

FLORA NEWS



Ms Graham's Blog

Remote Learning – Things That Are Working Well

On 11th January, Ofsted published a report entitled 'What's Working Well in Remote Learning.' You can find the full article here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/whats-working-well-in-remote-education/whats-working-well-in-remote-education>.

I'm very proud to say that I think staff, parents and children are all working well during remote learning. While the situation is not ideal, we are making the most of the resources we have. Below I have responded to the 7 key factors identified as 'working well' by Ofsted with how we are addressing this at Flora Gardens.

1. It's fine to use worksheets or textbooks. Not all lessons need to be or should be 'live'. **You will notice that at Flora Gardens we are using a mixture of live lessons, recorded lessons, worksheets, textbooks and creative tasks such as the rubrics.**
2. Keep your resources (e.g., pictures/texts/videos/audio) simple to avoid cognitive overload. **Our staff are aiming to keep resources as simple to process as possible.**
3. Let children know the bigger picture - where this lesson sits within the sequence of lessons and the wider topic/subject. **Many classes have shared their topic overviews on Google Classroom and we also are continuing topic lessons to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum while in lockdown. Additionally, the rubrics supplement the topic learning while also giving children a much-needed break from 'screen time'.**
4. Continue to focus on long-term memory strategies (spaced retrieval) such as through low stakes quizzes. By low-stakes, it means results aren't public, no punishments for tanking it etc. **We are using Quiz Forms on Google Classrooms to check pupil retention alongside Question and Answer sessions in live lessons and clinics. Many of the Oak Academy resources we use also have quizzes attached so that pupils can continue to check their memory and understanding of key concepts. On Monday 18th January, I ran an assembly all about long-term memory strategies and not letting our brains get 'fuzzy'.**
5. Children find it much harder to concentrate remotely - consider delivering content in smaller chunks e.g. 'live' lessons shouldn't be as long as normal classroom lessons or children may need a screen break within the lesson. **Our staff are aiming to keep input sessions shorter than our usual lessons in school and to make sure children have regular screen and concentration breaks in the longer sessions. Staff actually need these breaks too!**
6. Finally, we still need to assess whether they're learning the content we're delivering. **As mentioned, we are continuing to check children's understanding through our live lessons, daily drop-in sessions, support sessions and through quizzes and written work. Teachers are giving regular feedback on the work the children are turning in so please make sure engage with your classwork as much as possible!**

You may have seen on the news that recently Ofsted has been inundated with parents supporting and praising the work that teachers are doing during lockdown. This was very much needed by all in the profession, and on behalf of staff I want to thank all our parents and carers for the hard work you are doing, the support you are giving and the resilience you are modelling for your children.

Hopefully, we will see you again before too long but until then, stay safe.

Whole School Workout with Mr Finney

Friday 29th January at 12.00pm

Mr Finney would like to see everyone from Flora Gardens live at 12pm wearing anything fancy dress!
It would be so great to see pupils, siblings and parents getting involved.
The Google meet will go out as normal on the morning of the workout.

FREE Family Jewellery Making Courses

The Family Learning Programme is offered to families by H & F Adult Learning & Skills Service

During course sessions, families will design and make various colourful pieces of recycled jewellery. They will be using some tools (scissors & ruler) together with their child/ children and explore a variety of materials safely and correctly. Literacy, numeracy and ICT will be included in the lessons. By the end of these courses families should learn how to make simple unique items of jewellery using a variety of methods, together with learning about the use of colour, line and texture in jewellery making and explore different methods of making jewellery by using recycled materials.

No previous experience is required. The course is designed for beginners and intermediate learners.

The sessions are held using Zoom and commence on 20th January 2021 but families can still register to join sessions during the following weeks.

Families to call up HFALS on telephone no. [020 8753 3600](tel:02087533600) to enrol.

Thank You!

