petherton parkschool
> INSPIRING LEARNING

Newsletter

22 April - 2 May 2025

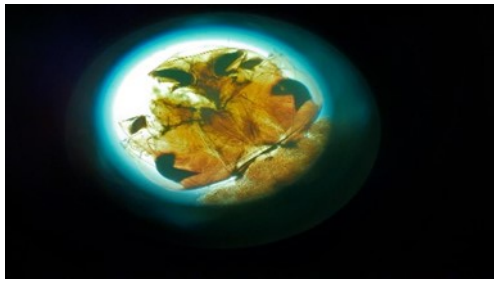
Summer Term 5

phoenix
NURTURE › FLOURISH › GROW

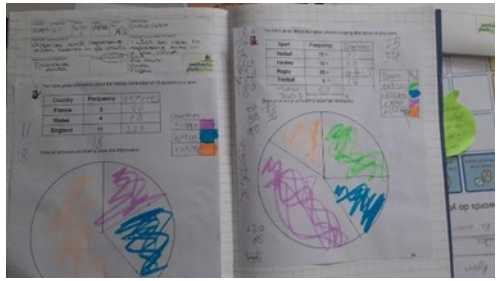
Frome Class have been learning about the Lebanese artist Etel Adnan. She was also a famous writer and poet. Our Artist in Residence Steph introduced our pupils to Etal Adnad's paintings which they used to inspire them in their own creative works of art.

With the summer sunshine now arriving, we are hard at work in our school garden, tending to the plants and flowers and nurturing the fruit and vegetable seedlings. School Ranger Kai with the help of his apprentice Dan ensured that the flora got plenty of water during the recent hot spell earlier this week.

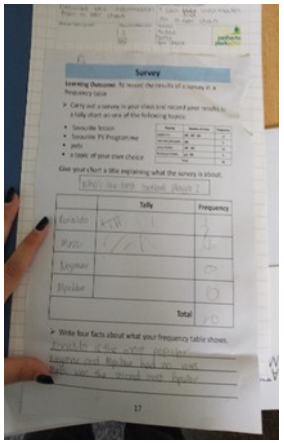
Inspired by nature, Lexi has produced this beautiful tissue crepe paper flower, simply using paper, water, and felt pens, as well as lots artistic talent!



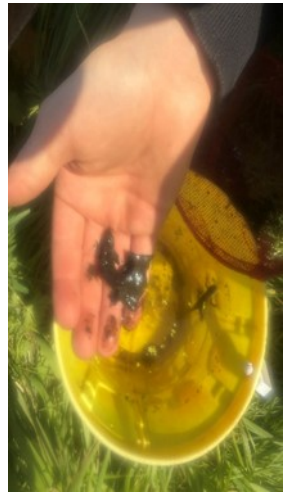
Ivel Class got to examine mosquito larva using our microscope earlier this week in science. Things look incredible at a microscopic level!



We are learning about Data Handling in maths using Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract learning approaches. Here are some of our pupils' pie charts, tally charts, and bar charts.



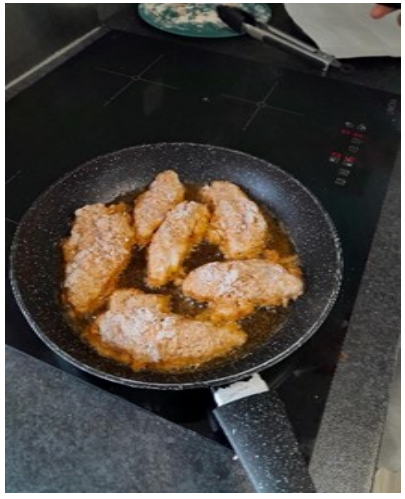
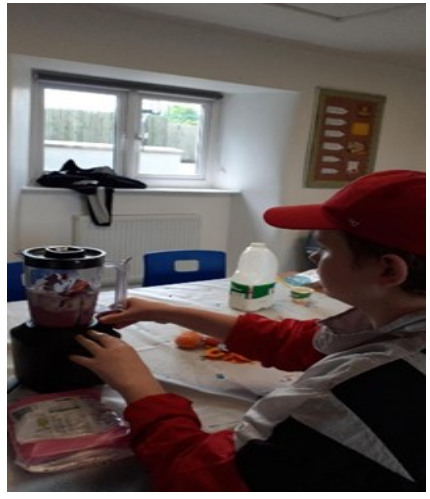
Ruan is a talented musician and lyricist who loves being creative with sounds and words. We really look forward to hearing Ruan perform some of his musical creations.



