



Woodpeckers'



Ask Me About Newsletter

Spring Term

9th February 2024

Maths

This half-term we have been learning about multiplication, division and fractions (again!). In multiplication we have learnt use to use long multiplication for multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. This builds on multiplying by 1 digit numbers that they learnt in Year 4. The crucial element is to remember the 0 place holder for the second row of calculations (highlighted below).

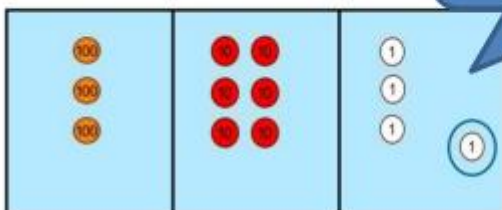
Long multiplication

	Th	H	T	1s		
	1	3	2	4		
	X		2	6		
	<hr/>					
	7	9	4	4		
	±	±	±			
+	2	6	4	8	0	← Place holder
	<hr/>					
	3	4	4	2	4	
	±	±	±			

In division, the children have been introduced to the formal written method for short division (also known as the bus stop method). To begin with we introduced this with place value counters alongside the written method.

$364 \div 3 =$

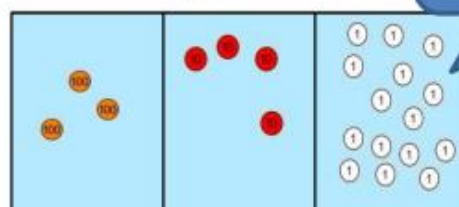
$$\begin{array}{r} 121 \text{ rem } 1 \\ 3 \overline{) 364} \end{array}$$



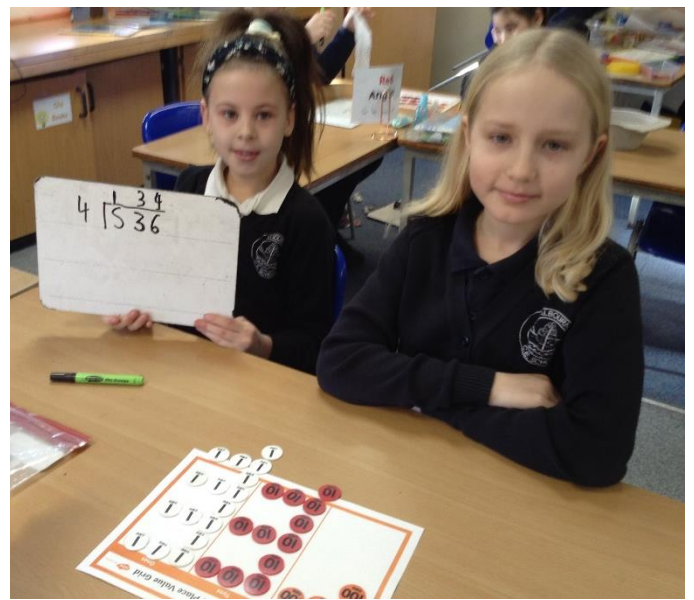
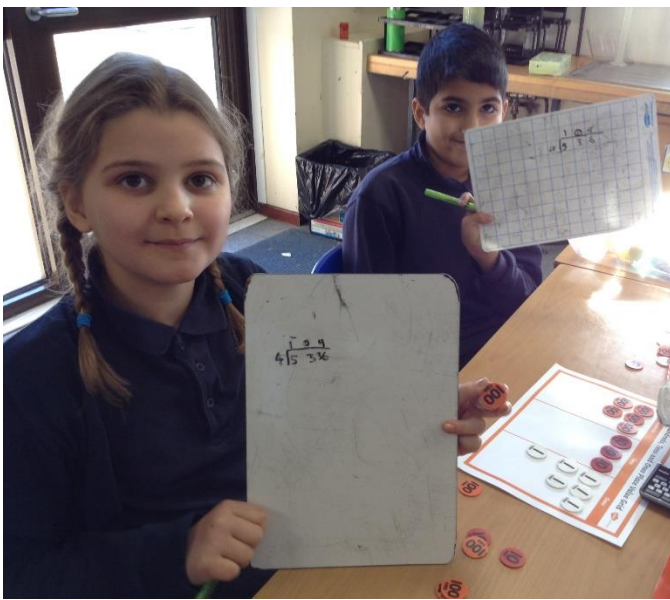
How many 3 hundreds in 300?
How many 30s in 60? How many
3s in 4?

$345 \div 3 =$

$$\begin{array}{r} 115 \\ 3 \overline{) 345} \end{array}$$



How many 3 hundreds in 300?
How many 30s in 40? How many
3s in 15?



In fractions we have been multiplying whole numbers by fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We have learnt that: 'to find a fraction of an amount, I need to divide by the denominator and multiply the result by the numerator' and 'to multiply a fraction by an integer, multiply the integer by the numerator and the denominator stays the same.'