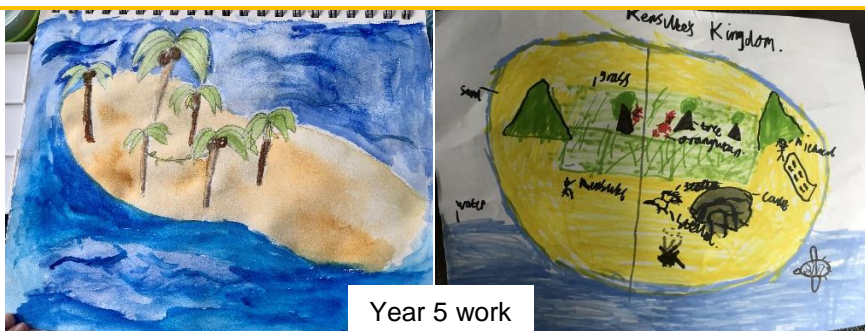
We would like to give a big shout out to Mr Beidas for his amazing phonics live lessons that have started this week for Y4 - he is going above and beyond!

Also a huge thank you to Mr Finney for providing our pupils with fun, live workouts every day!

There are some fantastic courses online for parents who may need a bit of help with the English language:

<https://www.esolcourses.com/content/topicsmenu/listening.html>

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/beginner-a1>



Year 5 work

Value Award Winners

Nursery: Baneen

Reception: Ethan

Year 1: Asmaa

Year 2: Ruby

Year 3: Ianis

Year 4: Ioana

Year 5: Eloise, Marley & Maddie

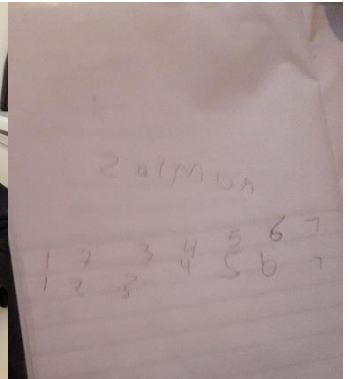
Year 6: Xela & Anna

PE: Loaira & Xela For being on every live workout!

Music: Kosta



Nursery



Reception

Miss Kelly is so proud of the whole of Reception class for getting off to a great start with their remote learning. We have been having daily live phonics lessons, as well as Maths videos and activities. We have also been completing daily topic work and have looked at food stories like 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. Every day we have an extra challenge too and these have included making instruments, building a den, learning sign language and creating faces from household objects!

My value award winner is Ethan for being so enthusiastic with all aspects of remote learning and working as hard as he can. Keep it up!



Year 1

Year 1 have been learning all about animals this week! They've looked at animals that you can find in the different continents around the world. Lots of the class had a go at drawing giraffes which really impressed Miss Horne and Miss Farley! Do you know what continent giraffes live in?

Our value award winner is Asmaa as she has been absolutely fantastic at tuning in to all of Y1's live sessions, submitting every single piece of work and always being completely respectful to her classmates. We are so proud to have you in Y1 Asmaa, you are an asset to the class!



Year 2

Year 2 have been learning all about castles and knights. They have been getting very creative at home and they drew their own castles. Look at all those colours!



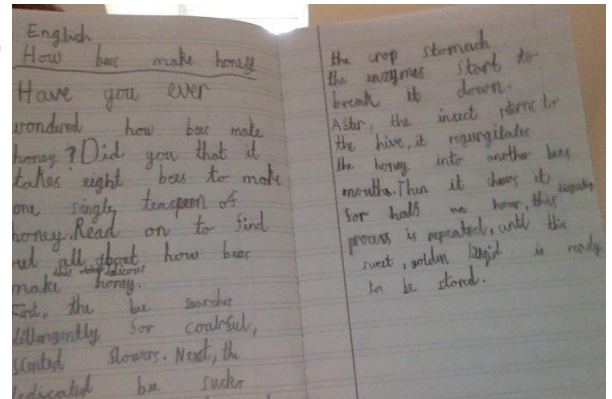
Year 3

This week in Year 3 we have been exploring how bees make honey. We had to find out the process and the order of everything. Here are some examples of our writing. Do you know how bees make honey?

