



Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



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Year 5

Autumn Term 2021

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Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

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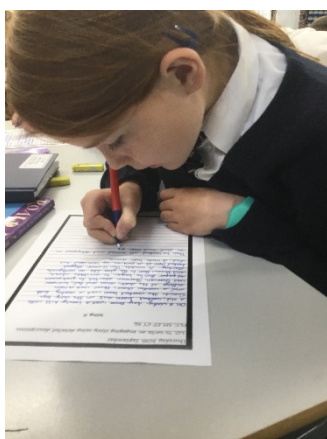
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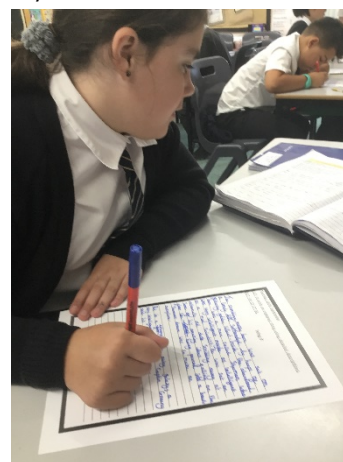
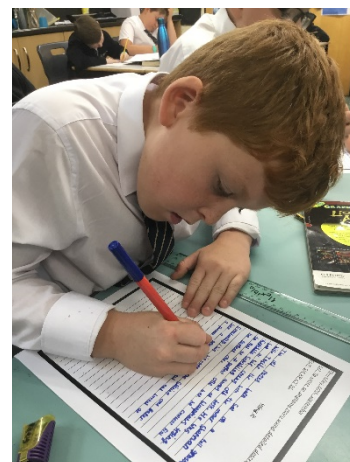
English

Year 5 discovered Sherman, a failed inventor, who taught them the value of perseverance through a thought-provoking animation. The children learned a variety of Alan Peat sentence types to make their writing more engaging and descriptive when describing the inventor's shed. Through their work on grammar, children learned the conventions of direct speech and developed their sentence construction to retell the story in their own words. The children were quick to learn how to "peer critique" and offered excellent cold and warm feedback to their friends to edit and improve their 1st drafts for our class display.



Our non-fiction text was a focus on journalistic writing. The children linked their maths and history skills as they played the role of a journalist reporting on the Titanic shipping disaster. First, the children analysed newspaper reports to compile a class toolkit of key features. Next, they honed their skills by writing headlines and lead sentences for a variety of hypothetical stories. With clear success criteria in place, the children began their historical research into the tragedy.

Through reading comprehension, analysis of historical sources and passenger statistics the children gathered enough information to write their article. From the research emerged eye-gripping headlines, key facts, quotes chronicling the maritime disaster. On the educational visit to the world famous Minack theatre, the children took part in a Titanic themed workshop where they were able to sequence the key events and work collaboratively to produce a dramatic performance high above the ocean.





INDESTRUCTIBLE SINKS IN SHAME

1500 souls sink below the icy waves.

Late last night, the most famous passenger liner -Titanic- sank in the icy Atlantic Ocean. It hit an iceberg at 21 knots leaving the 2200 passengers struggling for their lives.



Midnight, the Titanic hit a huge towering iceberg that stuck out of the water. Captain Smith quoted, "No problem the Titanic is unsinkable!" Fast forward 25 mins Captain Smith is ordering the First Class passengers to get on the lifeboats but now one wanted to because they felt safer on the "unsinkable" ship, so the lifeboats were set out half full.



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Maths

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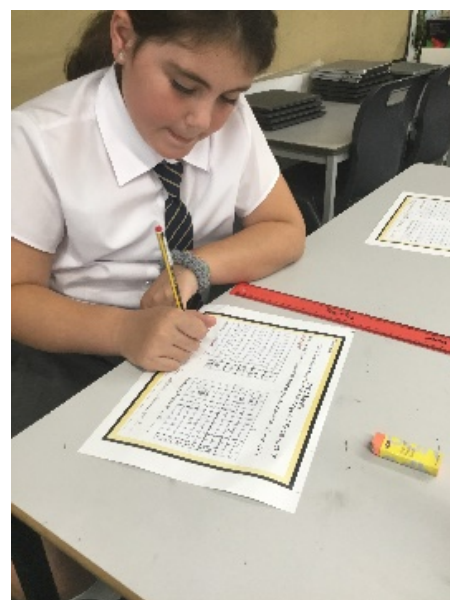
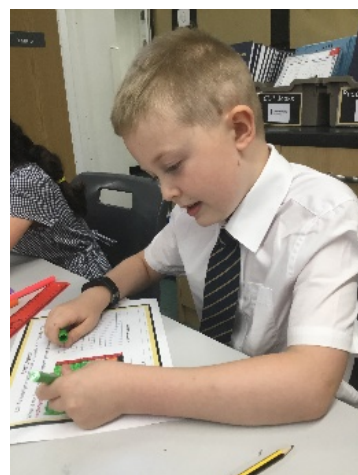
Year 5 studied the brain science of making mistakes through some *low challenge high ceiling* tasks linked to the work of Professor Jo Boaler so that everyone was clear that mistakes are the way we learn – just like Sherman in his inventor's shed.

