

Hello everyone,

We are now in the month of May, which is dedicated to Our Lady. We are blessed to have our school dedicated to Mary. May she fill us with strength and hope as we continue to work through these difficult times.

The teachers have been continuing to provide activities online in all areas of the curriculum for families to use at home. The children's response to these has been so encouraging and we are very impressed with the quality of work that the children have been producing. We have included some more of the children's work from home in this newsletter. Please remember that the activities provided for home learning are suggestions and there is no expectation that every activity is completed. The most important thing is that we maintain contact with you and know you are all safe and well.

Thank you for taking part in my weekly challenges- I do look forward to seeing the children's responses to these! This week has been a week of reading challenges, ending in Pyjamarama day when the children (and teachers!) had a very good reason to stay in their pyjamas and read all day!

Friday 8th May is a Bank Holiday, to coincide with VE Day, which marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. Teachers will not be posting work online on this day, so the children can have an extra day off! Thank you to all the children for being so patient at home. It is very hard knowing we can't come to school and be together, but you are doing an amazing job and we will see each other again very soon. Stay safe and well and be happy! We are here for you if you need us.

Love and best wishes from Mrs. Draycott, Head of School



Stars of the Week



Week ending 24th April

- Reception Class - Rocco and Freddie, for working so hard at home and trying their absolute best.
- Class 1 - Amelie, for her amazing flower work based on the artist Georgia O'Keeffe and also Sebastian, for his drawing of a shark.
- Class 2 - Evie, for all the effort she is putting into her home learning activities.
- Class 3 - Mason, for really engaging in his home learning, showing lots of well presented work and research about his family.
- Class 4 - Thea, for working so hard in all areas of the curriculum. She has had a go at everything plus so much more.
- Class 5 - Eddie, for some super creative home learning.
- Class 6 - Ava Rose, for working like an absolute Trojan, but especially for her amazing story writing.

Week ending 1st May

- Reception - Harper, for working hard for Mummy every day, and trying to practise her reading.
- Class 1 - Lacey, for her detailed video description of seaside holidays from the past and being able to compare those holidays to the present day.
- Class 2 - Diego, for amazing effort in his home learning and producing some really excellent pieces of work!
- Class 3 - Zephyr, for many pieces of great work and speedy times tables but mostly for her enthusiasm for learning. Keep it up!
- Class 4 - All the children and their parents after the wonderful video they made for me. I was so moved by it.
- Class 5 - Mollie and Sophia who have been extremely creative and are loving the Egyptian topic.
- Class 6 - Freddie, he has worked extremely hard and keeps pushing himself to complete more challenging tasks.

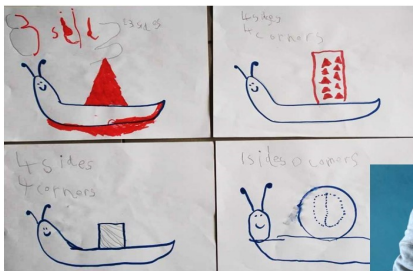
A Sample of the Work Children have been Doing!



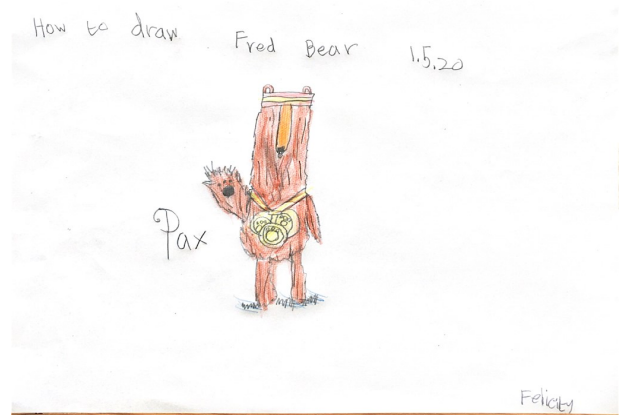
Amelia from Class 4 and her siblings carrying out a dissolving experiment.



Oliver from Reception created a beautiful, colourful, snail picture - inspired by Henri Matisse.



Isaac from Reception really took his time exploring 2D shapes as a new shell for Norman. He knows all about their sides and corners.



