

# Southdale Sparkle

8 January 2021

## Happy New Year!

As I take a moment to reflect on this past week, my goodness, I couldn't be more proud! What has been accomplished by our staff team, our pupils at home and in school, is quite simply remarkable!

The Christmas break seems like a lifetime ago, but what this does prove is that our continued drive and determination to give our children the very best, shows that anything can be achieved when we work as a team.

Given the disruption that our children have been through already this year, I truly believe it is our moral duty to do whatever

it takes for our pupils throughout these difficult times. With 99% of those children at home accessing live lessons (we are working on the remaining 1%), we have also delivered 23 laptops to families this week to ensure nobody is disadvantaged. And to top off the week, one of our gorgeous families sent an email stating this.

*'I have a brand new boxed laptop that I would like to donate to a child who is in need of one for them to keep. I would like if possible for the laptop to go to a child whose family isn't fortunate enough to be able to afford one.'*

Our Christian value this half term is generosity and wow, this is a true example of generosity - thank you so much! We have the most amazing Southdale family! Have a rest this weekend everyone - you've all well and truly earned it!

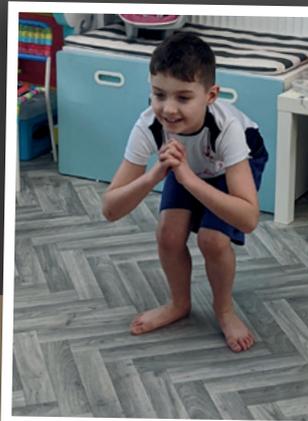
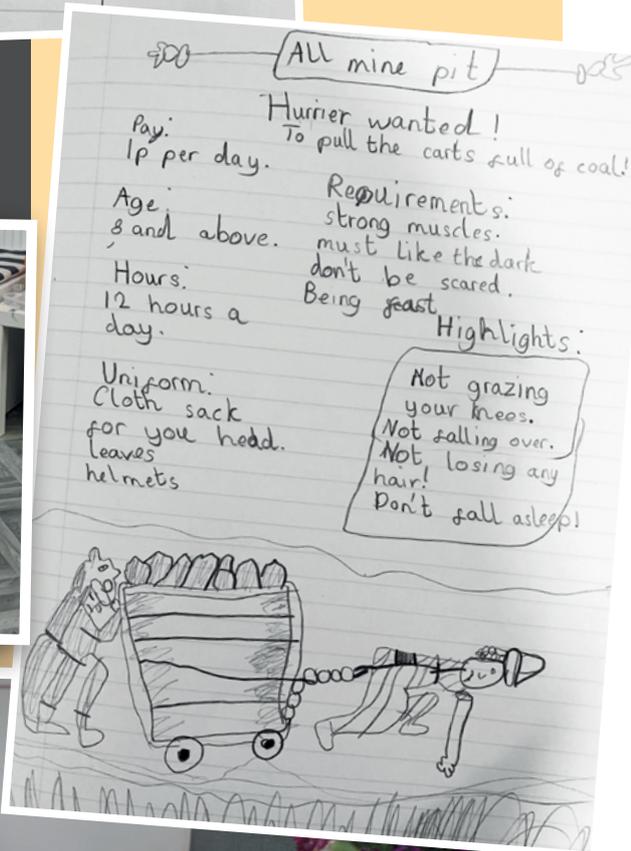
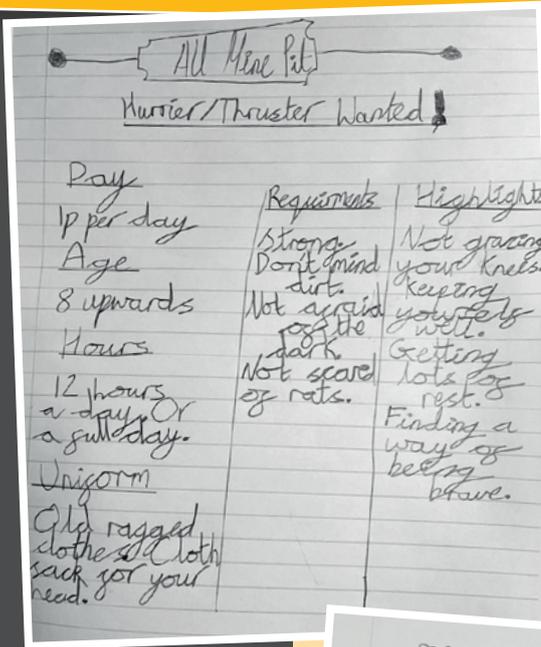


## A MINING DISASTER!

In Year 3 this week, we have stepped back in time to Victorian England. On Monday, we arrived at school to learn all about the Huskar mining disaster of 1838 in which 26 children lost their lives. A huge inquiry into the conditions down the coal mines has begun, and as newly appointed pit inspectors, we have a key role in this important investigation. We have already learned all about the job of a trapper, hurrier and thruster and are shocked by our findings!