Four days a week, the children kept their arithmetic skills sharp through spiral review tasks and tables practice. At Connor Downs, the children tackle fluency, reasoning and problem-solving tasks throughout each of their maths

topics to "master" each skill before being ready to progress to the next unit of work. Each unit started with a baseline assessment to ensure that coverage is tailored to fill any gaps that have arisen due to the disruptions cause by Covid-19. The children learned to manipulate and partition large numbers in their place value topic before developing their formal methods for addition and subtraction. In a link with their

newspaper topic in English, Year 5 calculated survival statistics for the Titanic and investigated if the maritime law of women and children first was abided by. The children have learned about pictograms, graphs and a variety of tables and answered questions in context. Later in the term the focus moved to multiplication and division, where the children learned key maths vocabulary such as "multiple" and "factor" before looking for patterns and investigating square numbers. Finally, the

children have learned the difference between area and perimeter and solved problems using this knowledge.



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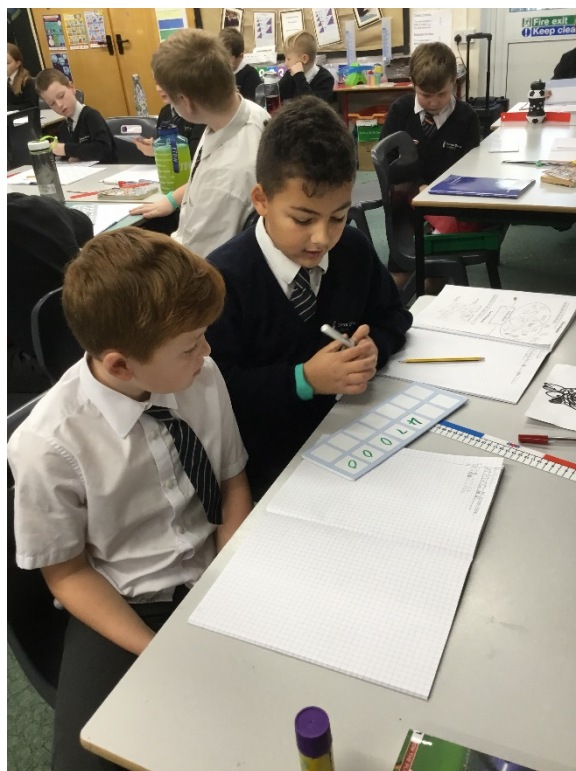
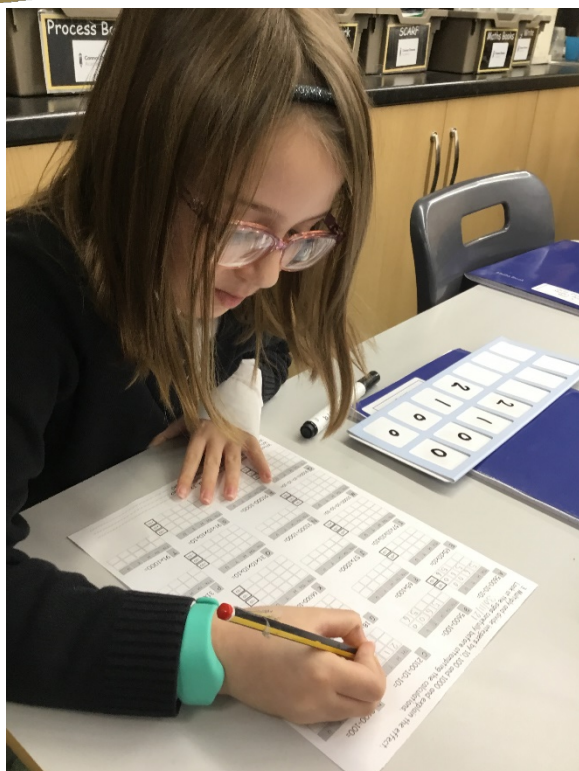
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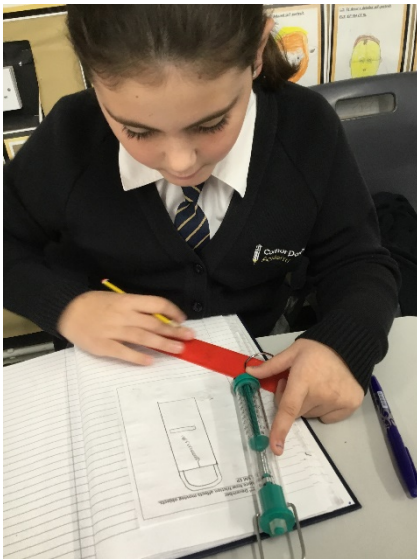
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The first topic this term was "To the Stars". The children have been immersed in space with their story writing focusing on alien inventions and their art topic following the work of Vincent van Gogh and his interpretation of "A starry night". The children have learned about the relative sizes of the planets in our solar system and the orbits that they follow. Through ICT the children have learned about the rotation of the earth and the phases of the moon. Some children, as part of their homework grid tasks, have even been star gazing with their parents. Next, the children learned about Sir Isaac Newton through reading comprehension before putting some of his theories into practice in a friction experiment. A highlight of the term has been the trip to Nexus to study gears, levers and pulleys. The children were able to make predictions using their scientific knowledge and test their predictions in the lab.



