

Year 3 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.

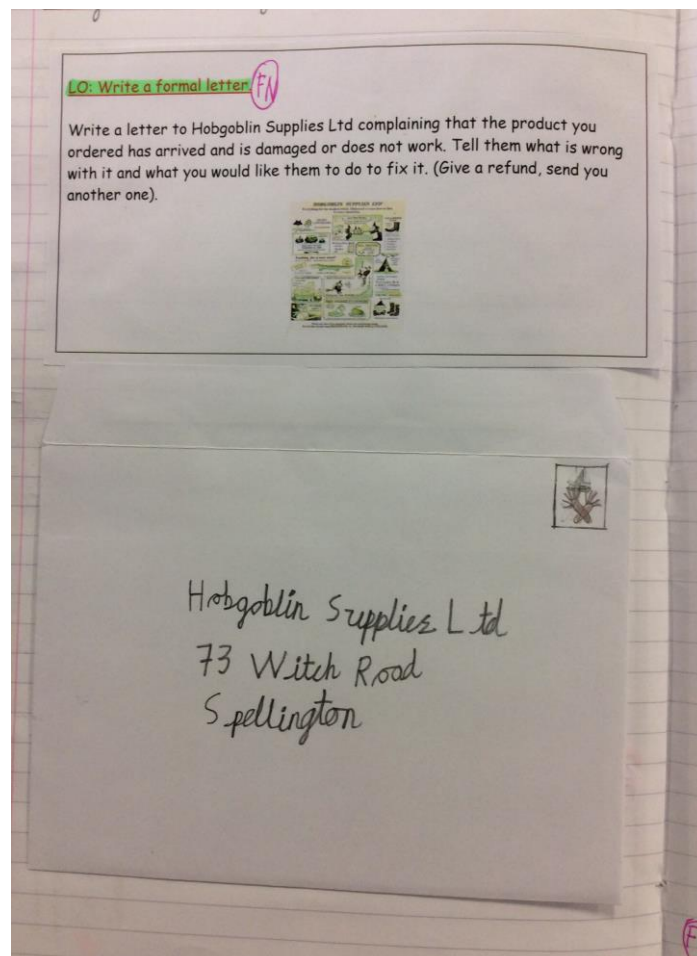
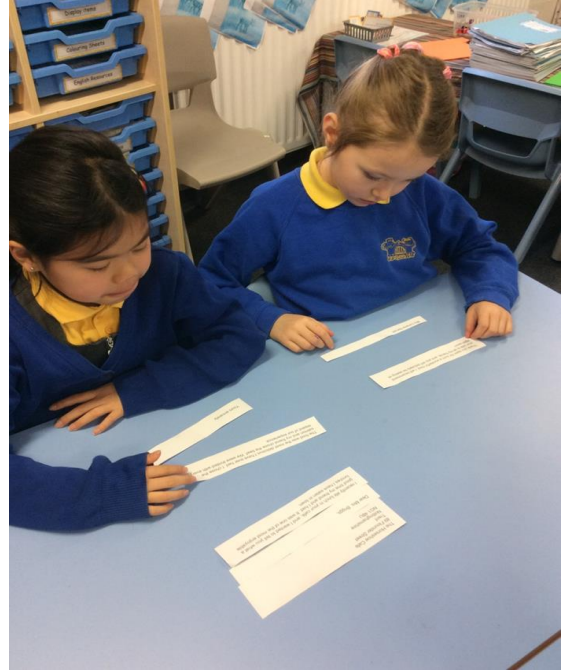
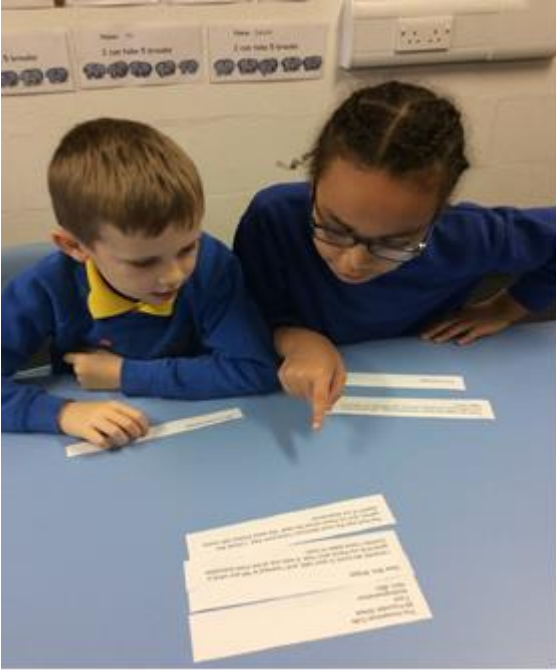
In the Autumn term we began looking at stories set in fantasy worlds in English and looked at different ways to use our imagination in different ways. Miss Sharratt brought a baby dragon into school that she had been sent from London and we had to imagine what he would look like, what we would need to do to keep him safe and what we thought he might like to eat. We were able to write some great descriptive stories and explanations before we got him out of the box to look at.



