

Damers News



March 2022

Jurassic Songs

This week Year 4 had the first of several music sessions with Geof Edge who is a composer and well known to us! He used our ideas about the Jurassic Coast to begin composing a song.

We all really enjoyed seeing how our words could be put into song. This song was based on our trip to the museum and our imaginations. We are looking forward to working with him again soon and then performing with other DASP schools outdoors in June.



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that this half term has started well for you and your children and that you all enjoyed our celebration of books and stories during World Book Day. I know that our 'gathering' at the end of the day, however simple, felt like the perfect start to this half term and the start of yet another new chapter for our community. A huge thank you to those who joined us and to our PTA for organising the cake sale and the pre-loved book and uniform stalls. Who would have thought that a simple walk through the school, down a one-way route lined with over 400 potatoes masquerading as book characters, could bring such joy and renewed energy. It felt great to have the doors open again.

Thank you to everyone who sent in an entry to our Extreme-Reading competition over half term, we will be announcing the winners in our Celebration Assembly on Friday and we will also share the film so that the entries can bring a smile to you too.

In our assemblies this morning, we have been thinking about how our School Council can help us to support the response to families affected by the crisis in the Ukraine. Our focus will be on the positive aspects of supporting refugees and we will be using a quote from Jane Goodall as a reminder of the importance of Interdependence ...

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."



I think we should all feel incredibly proud of what happens in our school and the difference we are making; children, staff and families. We all play our part in ensuring that we have a school and a community to take pride in. At a time when the world is wobbling once again, as one of our children reminded me at the end of assembly today, we should resist the urge to focus on small things going wrong or to take our many freedoms for granted.

As our School Councillors now start to plan the difference that our children would like to make in the light of another global challenge, I will also send home some links for those families that would welcome this, to support conversations at home.

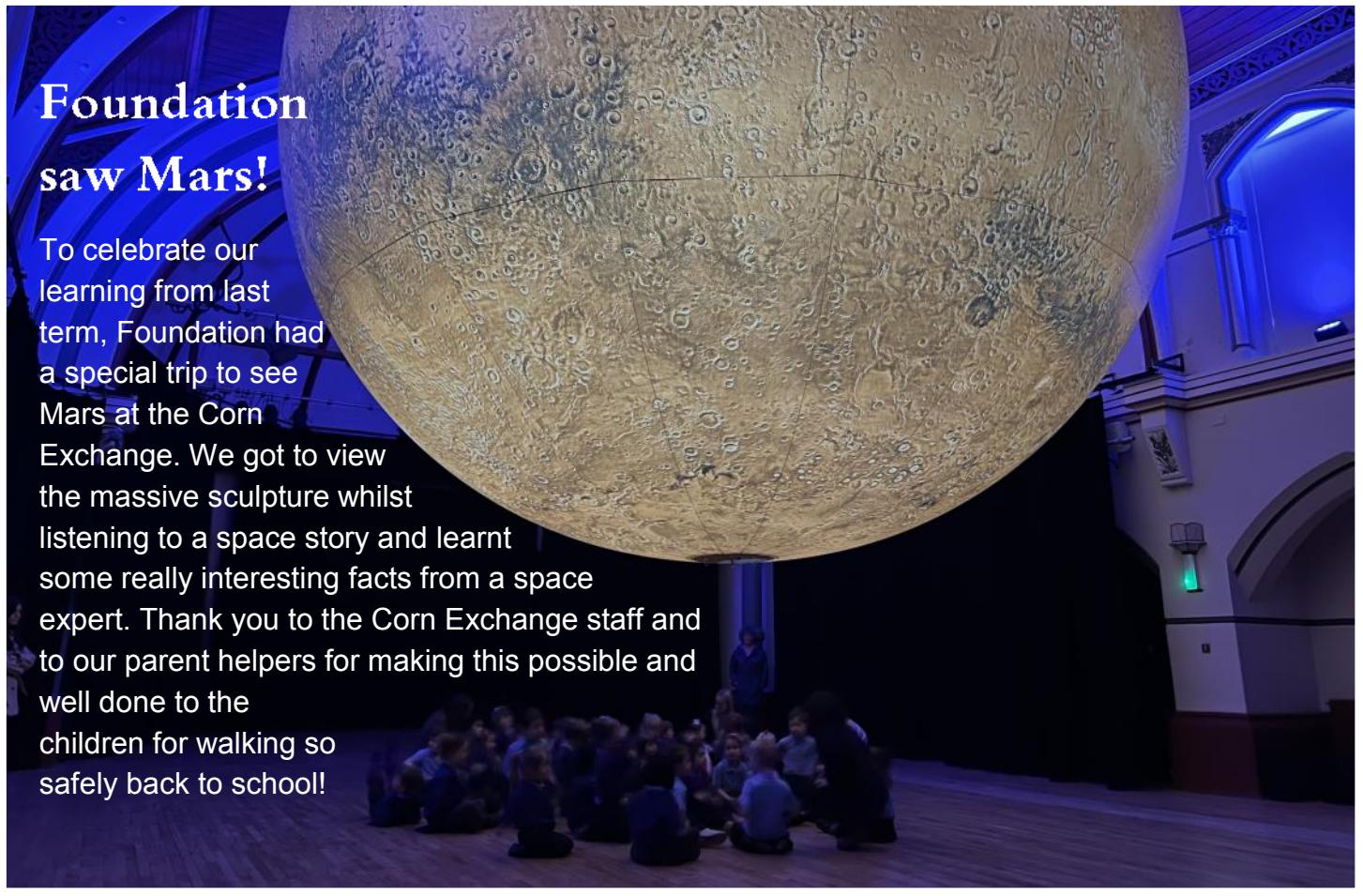
I look forward to celebrating our learning alongside you again this half term.