Felicity from Class 1 created a lovely picture of Fred Bear



Harley from Class 2 created a picture of the layers of the rainforest



Ollie from Class 1 made a model of a Victorian Bathing Machine.

VACANCIES

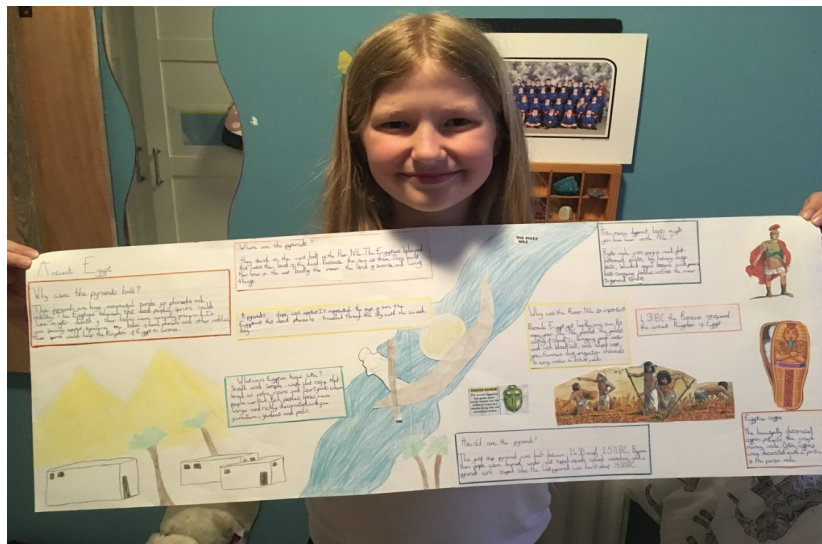
Please see the school website for two job vacancies currently being advertised.

Samples of Class 5's Work

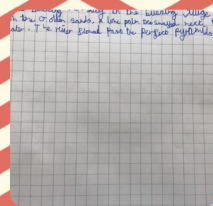
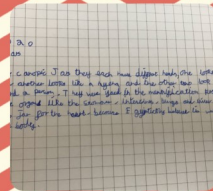


Class 5 are being really creative and finding out about the Ancient Egyptians. They have already created a timeline, made a shaduf which farmers used to irrigate the fields where they grew their crops, and made their own papyrus and painted on it. As well as this they have found out about Pharaohs and made headdresses and chariots'

Hoby's Remeses Headress



My ancient Egypt project



Ava's Ancient Egypt

Joseph's project to date

More Samples of Pupil's Work



Logan Webb (Class 4) and his lovely picture in the style of local Cornish artist, Shirley Netherton.



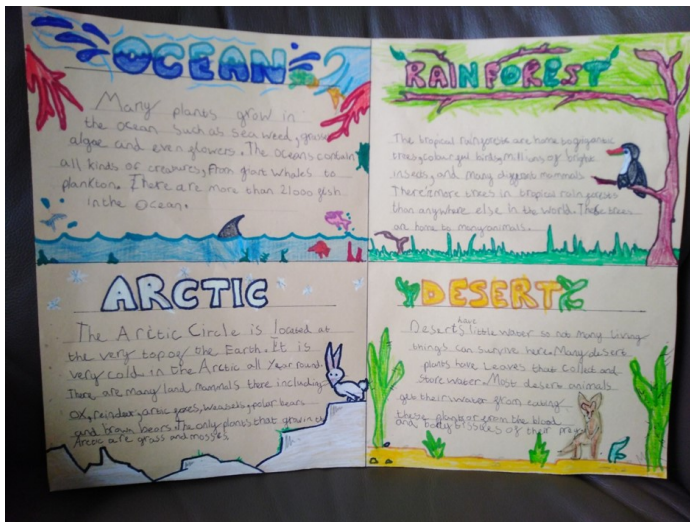
Reception's work on Ladybirds

Look at Elsa's yummy ladybird lunch.

Jack investigated doubling using ladybirds and tasty treats to help. He managed some really big numbers and has shown he really understands what it means to double.