Spring has sprung at Little Clayhill Farm and the farm is full of newly born lambs, some of which need support with feeding—these two are hungry little ones! The goats have also been tended to, though we are not sure what goats eat – don't they eat everything! Some exciting discoveries were made at the pond, where Tyler and Kai found endangered newts when they went pond-dipping. They learnt about their lifecycle, from egg, to larva, to adult and were not at all squeamish when they held them carefully to look more closely!

Cooking is a really important part of our school's curriculum. When pupils cook they use a real range of skills and develop curriculum understanding. Literacy: to read the receipe. Maths: multiplication, division, ratios, fractions, measurement and time—all mathematical knowledge and skills needed for example., to calculate and measure quantities, work out when to take something out of the oven, decide how big or small a baking tray to use. Much of cooking involves science - dissolving, melting, change of state, irreversible chemical changes—our pupils may not realise at the time quite how much they are learning! It is also important for our pupils to explore new tastes and textures, to be introduced to dishes and ingredients they may not have experienced before, amd to be encouraged to make healthy options choices.

Cooking is one of the most important life skills a person can learn!

Pupil Voice is really important at Petherton Park School. It helps pupils develop their self-esteem, their understanding of citizenship and democracy, about roles, rights and responsibilities.

Our Pupil Council meet regularly to discuss matters important to our pupils, and to help team members with decision making around issues that directly impact our pupils.

Recently, we've been discussing playground facilities and pupil's preferences for our Golden Time clubs.

2024 2025 TERM DATES

Term	First Day	Last Day
Autumn Term 1	04/09/24	23/10/24
INSET DAYS Thursday 24 October & Friday 25 October HALF TERM Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November		
Autumn Term 2	04/11/24	19/12/24 12pm finish
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Friday 20 December to Friday 3 January INSET DAY Monday 6 January		
Spring Term 3	07/01/25	14/02/25
HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February		
Spring Term 4	24/02/25	04/04/25 12pm finish
EASTER HOLIDAY Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April		
Summer Term 5	22/04/2025	23/05/25
BANK HOLIDAY Monday 5 May HALF TERM Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May		
Summer Term 6	02/06/25	22/07/25 12pm finish

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

What a fabulous return to the new term for our pupils. It has been lovely seeing them all back in the school building. We also recognise that the pupils have been working very hard to increase their attendance. The local councils have Education Welfare Officers who monitor and support us and you to increase attendance. Meetings are being scheduled for all pupils who drop below a certain rate to ensure we can support you and your child/ward to understands any barriers. And make adaptions accordingly. Please continue to keep in contact with us regarding any concerns of feedback you may have as this all helps us shape how we plan your child/wards timetable to ensure they can achieve their absolute best whilst with us at Petherton Park School.

Safeguarding

Week are consistently improving our knowledge surrounding new themes and information relating to this important topic. We have been looking at child on child abuse and how to spot some of the signs as this can often happen online or in the community. Here are some of the signs to look out for: -

***reduction in self confidence, * big change in behaviours *disengagement from activities previously enjoyed *physical marks *being asked to look after something, *becoming abusive to others**

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

If you have any safeguarding concerns about ANY child (not just a child within our setting), please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Zoey Shelley
T: 07725 406993
E: zshelley@phoenixschools.org.uk

Or alternatively, contact our Operations Director, responsible for Safeguarding Governance:
Darren Jackson
E: djackson@plcl.org.uk

Safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility