large apparatus out in P.E. for the first time. They did great travelling. Balancing, jumping, landing and climbing. Every child challenged themselves even if they weren't too sure. These activities are crucial for developing strength in the upper body, shoulders, arms and hands. You are great gymnasts Reception!



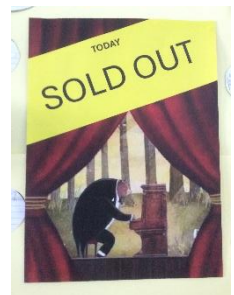
YEAR 1

Whilst exploring the text 'Astro Girl,' we have been looking at a range of non-fiction books about space. In pairs, the children enjoyed exploring the books, identifying the title, contents page and headings. The children are currently planning and writing their own fact files. Watch this space!



YEAR 2

When Class 2 arrived at school this week, they were greeted by some very unusual clues! Around the classroom were posters advertising a concert, featuring a bear playing the piano, tickets waiting on their desks, and even a bow tie and a rose at the front of the room. To make things even more mysterious, piano music was playing in the background.

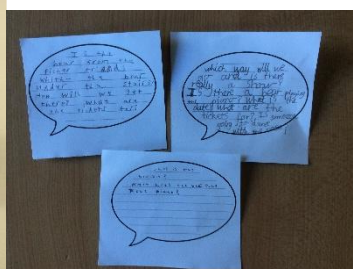
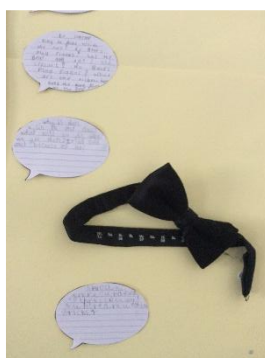


Using these clues, the children made predictions about what might be happening. They decided that there must be a bear who plays the piano and that their tickets were for a concert performance!

This sparked lots of curiosity and discussion, so we practised our questioning skills by writing questions about the clues, remembering to use question words and question marks correctly. Here are some of the fantastic questions the children came up with:

- How will we get there?
- What are our tickets for?
- Does the bear really play the piano?

The children showed great imagination and enthusiasm as they explored the mystery and developed their questioning skills.



YEAR 3

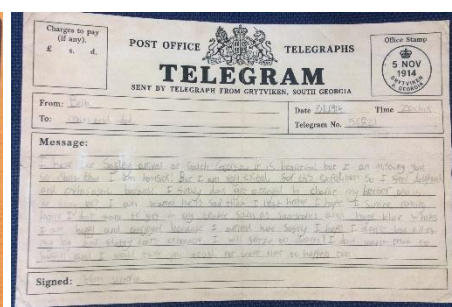
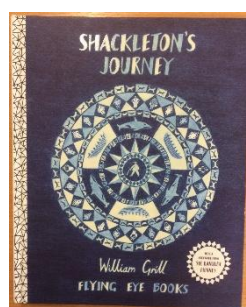
In our recent art lessons, we have been exploring the beautiful colours and textures of autumn. This week, we discovered the work of artist Georgia O’Keeffe, studying her autumnal paintings of leaves and looking closely at how she used colour to capture the season. We explored different shades of red, orange, yellow, green and brown before experimenting with paints to create our own autumnal colour palettes which we will use in our final artwork pieces. We also discovered that mixing lots of different colours together can very quickly create brown – sometimes when we least expect it! We are looking forward to using our new colour-mixing skills to bring our own autumnal masterpieces to life.



YEAR 4

This week in English, Year 4 have continued to read our new text, *Shackleton’s Journey* by William Groll, which tells the true story of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition of 1914–1917.

We started the week by discussing the crew aboard the ship *Endurance* and how they might have felt setting off on the expedition. We explored their thoughts and emotions through freeze-framing, an activity in which children get into character and act out a particular moment. We then imagined we were crew members writing a telegram home to our loved ones to tell them we had arrived at the first stop on our journey and to describe how we were feeling. We explored a variety of synonyms for *excited* and *scared*, added adjectives to include more detail, and finally presented our work neatly on realistic telegram templates.



YEAR 5

Year 5 have been busy exploring thermal insulation in Science. We planned and carried out an experiment to investigate which material would be the best insulator for keeping water warm. We tested cups wrapped in tin foil, bubble wrap and fabric alongside an unwrapped plastic cup to us as a comparison.

Before conducting our experiment, we identified the independent, dependent and controlled variables and made predictions about which material we thought would work best. Working in groups, we measured the temperature of the hot water using thermometers every five minutes to see how quickly it cooled down.

Once we had collected our results, we analysed our finding and wrote evaluations to explain what we had discovered and how we could improve our investigation.



YEAR 6

Year 6 have been continuing their study of the artist Georgia O'Keeffe. This week, we linked the art with our World War One topic and Remembrance by sketching a poppy. We first did a test run before committing to our sketch books. We used shading and cross hatching to build texture and effect.



Watch out for the next edition of the Friday Focus on 6th November 2026!