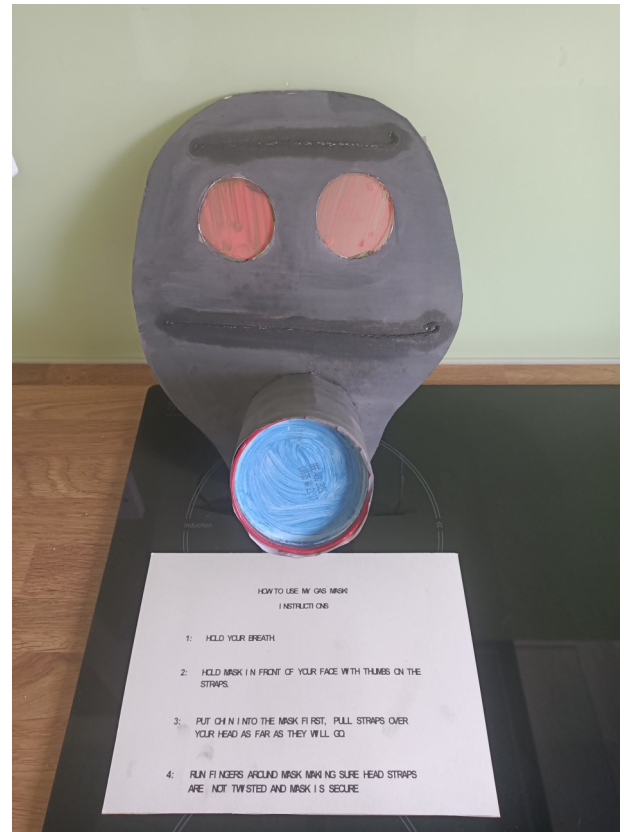


And More Samples of Pupil's Work

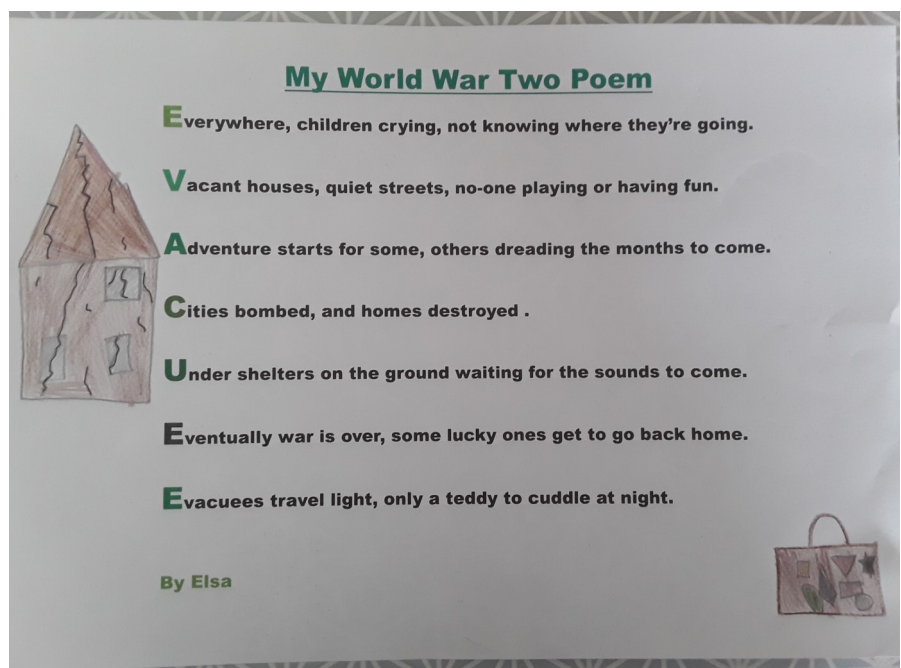


Anastasiya from Class 2 produced a poster about different world habitats.

Millie-Mae from Class 3 listened to a real recording of school children practicing putting on their gas masks in case of an air raid. From this she made her gas mask and wrote instructions on how to do it.



Class 3's Elsa put together a poem based on what she had found out about evacuees and how they must have felt.