In **science**, we have started learning about forces and have been identifying push and pull forces in the home and school.

*Thank you for supporting your child at home. The Year 3 team couldn't be more proud of your children's positive attitude to learning.*



## DISCOVERING THE SHANG DYNASTY!



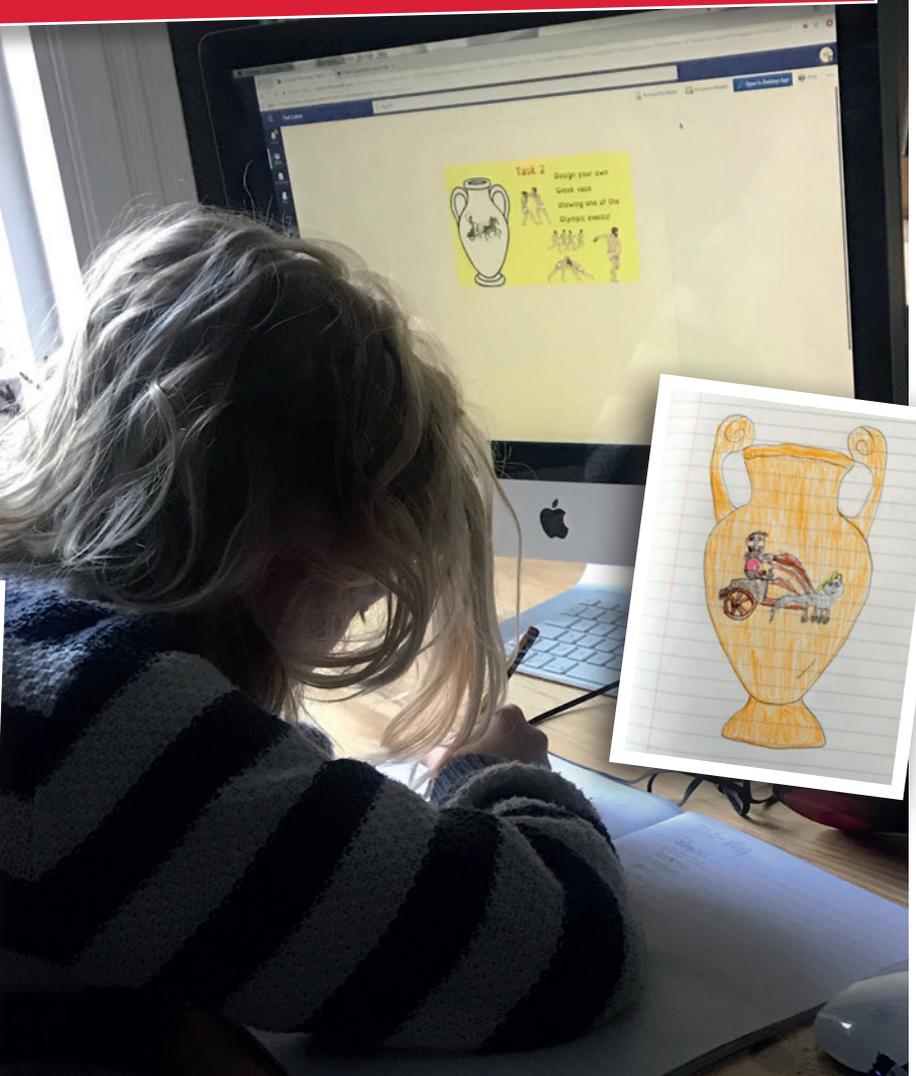
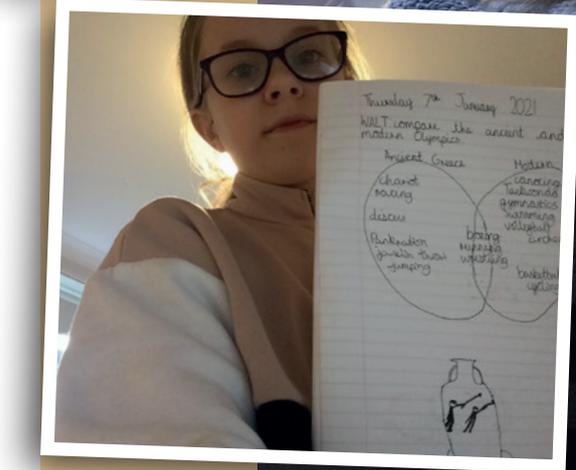
Well, what a week it has been! We can't really believe that we were together for one day and then it was all change. Nevertheless, you have blown us away Year 4. You have been positive, engaged, hardworking and enthusiastic and we are incredibly proud of how you have managed this new way of working. We're very grateful of the support from both yourselves and your grown-ups and thank you for your kind words.