In topic as part of our Geography lesson we looked at rivers and the features that surround them. We learned where rivers start (the source) on mountains and hills and where they flow into e.g. streams, rivers and springs. They end their journey at the (mouth) which is a large body of water like an ocean, a sea or large lake. We made our own model rivers out of cardboard, paper and used other resources showing the rivers path, hills, surrounding scenery etc.



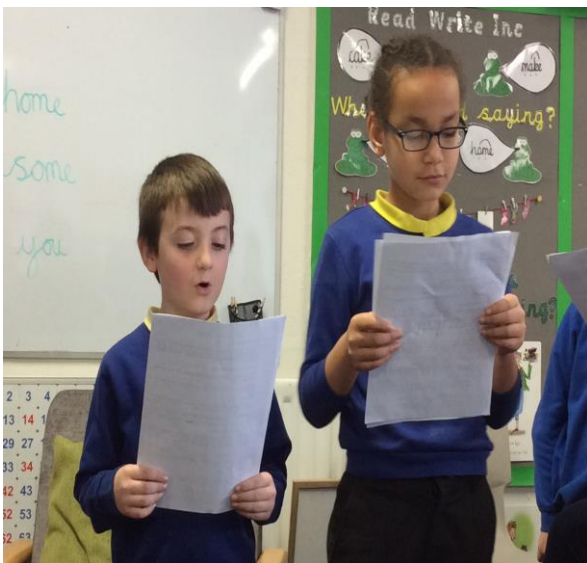
In English we learned about writing letters and learned what features you need to remember to include when setting out a letter. Then we looked the 'Jolly Postman' book and wrote a series of formal and informal letters to the different characters mentioned in the book.



We also had fun looking at play scripts and acted out scenes from traditional tales. Some of us hadn't tried porridge before so we combined our English lesson with a maths lesson and made some porridge.



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. Siyam did a great impression of baby bear being upset that someone had eaten all of his porridge.



In science we have had great fun learning about animals and humans. We decided to make a wormery and watch to see how the worms move through the soil and what they eat. We got a plastic tank and put a layer of gravel on the bottom. Then we took it in turns to put a layer of soil and then sand into the tank until it was almost full. Jozef, David, Paul and Sarah went with Mrs Gray to get some worms from the nursery garden to put into our wormery.



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

In February we took part in a 'Play' workshop based around the story of Charlie and the Chocolate factory. We had a great time acting out different scenes from the story.



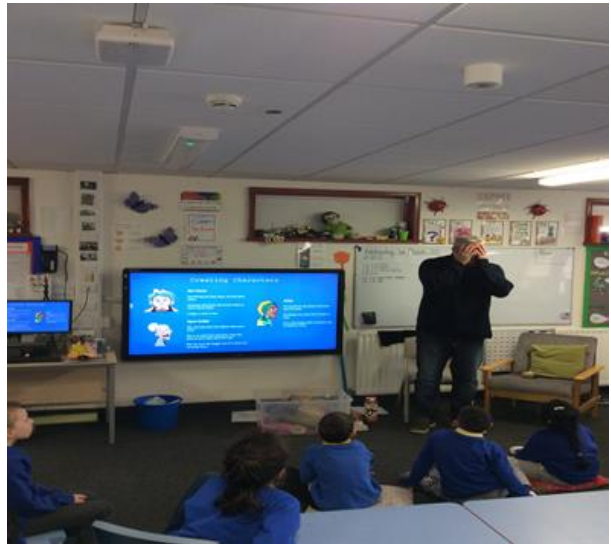
We have enjoyed the 'Roots of Empathy' lesson with Miss Bell and have been able to watch baby Ella grow and develop from being a few months old to approaching her first birthday.



For our class assembly and we decided to perform a song using sign language called 'What have you done today to make you feel proud'. After we had performed the song we each told our parents and other adults what we had done this past year that has made us feel proud. We also told people about the Lion we have adopted from the Born Free foundation called Dolo. We had read the butterfly Lion book by Michael Morpurgo and Miss Sharratt found a link that allowed us to choose which lion we would like to adopt.



In March we had a visit from an author called Mark Carton, he came into our class and talked to us about where he gets his ideas from to write his books. Tulsa and Reece enjoyed getting dressed up as book detectives and had to think of a literary name they could be called.



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.



We have also been learning about 'reasoning in maths and created our own 'Figure me out' poster. We had to think of some question we could ask others about ourselves that had numbers for the answer and write them on the sheet. After that we had to think of questions we could ask to stick over the top. Then we asked partners to work out the answer and see if when they lifted the post it note they were correct.



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

Brooke came up with the idea of jelly aliens, where you put different coloured jelly into plastic cups, then using straws and marshmallows you make eyes to stick into the top of the jelly. Her group also came up with the idea of offering extra toppings charging 10p e.g. squirty cream, sprinkles as a way of raising extra money.



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.