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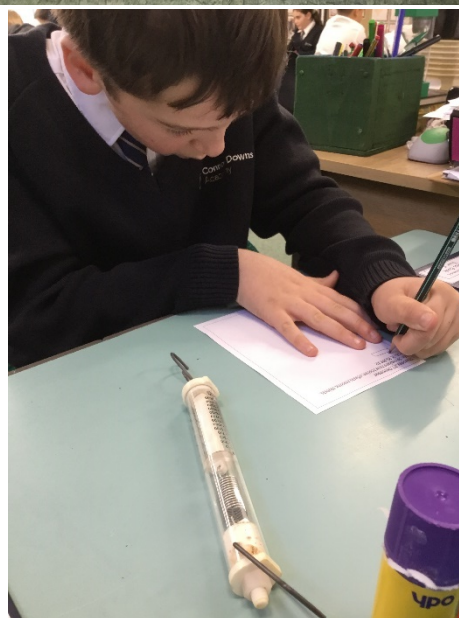
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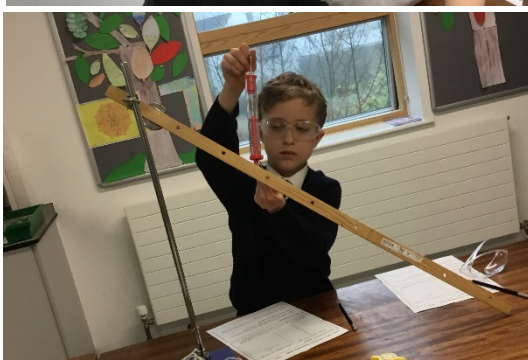
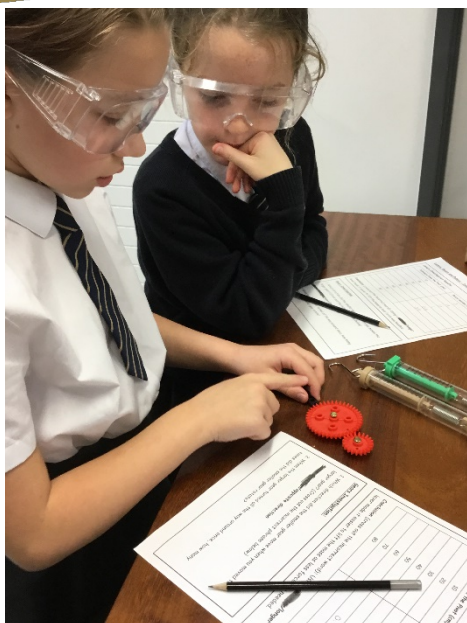




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PE

In PE, the children have enjoyed tracking their weekly steps with the Moki watches. The importance of warming up was taught and the children noticed the effect of exercise on their bodies. Through invasion games, the children learned the importance of communication and teamwork. Swimming for two weeks was amazing

as the children's confidence in the water grew exponentially and for many, they surprised themselves with how much they had improved and the fun that they had. Furthermore, the children have developed their gymnastic skills and worked to match and mirror positions as part of a gymnastic sequence. In addition to the curriculum PE lessons, several children have loved learning to ride their bikes on the road safely with the *bikeability* programme.