We have enjoyed a week full of new experiences and learning: from reading about Lila discovering the Fire King Razvani, to beginning work about the Ancient Shang Dynasty and PE time in the classroom and at home. We've loved seeing your happy faces both on the screen and in the classroom and have been impressed with all of your comments, hard work and continuous switching on and off of the camera and mute buttons.

**Bring on week two!**

Year 5

# AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY AT THE PUY DE FOU EXPERIENCE PARK!



What a fantastic first week back! You have blown us away with your hard-working attitude on Microsoft Teams! We are so proud of your resilience and your hard work, whilst learning from home.

At the beginning of the week, we received a video message and post card from Pierre, the manager of Puy du Fou experience park. He challenged us to put together an application to design a new Greek-themed area at the park in France. We have decided to write a formal letter of application outlining our plans.

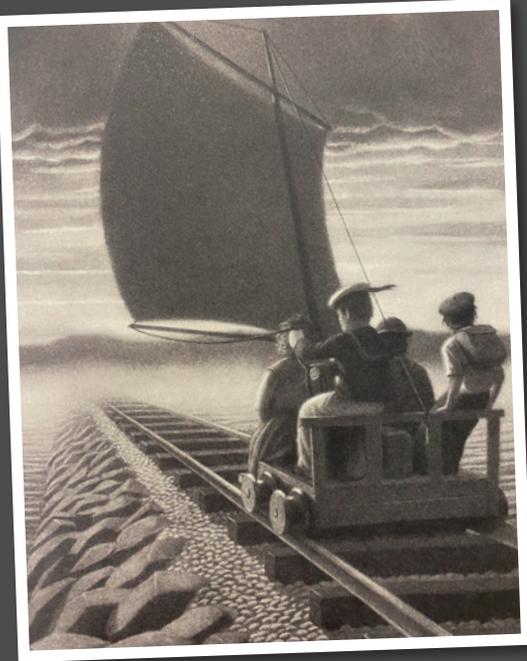
We have been busy co-constructing a success criteria and are now on with planning our writing.

In our narrative lesson this week, we have looked at the Olympic Games. We compared ancient events with modern events then designed our own pottery depicting a chosen event.

In RE, we began our new topic of Islam. We learnt about Muslims in Britain and located nearby local mosques and holy places.

*Thank you for your continued support and patience!*

# MYSTERIOUS ILLUSTRATIONS!



We are so proud of the monumental efforts that you have all made in this whirlwind of a week. As we have said to you all year, Year 6 are one big family, and we will continue to support each other through this, ensuring your home and your school experience is the best that it can be.

Having received a mysterious package of illustrations, there is a buzz of excitement in the air as we try to fathom the origins of these drawings. After exploring these illustrations in detail, we have decided that they all have stories to tell. Next week, we will be choosing one of these pictures to turn into a story.