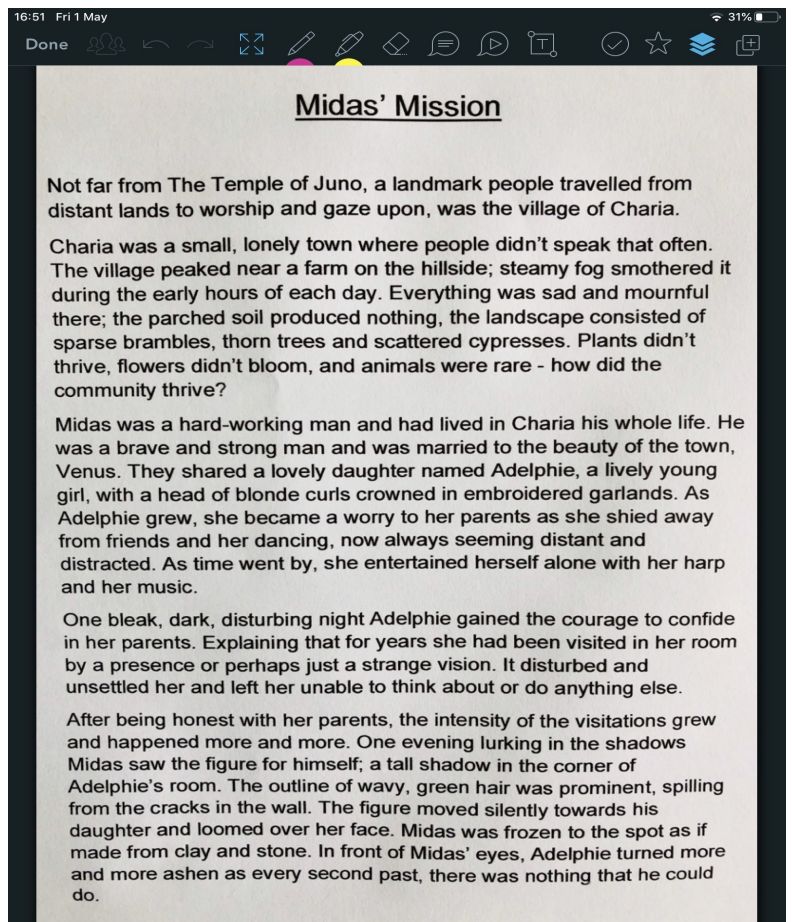


And Yet More Samples of Pupil's Good Work



Ella's Class 6 work on Greek Gods and Goddesses.

Gabriel's story opening as part of Class 6's work on the Ancient Greeks.

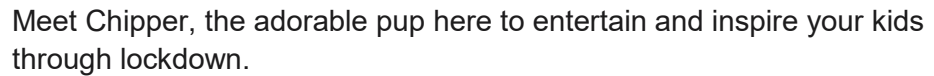


News from Sarah at the Falmouth Art Gallery

Some of you got back in touch after my last email; interested in activities that the gallery had to offer. Sorry that it has taken a little longer to get back to you than I had hoped, the use of online platforms is a steep learning curve but we now have a Wordpress site that we will be adding to throughout this time of lockdown. We would appreciate any feed back and we encourage your families' and students to share what they do via their preferred platform, here are our social media handles , Insta: @falmouthartgallery Twitter: FalmouthArtGall and pls #falculture. Don't forget to sign up on the front page to be notified when we add something new.

<https://open.falculture.org/>

https://www.parentpay.com/DOCH/school-support/index.html?page_id=9276.html



We've now reinvented Chipper for a new generation of homeschooled kids and we're inviting parents across the country to sign their kids up to the club and get involved in Chipper's Challenges.

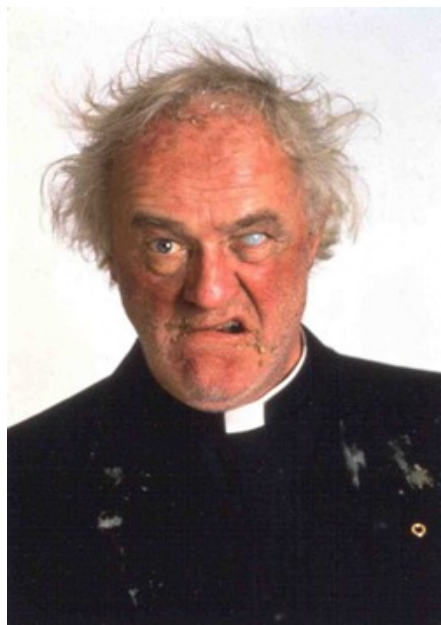
Once each project is done, we'll ask parents to submit a photo of their child's work to the Chipper Club for publication online and in our local newspaper titles across Reach Plc. At the end of the lockdown period, we'll send all Chipper Club members a certificate to take back to school with a special gold certificate for children who have completed all the challenges.