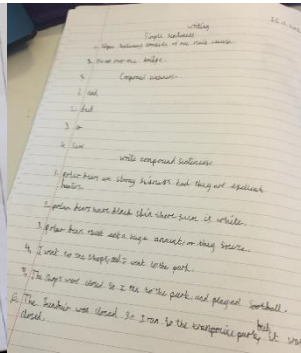
How Bees Make Honey – by Ibrahim

Have you ever wondered how bees make sweet, delicious honey? Well this fascinating explanation text will tell you the interesting, surprising process. Did you know these insects have excellent colour vision and that spectacular colour vision helps them find flowers that they need. Read on to find out more exciting facts about how these resourceful creatures turn nectar into solid gooey honey!

When a bee lands on a flower, it gets its long tongue and sucks up all the sticky, transparent nectar. Next, the nectar goes down it to the bee's crop stomach. The crop stomach is the bee's second stomach and is where the clever, resourceful creature stores all the honey. Inside the crop stomach is the enzyme and the enzyme is where the nectar gets broken down into cloying, gooey honey. As a result, the liquid inside starts to change tint. A bee needs to visit 1000 flowers to fill the bee's stomach. After the bee gets back to the hive it regurgitates all the honey and pours it out into another bee's mouth. As this appears, the enzymes break down the sloppy honey until it gets thickened enough. After half an hour, the bee stops chewing the liquid and carefully hands over on to another bee. It happens over and over again for a time period.

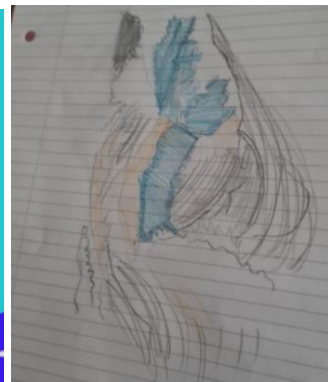
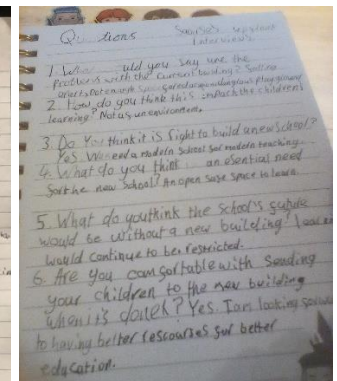
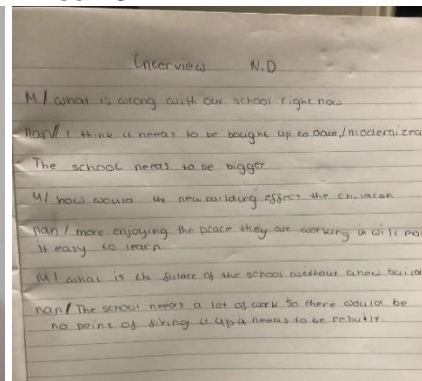
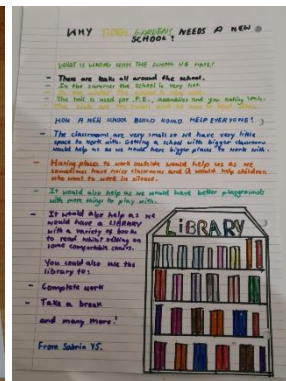
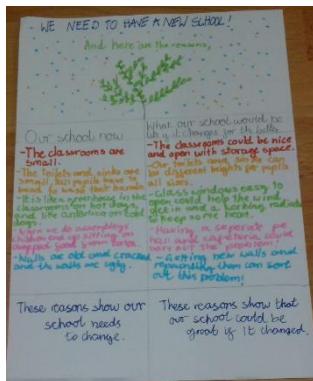


Year 4



Year 4 have enjoyed completing their rubric activities. Here is Younes's take on the Tudor rose. Ilyas has been practising his handwriting which has been lovely to see and read, and Zak A has drawn the new school build.

Year 5



A pit,
full of grit,
that pit, full of grit,
is full of despair,
the kind of despair that is very rare.

But there, in the darkest of despair,
Is hope.
Hope is like a rope,
When you're in a dark place the rope comes to the rescue.

It pulls you out,
then you have no doubt.
Despair is still there throughout,
Throughout your life.
Always have hope.

The rope of hope.
Even though you still have despair,
It is very rare,
You still have the rope.

By Saoirse.J

Year 6