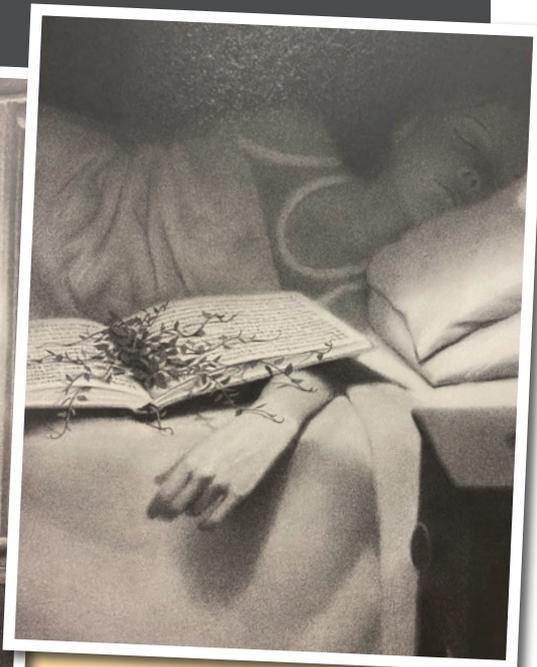
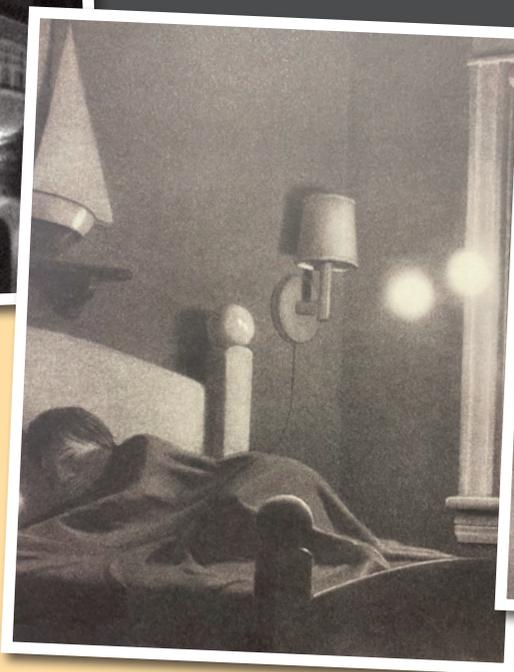
In **maths**, we have started exploring percentages and will continue working on this next week.

A weekly overview of lessons and a timetable will be added to teams each week.

Please remember to continue reading as much as you can.



*Thank you for working so hard Year 6, and as always, thank you to parents for your continued support, patience and understanding in these difficult times.*





## A message from our head boy!

Hello, I hope you are all well in these strange times.

I know home learning can be challenging at times, however with a bit of time and hard work it will get easier. It is incredibly important that we stay happy and healthy – here are 5 tips to help this weekend:

- 1 EXERCISE** – exercise is integral for your physical and mental health
- 2 READ** – reading is great for your knowledge and is really enjoyable
- 3 SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY** – it's good to talk to other people
- 4 GO FOR A WALK** – walking is a great form of exercise; you get to see great scenery and you get fit too
- 5 PLAY IN THE SNOW (IF WE GET SOME)** - If, like me, you are praying for snow then if it comes take advantage – build a snowman or even go sledging!

### JOKE OF THE WEEK

Q: Why did the toilet paper roll down the hill?

A: *To get to the bottom!*

#### TT ROCKSTARS

##### Most improved

1	Arthur G	3LS
2	Mia W	6KD
3	Harrison P	4GT

#### TT ROCKSTARS

##### Most answered

1	Mia JG	4GT
2	Amelia S	4GT
3	Joanna M	5FD

# Term dates 2020-21

## Autumn Term 2020

<b>Monday 7 September</b>	INSET DAY
<b>Tuesday 8 September</b>	School opens
<b>Thursday 22 October</b>	School closes for half term
<b>Friday 23 October</b>	INSET DAY
<b>Monday 2 November</b>	School opens
<b>Friday 18 December</b>	School closed for the Christmas Holidays

## Spring Term 2021

<b>Monday 4 January</b>	School opens
<b>Friday 12 February</b>	School closes for half term
<b>Monday 22 February</b>	School opens
<b>Friday 26 March</b>	School closes for Easter Holidays

## Summer Term 2021

<b>Monday 12 April</b>	School opens
<b>Monday 3 May</b>	BANK HOLIDAY
<b>Thursday 27 May</b>	School closes for half term
<b>Friday 28 May</b>	INSET DAY
<b>Monday 7 June</b>	School opens
<b>Friday 23 July</b>	School closes for Summer Holidays
<b>Monday 26 July</b>	INSET DAY

# Safeguarding



**Mrs K Partington**

Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs R Mohebi**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs R Randall**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Miss R Mallas**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Mr V Foster**

Safeguarding Governor



**Southdale**

C of E Junior school

*Shining like stars in the universe*