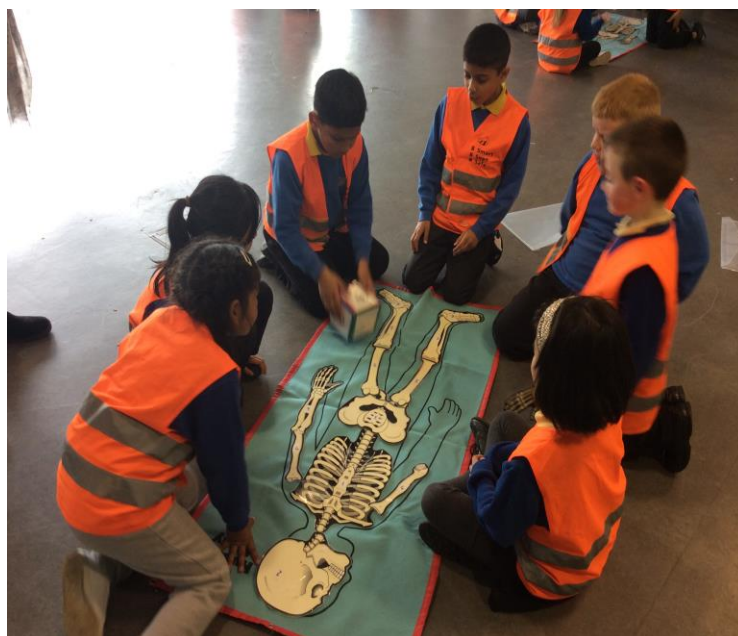
Reece and Calvin made a ping pong ball game and decorated the cups with space themed pictures. You had to throw the ping pong balls at the cups and if you got one in you got a prize. (It was a lot harder than it looked).



We also made 'Mars' milk shakes using milk and milkshake powder, we asked if people would like extras on top and you could have rainbow drops on the top or squirty cream.



In May we had an excellent trip to the Hancock museum in Newcastle to see the 'Bones' exhibition. We had been learning about animals and humans in science and it was great to be able to see skeletons up close and learn more information about them.



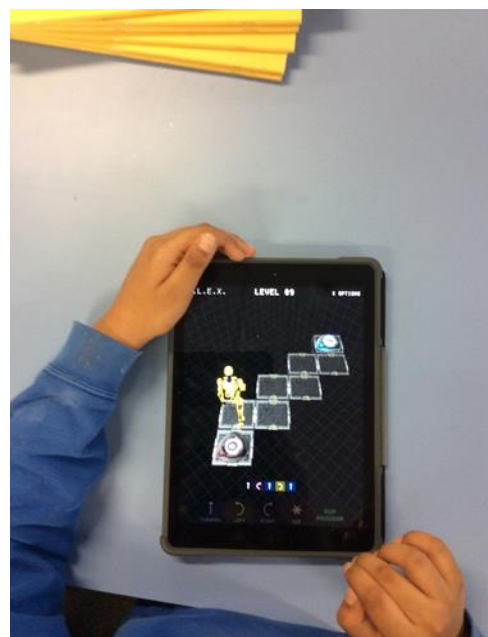
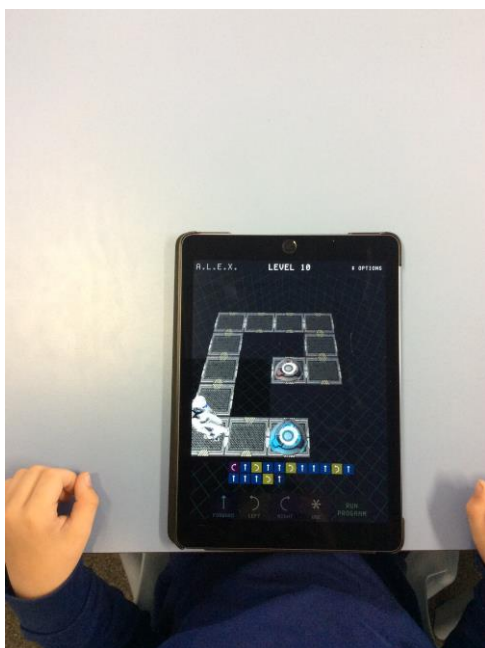
One of our class texts this year has been the 'Butterfly Lion' and we enjoyed writing our own version of the story and predicting what we thought would happen next. We enjoyed making our own pictures set in Africa like the story is. First we created the sunrise background using pastels and then cut out silhouettes of the lions, cubs and other features we wanted in our pictures.



We have been helping each other during ERIC time and some of the class have been doing paired reading, listening to another child read and then discussing what they have read. Every child in our class has gone up at least one colour band and some of our class are free readers now.



As part of our I.T lessons 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 enjoyed using an app called 'Scratch' where we needed to program a character to move around the screen, we were also able to change the background and add sound effects. We have also been learning about position and direction in maths and have enjoyed using an app called 'Alex' where you have to program a robot to move in certain directions.



Last Friday we went to Kirkley Hall Zoological gardens for our summer class trip. We had a great time looking at the animals and learning all about them. We even got to hold some of the animals in the petting zoo section. Lunch time was a strange experience because there were peacocks roaming around as we ate our lunch.





We took our class mascot *George* with us he enjoyed our woodland walk looking for bat, squirrel and bird boxes.