To sign your child up to the Chipper Club and to Chipper's weekly newsletter, all you need to do is fill in the form [at this link](#). You'll find more details of how to get involved, all our holiday projects and loads of Chipper Club submissions from across the country at inyourarea.co.uk/chipperclub.

Please note that signposting to any activities/services within this newsletter, by St Mary's School does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. It is recommended that parents/carers make their own enquiries to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of these. Under no circumstances will either St Mary's School or Plymouth CAST accept any responsibility or liability for any such activity/service.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just in case you have forgotten what I look like. Please find below photo 5 weeks into the lockdown. Still looking good. Keep safe and keep smiling.
With my love and prayers.



My dear brothers and sisters,

I do hope you are all keeping safe and well. The challenge of the lockdown continues and many of us have established a routine to help us cope.

Part of my routine is that every Sunday I take the short drive to the convent to collect my lunch from the Sisters. They kindly plate-up a meal for me; I open up the boot of my car and I stand back and the food is placed in my vehicle. At all times we keep a safe distance.

Thanks to the kindness and care of the Sisters each Sunday I sit down to a delicious meal with a glass of wine. However, an important and essential ingredient is missing from my meal. It is, of course, the presence of the Sisters. I miss their company, the conversations, the jokes and the banter. For as someone once said "Good food is all the sweeter when shared with good friends."

For many of us there is something profoundly holy, sacred and important about sharing a meal with loved ones. Eating together, breaking bread together, is one of the oldest and most unifying of our shared human experiences.

I'm sure that so many of us are longing and yearning for the time when we come together with family and friends to share a meal, love and companionship.

The celebration of every Mass is a holy and sacred sacrifice. But the mass is also a sacred Eucharistic meal. At every Mass we are fed and nourished by the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the form of bread and wine.

Priests are the most privileged and fortunate of all people. For even during the lockdown when our churches and chapels are closed, priests are still able to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, to take part in this sacred meal and be fed and nourished by the real and true presence of Jesus Christ.

Each and every day I sincerely thank God for the privilege of celebrating the Mass. The Mass, the Eucharist is the jewel in the crown of my priesthood. It lies at the very heart and centre of what I am as a priest.

It is the highlight of my day. And yet every time I celebrate the Mass, every time that the Lord uses me to bring His real presence upon the altar, there is the sense of loss, there is a sense of longing as I celebrate this holy and sacred meal.

This is, of course, because of your absence. You are my people, my friends and I am your priest who longs for the time we are together to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass, to be fed and nourished, at this Holy Meal by Jesus Christ Himself,

The Mass, the Eucharist is the greatest of all the liturgies of the Catholic Church. The word liturgy is derived from the ancient Greek which literally means 'work for the people' and is a literal translation of the two words from the Greek for 'public service'.

Therefore, it seems to me that for the fullest expression and meaning of the liturgy of the Mass the public, the people of God, should be at the celebration. Of course, this is not possible at the moment and there is some comfort and consolation that despite the lack of your physical presence the Mass continues to be celebrated each day in our churches.

So we look forward to the day when we as a parish family can come together to share and take part in the sacred meal of the Eucharist, the sacrifice of the Mass.

As your priest, until you can be united with me at the altar of the Lord, I will continue to celebrate the Mass alone. As I raise the body and blood of the Lord these words will be in my heart. 'Bless and protect my absent friends'.

May God keep you all safe and well.

I know that some worry about how I am eating. Rest assured I am on a balanced diet, I have a chocolate bar in each hand!

Finally, I would like to share a story I received from Sister Damian: After listening to President Trump a Christian minister decided to drink disinfectant to ward off the coronavirus. He was rushed off to hospital and nearly died. The minister is now recovering and is suing President Trump for 'Bleach of the Priest'.

With my prayers and blessings

Father Brian

For your information:

The bulletin is available online – website www.falmouthcatholicchurch.org.uk