Catherine Smith

Headteacher

Foundation saw Mars!

To celebrate our learning from last term, Foundation had a special trip to see Mars at the Corn Exchange. We got to view the massive sculpture whilst listening to a space story and learnt some really interesting facts from a space expert. Thank you to the Corn Exchange staff and to our parent helpers for making this possible and well done to the children for walking so safely back to school!



MATHS MANIA!

Even though it may not seem like it in the wake of all this stormy weather, Spring is still breaking through and giving lots of different opportunities for maths learning! Why not try some of these ideas now that Spring is finally here.

- Plant some bulbs, watch and measure as they grow
- Find the lines in symmetry that are present in nature and the outdoors. Look for symmetry in leaves, flowers, insects - what else can you find that is symmetrical?
- Go on an angle hunt and look for angles between the trunks of the trees and the branches, and between the leaves and twigs they are growing from. Are the angles, acute, obtuse or a right angle?



Hello!

Everyone would like to extend a warm Damers welcome to our two newest members of staff. Meg Jarvis-Woodbridge joins us as a teaching assistant and Pauline Clack joins our team of midday supervisors.

We're excited to welcome you to our Damers family and hope you quickly feel at home.



Sea Life Visit

To kick off our 'Amazing Oceans' project Year 1 were thrilled to get out and about again and visit the Sea Life Centre. We discovered all the incredible creatures that live in our oceans and why we must work hard to protect them.



Super Spotters

Spring has sprung at Damer's and the frog spawn has all hatched! We can't wait to catch some tadpoles when we go pond dipping.



We have spotted our first Spring flowers and we've planted some Snowdrops, Crocus and Bluebells in our new woodland area.



Would you like to be a Super Spotter? We would love to know which birds, flowers, insects, animals or other interesting things you've spotted at the weekend or on your way to school. Email any 'spots' and photos, if you have them, to superspotters@damers.dorset.sch.uk.

We can even try to help you identify them if you are not sure what they are.