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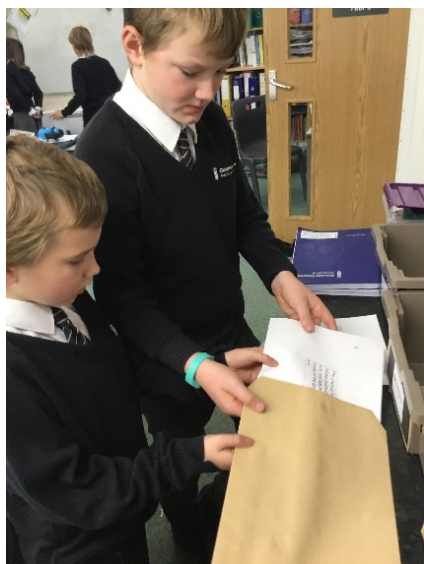
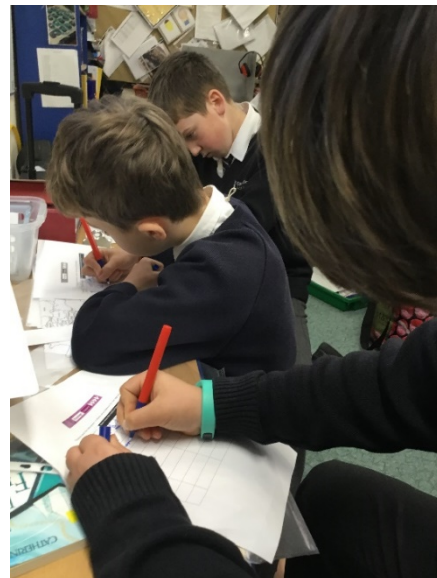
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History

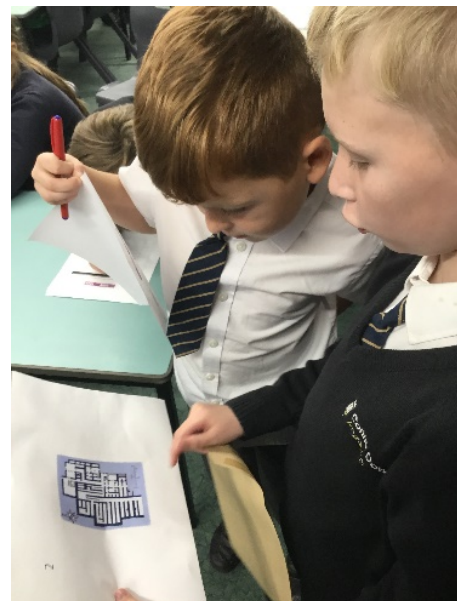


The children have learned about the early pioneers of space from Neil Armstrong to Mae C. Jemison through their study of the topic "To the Stars". Whilst preparing to write like a journalist the children used first-hand accounts and their own internet research about the Titanic. In a link to maths, the children calculated the number of survivors from first class to third class to discover if the maritime law of "women and children first" was upheld. On their visit to the Minack theatre, the children demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of the accident by sequencing and performing a play.



The children have investigated ancient Greece by investigating key questions e.g. *What was the role of women in ancient Greece?* The highlight of the topic was when the children had to "unearth" clues about the Theseus and the minotaur on our history trail and decide how much of the myth could be true as no piece of evidence is ever discovered with a label telling future generations what it was. In

a link to English, the children have researched about the legacy of the ancient Greeks and compiled a non-chronological report. Furthermore, the children have enjoyed reading Greek myths and have made "ancient Greek" pottery.



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Geography



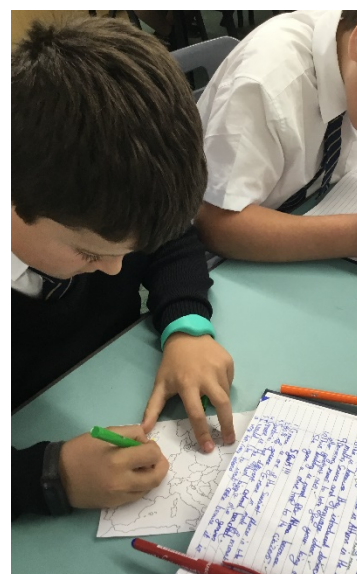
In Geography (which has strong links with our history topic), the children have “packed their suitcases” to go on a trip. The mystery suitcase activity, through a variety of clues, helped the children to compare and contrast two holiday destinations: the Hebrides and the Aegean Islands.



