

# Year 3/4 Elephants



It has been a busy year in the Elephants class and we've all worked very hard. We hope you enjoy reading about some of the things we have been learning about and taking part in.

In the Autumn term we took part in a workshop at the Discovery Museum about the Great Fire of Gateshead and Newcastle. We learned what started the fire and what the consequences of this were.



We got an opportunity to act out the events of the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead using puppets. It was great fun!!!



We researched a lot of information about how the fire started and who discovered the fire.



We learned how the fire spread by holding hands and wriggling to represent the fire spreading from house to house. Then some of us were asked to leave go of our hands to represent the building collapsing and the fire stopping.

As part of our whole school Reggio Emilia project a local artist came into school and worked with us as well as the other year 3/4 classes. We designed, sketched and then painted a silk canvas recreating events from the Great Fire of Newcastle.



Our class chose to recreate a scene from the fire from the Newcastle side of the river. We sketched our pictures on paper first, and then traced them onto the silk. Finally we used silk paints, special pens and salt mixed with the paint to create our part of the tapestry.



This is the finished tapestry once all three classes' parts were stitched together. We were all very proud of how it looked when it was finished.

As part of our music curriculum we took part in a weekly music lesson with the music service and learned lots of new skills. We learned how to play a violin first by plucking the strings then we learned how to play tunes using the bow. We also learned how to play different rhythms.

We learned how to follow musical notation on the smartboard and were given a simple phrase to help us remember which note went where on the music score.  
G= Greedy D= Dogs A= Always E= Eat. (Greedy, dogs, always, eat).

Our music lesson changed in March and we began to learn how to play the African Drums. We learned how to use different parts of our hands to make the drum sound differently. We practised hard every week and finally we performed three different musical pieces for our parents in the hall.





We had a great time at our Christmas party playing games and dancing, we also had a special visitor, and Santa came! He gave us each a book to take home with us



We enjoyed dressing up in our pyjamas to help raise money for children in need. Some of us even got our faces painted as Pudsey bear.



We have enjoyed using 'Talk for Writing' in our English lessons. We had great fun acting out traditional tales incorporating our own actions to help tell the story.





A few of our Year 4's were lucky enough to go to a science club at the Discovery Museum on a Tuesday night. They had great fun taking part in experiments and learning about different science investigations.





For sport relief we took part in a charity run around the school playground. We had to use a baton which was really exciting and run around a course which our P.E. coach Ian had set out for us. It was very tiring but we didn't give up and continuously ran for half an hour! We were proud of our achievements.



We had a busy time in the spring term taking part in lots of exciting activities.

In January we took part in a 'Play in a Day' workshop based around our topic of the Stone Age. We all were given different parts to play and rehearsed our play

before our parents were invited to come and watch our performance on the afternoon.



We also made an Anglo Saxon village as part of our topic lesson. We turned empty boxes into houses and decorated them using straw, sticks and sawdust.



It was World Book day in February and we came into school dressed as our favourite book character. We took part in lots of lessons and activities linked to some of our favourite authors and stories.



In March we took part in the Newcastle Dance Festival held at City Hall. Dolly had come into school and taught us a dance to the music 'Love to Boogie' taken from the Billy Elliot film. Those who took part in the dance were given a tea shirt with

'I love to Boogie' on the front from the school. It was scary dancing in front of all those people but once the music started we all had a great time.



The following week it was our class assembly and we decided to perform our dance again for the parents who had been unable to come to the City hall. We also learned how to sign to the song 'True Colours' using British Sign Language.

In maths we learned about capacity, volume and mass. We made boats out of paper and then floated them in a dish of water. Then we slowly added marbles to our boats and counted to see how many marbles our boats could hold before they

sunk. There were some great designs and methods for placing the marbles in the boats.



In April we went to 'Round the Twist' play area a reward for winning the attendance race the previous term. We had a great time climbing, sliding down the different slides and playing in the ball pools.



As part of our Enterprise week in school we designed games and made items to eat based around a Seaside theme which we then sold in the sports hall.