Here is an example of the type of questions the children have been tackling:

Whitney is working out $3 \times 2\frac{2}{5}$ by partitioning the mixed number into a whole number and a fraction.

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

$$3 \times \frac{2}{5} = \frac{6}{5} = 1\frac{1}{5}$$

$$3 \times 2\frac{2}{5} = 6 + 1\frac{1}{5} = 7\frac{1}{5}$$

Use Whitney's method to work out the multiplications.

$$4 \times 2\frac{2}{5}$$

$$3\frac{3}{8} \times 4$$

$$5 \times 3\frac{7}{9}$$

$$3 \times 5\frac{3}{7}$$

Brett is finding $\frac{2}{3}$ of 618

Use Brett's method to work out the fractions of amounts.

$$618 \div 3 = 206$$

$$206 \times 2 = 412$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \text{ of } 618 = 412$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \text{ of } 924$$

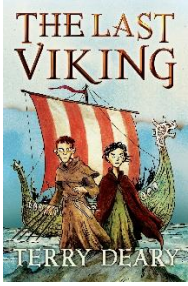
$$\frac{5}{6} \text{ of } 126$$

$$\frac{3}{5} \text{ of } 205$$

$$\frac{7}{9} \text{ of } 6,498$$

English

In English we have been writing lots to do with Saxons and Vikings. We started the term with a setting description using the book *The Last Viking* by Terry Deary.



We had a go at using ISPACE to create some really interesting openers...



As well as using figurative language to create imagery (metaphors and similes).

After this, we looked at Arthur and the Golden Rope, a firm favourite with the group. He's definitely our favourite protagonist so far (after August from Wonder).



Here we had a go at retelling different parts of the story. The class recapped using dialogue to advance the action and show rather than tell the reader about what's going on. They also used short sentences to create and build tension.

Finally, we used our history knowledge and focused on the Saxon burial ship found in Sutton Hoo. The class became journalists/reporters and had a go at writing some newspaper reports. We learned about journalistic words and phrases and how to use direct speech (a skill learned in Year 3 and 4) and reported speech (a new Year 5 and 6 skill). An example of this is,

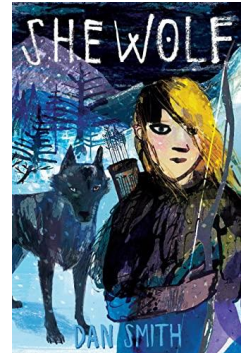
Direct speech	Indirect speech
"I am tired," said Jane.	Jane said that she was tired.
"I love playing the guitar," said Sam.	Sam said that he loved playing the guitar.
"I have a headache," complained Alex.	Alex complained of having a headache.

History

This half-term we have begun our new topic on the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. So far we have recapped our learning from Year 4 about why the Romans left Britain, learnt about where the Anglo-Saxons came from and why they came here. We have also explored what daily life would be like in Anglo-Saxon times and how we know. We have now begun to learn about the Vikings, starting with the first known Viking raids at Lindisfarne in 793AD. We have also looked at where the Vikings came from and why they came here, comparing this with the Anglo-Saxons. We are looking forward to the Portals to the Past day on Tuesday 27th February.

Guided Reading

We have begun our new book *She-Wolf* by Dan Smith. This is the story of a young Viking girl who is swept by a storm on to a desolate English beach. Cruelly orphaned there, Ylva becomes set on revenge, tracking a killer through dangerous hinterland. She wants only the favour of the Norse gods and the comfort of her stories. But when a stranger decides to protect Ylva - seeming to understand her where others cannot - Ylva must decide if her own legend will end in vengeance or forgiveness.



Science

This half term has been all about materials. The class tested their electrical conductivity as well as their thermal conductivity. The vocab used has been: conductor, insulator, control variable, dependent variable and independent variable. We have enjoyed testing different materials. Next half term is all about animals, including humans and life-cycles. Please do bring in photos of your child from when they were a baby and one from when they were around 3 or 4 years old. We will use these in our lesson the week after we come back from half term (if we have enough!).

Art

In art we are doing embroidery. We have learnt different embroidery stitches (running stitch, cross stich, blanket stitch and chain stitch) and have designed a Viking shield. We will be creating our final pieces after half-term.



Homework

We have had a slight increase in completed reading diaries this half-term - thank you! But we still have only around half of the class handing in their reading diaries regularly. Please can you encourage your child to read 5 times a week and bring their completed reading diary in on a Monday.

Have a great half-term,
Mrs Atkins and Miss Heard

Homework	
Reading	Please read 5 times a week and write this in your Reading Diary. Reading diaries are checked on Mondays.
Topic	The next topic grid will be sent out after half-term. At least one piece of homework need to be brought in during the last week of term.
Spellings	The spellings for the week will be stuck in reading diaries each Monday. The spelling test will be on Friday each week.
Times Tables	Mighty Multiples will be completed in school every Friday. Any practise you can do on your focus times tables at home will help. One way to do this is on Times Tables Rock Stars https://trockstars.com/