The children have located these islands on a map and researched information on the internet about the climate, tourist attractions and travel routes to the areas.

Furthermore, Year 5 have learned about the continents, lines of latitude and longitude and time zones. This has deepened their understanding of the topic *Poles Apart* where the amazing adventure of Shackleton and his crew are explored in Geography and

English simultaneously.





Art and Design Technology



The children have enjoyed learning about the life of Vincent van Gogh as they read about the artist in order to provide a context for his work "Starry Night". The children have developed an understanding of the creative process by understanding that van Gogh used sketch books to collate his ideas before compiling his final piece. This linked with our weekly "Doodle Friday" activities and our theme of resilience. The children compared a variety of

his paintings to understand how he created "turbulence" in his work through a thick application of paint. The children first replicated the scene using watercolour pencils before re-drafting their work in oil pastels.



In a link to history, the children designed and made their own Greek pottery using clay and a variety of tools and paint to replicate the jobs (fishmonger, olive farmer or cobbler) or mythological scenes captured by the artists of ancient Greece.



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Music



This term, Year 5 have continued to play the jumbie jams. Building on the skills that they acquired in Year 4, the children independently assemble their instruments ready to perform. The class have revised their skills and developed their song repertoire and performance skills.

In addition, the children have been taught to sing Christmas carols in preparation for the Christmas concert. A highlight has been recording a Christmas video and song in collaboration with Hayle Academy and their music specialist Miss Barry.



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MFL – French

This year, the children have revised their French vocabulary using the exciting and engaging *Rigolo* French programme. With a focus on knowing key phrases, the children have developed their conversational skills and are beginning to record their conversations in writing.

ICT

In year 5, the use of ICT is weaved throughout our topics. Safety on the internet is vital and is revised every year. The children have been taught how to research key questions on the internet and show good judgement when reading web content. When editing and redrafting their newspaper reports in Google Classroom, the children understood how to insert and resize images and spell check their work. In a link to maths, the children have faced numerous Sum Dog challenges linked to their

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learning and they have TT Rockstars to sharpen their tables knowledge and understanding.

RE



This term the focus has been on learning about Islam. The children have learned what it is like to be a Muslim in Britain today. Year 5 have revised the 5 pillars of Islam and how they influence daily life. The children identified and explained Muslim beliefs about God, the Prophet and the Holy Qur'an (e.g. Tawhid; Muhammad as the Messenger, Qur'an as the message). They then made the connections between these beliefs and Muslims' daily lives, for example through the festival of Eid. The topic finale was a visit from Daya who gave the children a virtual tour of a mosque before the children dressed in traditional clothing and role-played the preparation for prayer.

Before Christmas, the children studied: "Was Jesus the Messiah?" as part of our understanding Christianity topic.

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PSHE

PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) is delivered through our weekly SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship) programme, but is present in all that we do in school. This term the focus has been on *Me and my Relationships* and *Valuing Differences*. The marshmallow tower competition challenged the children to work together with a set of criteria. There was a strong focus on communication and decision-making skills as the towers rose high above the table.

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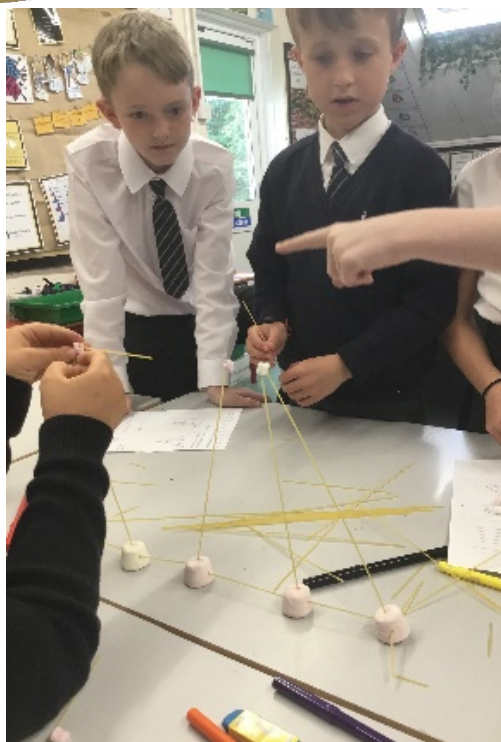




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