Lillymay came up with the idea of Ice-cream cone cakes, where you put cake mixture into an ice-cream cone then bake in the oven. Once it has baked it looks like the top of an ice-cream. People could then decorate the top of their cone with different toppings.



Some of the boys designed a bean bag game where you had to throw bean bags and try to get them through the target. You won a prize if you managed to get 2 out of the four bean bags in a target.





Kai and Emily made a ping pong ball game and decorated the cups with seaside themed pictures. You had to throw the ping pong balls at the cups and if you got one in you got a prize. (It was a lot harder than it looked).



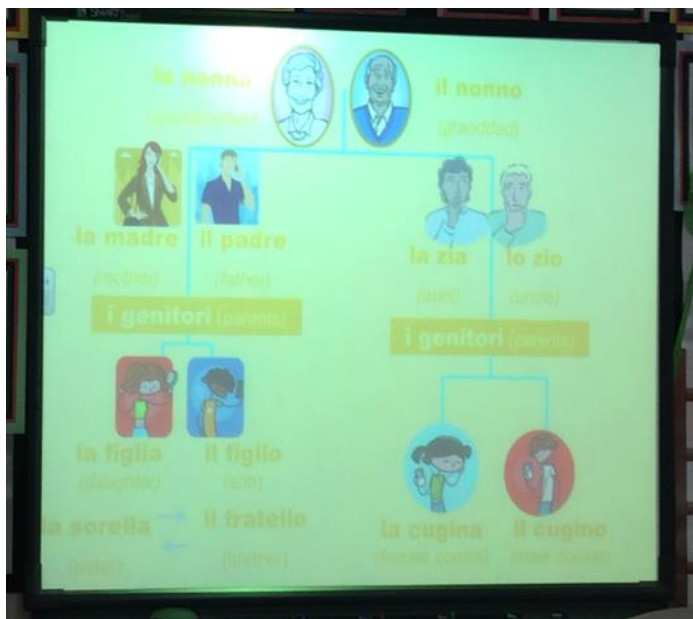
We also made 'blue' jelly and put jelly fishes into the jelly, once it set in the fridge we sold them as a jelly snack with squirty cream on the top



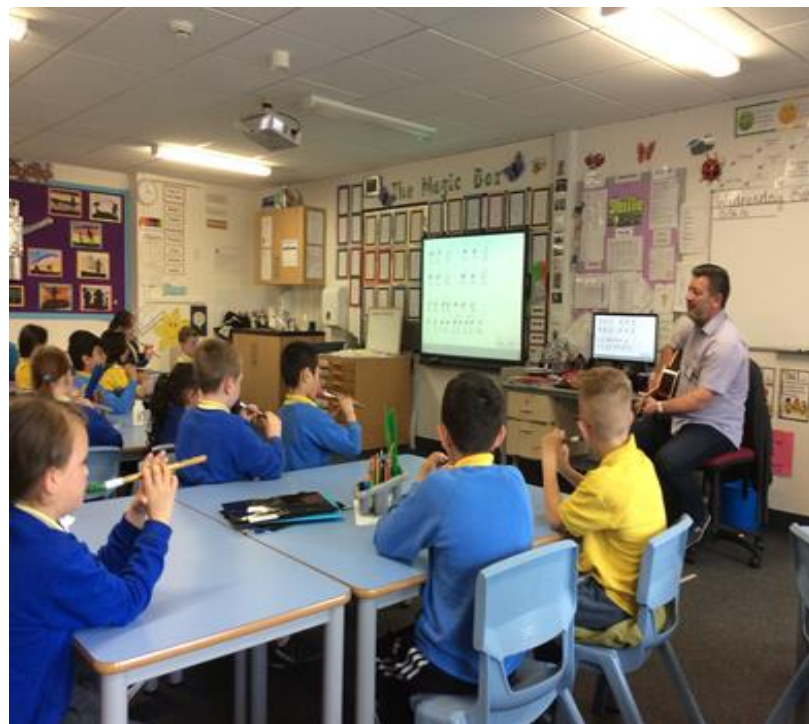
One of our class texts this year has been the 'Iron man' and we enjoyed writing our own version of the story and predicting what we thought would happen next. We enjoyed making our own pictures of the Iron man. First we created the sunrise background using pastels and then cut out silhouettes of the Iron man and other features we wanted in our pictures.