Recycling News

Terracycle is stopping the bread bag collection at the end of March. After March you will be able to take your bread bags to any supermarket to be recycled. The Pringle programme has finished too and Pringle tubes can be taken to Fairfield Car Park, Market Street, Dorchester. Also the Ella Baby Food pouches will be stopping on the 1st April. Pouches can be taken to Co-op Dorchester, Tesco Superstore Dorchester, Co-op Crossways, Sainsburys Weymouth. [Click here](#) to find your nearest recycling location.

World Book Day

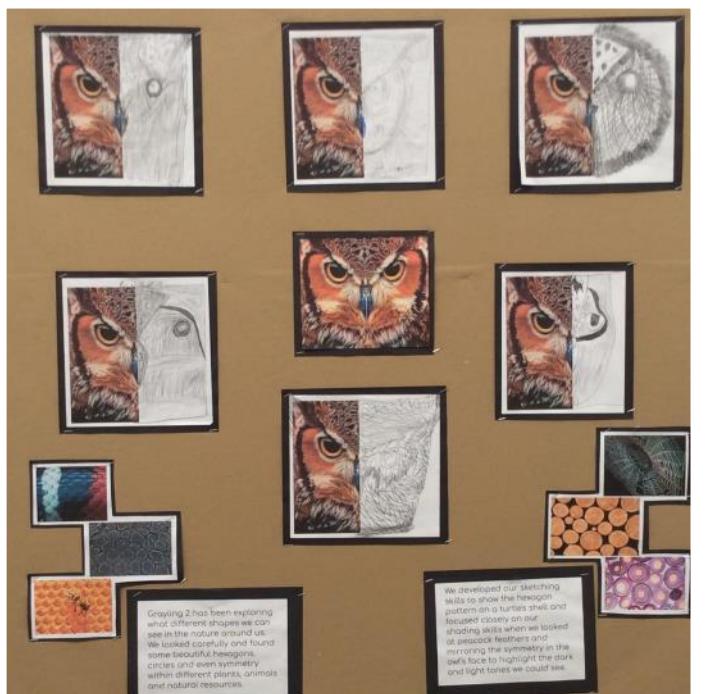
What a wonderful World Book Day we celebrated together on Thursday 3rd March 2022. It was so great to come together after school and marvel at the fantastic book character potatoes! Throughout the day we enjoyed taking part in different World Book Day activities, sharing a story with our previous class teachers and parading around the school to look at the different book character potatoes that had been created. There was a lovely sense of joy throughout the school as we were able to celebrate this event together again.



Year 2 Artists

In Year 2 we have been enjoying looking at geometry in nature. We loved looking at spirals and circles in nature and progressed to identifying symmetry. We're really proud of our sketches and drawings!

We developed our art skills by using sketching pencils, watercolours and oil pastels. Can you tell which side is the original photograph of the owls and tigers?



Mon 14th & Wed 16th March	Chance to Shine cricket sessions for Yrs 1 - 4
Mon 21st March	Sustrans ' Big Walk and Wheel'
Mon 28th March - Fri 1st April	Year 4 to Leeson House
Mon 28th March	Foundation - Space Dome in school
Thurs 7th April	Last day of term
Fri 8th April	INSET Training - school closed
Mon 25th April	School starts

Dates for
your Diary

A Colourful Performance



Year 3 are really excited about their upcoming performance of "Moana" and have been busy creating their own costumes and painting the staging. The children have been tie-dying t-shirts using elastic bands and a selection of dyes. Also they have been singing songs, learning dances and practising their lines. We can't wait to showcase our hard work and welcome you all into the school.

World Book Day Winners



Dorset Educational Advice Line
0800 1404041
For parents wishing to speak to an SEN family worker about concerns. They will be able to advise on next steps and support services.

Congratulations to our PTA World Book Day competition winners who used their powers of deduction to match their teachers to their favourite books. If you're wondering who officially loved which book as a child, look out for the answers that will be coming home in an email to parents this week.