We have enjoyed learning Italian with Christina this year and can now name animals, different foods and drink and now family names in Italian. We have found that some of the Italian words sound similar to words we use in English which helps us remember them.

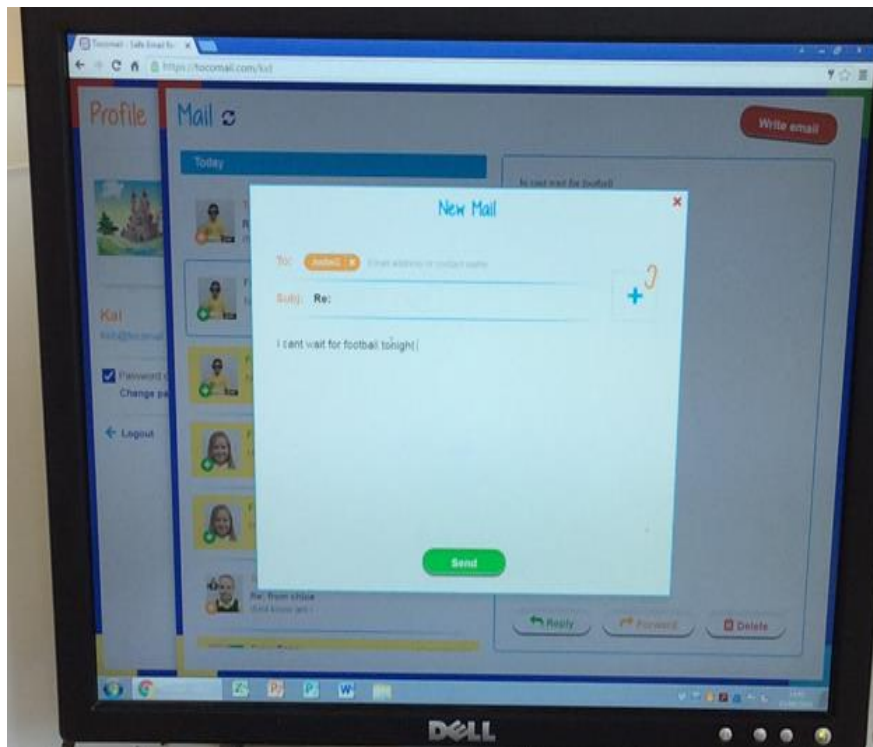
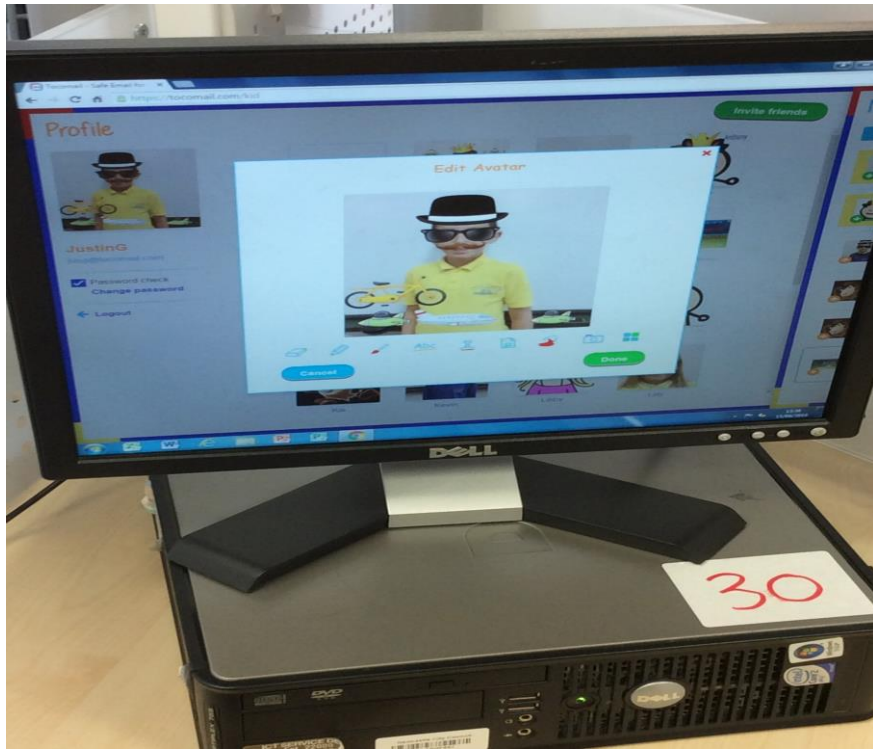


This term as part of our music lessons we have been learning how to play the tin whistle with Mr Brown. We have learned how hard to blow the tin whistles so we don't make squeaky sounds and how to cover all the holes with our fingers. We have just started to learn how to read musical notes and how long to blow that note for and when to take a break in the music.



As part of our I.T lessons this term we have been learning how to send and receive emails. Miss Sharratt has set up email accounts for us using a safe website called Toco mail. We can now send each other an email, attach pictures or photos from our class photo folder either when we are in school or at home. We enjoy changing our avatars and make Miss Sharratt laugh (or sometimes 'scream!!) when she gets email notifications every time we change our avatar. But it is also good as it tells her if anyone tried to send any unkind messages about us.





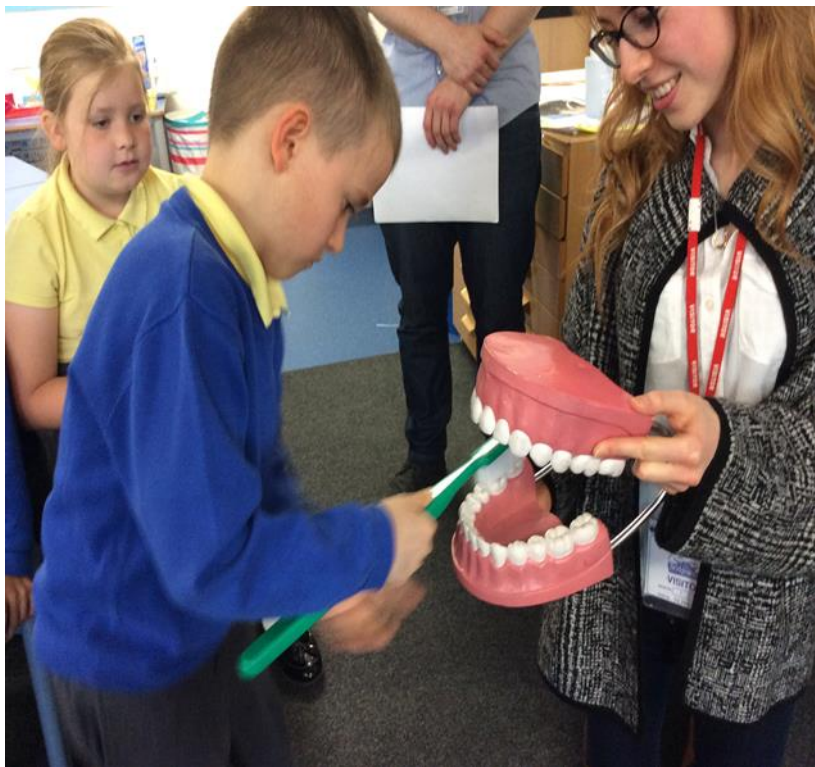
We had great fun when we had a visit from two dentists they taught us all how to clean our teeth correctly and for how long.



Lillymay was asked to chew a tablet which turned her teeth purple and showed which parts of her teeth had food and bacteria still on them.



Brandon showed us all how to clean your teeth with your toothbrush.



Kevin got dressed up as a dentist and was shown how dentists look at our teeth with their mirror.



