



16th June 2021

Nature WOW Day

In the week before half term every class in school enjoyed their 'Nature Wow Day'. A full day of learning outside the classroom took place. The children all enjoyed learning in our outdoor classrooms, forest school area, school field and pond areas. All of our younger children also enjoyed finding the fairies that have moved into our school grounds and have requested that they can stay. I am happy to report the fairies are now happily living here!

Links with Maths, English and Art also featured highly during the day alongside the development of children's knowledge of plants and animals found in our school grounds.

Children were encouraged to think about conservation and how they are the next generation who will be caring for our world.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the learning experiences that took place.

Nursery

Nursery had such fun on our special Nature Day. It started with a letter from Ms Silvester, asking us to investigate as strange things were happening in the school grounds! We had a map to follow as we explored the playing fields and woodland area. The children were so excited to find, glittery shapes hanging from the trees, toadstools, fairy doors and the last fairy we found in the woods had a special letter complete with fairy dust, asking to live at St Michaels. We asked Mrs Wass and she said yes!!!!!!!



Early Years

For Nature Day, Early Years went on a fairy adventure. We heard the beginning of a fairy story and then made predictions about where the fairies in the story might have flown away to. We got creative making our own fairy land, thinking about what we might see and hear. We made our own magical wands and we even ordered fairy toadstools by height. In the afternoon we had to help Mrs Wass to solve a problem. Mrs Wass had noticed some strange things appearing around our school grounds and Early Years used a special map to help them to investigate. We followed the map and discovered that we now have a group of fairies living in our forest area!

We are now going to be busy writing letters to Mrs Wass to ask if the fairies can stay. We think she will say yes!



Year 1

Well what a busy day we had in Year 1 for our Earth Day...

The children started the day by making it rain in the classroom! Fortunately, we didn't get too wet as we made it rain in a jar using shaving foam and blue colouring. Next we went on a super muddy bare foot walk! We walked through the thick mud and along the grass. It was quite messy!

We also spent time learning about rubbish!!! We looked at lots of things we can recycle and how to spot the recycling symbol on products. We even found time to visit the fairies in the wood.

A super day - full of FUN!



Year 2

Year 2 turned detectives on an outside trail hunt to solve a problem involving suspicious and mysterious fairies. The children used their forest school skills developed over the year to create a fairy wand from a stick, wool and feathers.

The children also created a tree using parts of plants from outside. They loved trying to name all the plants they used. They also enjoyed planting potatoes, beetroot and lettuce. Let's hope they remember to water them so that they grow! They also have enjoyed doing problem solving outside using nature to help enhance their mathematical skills.



Year 3

We enjoyed an action-packed day of outdoor learning. Year 3 used natural materials from around our school grounds to produce a picture of a bird, linked to our work on the book 'King of the Sky'. They also created their own outdoor clocks on the playground to practise telling the time.

Later in the day they used their knowledge of caring for plants from our science topic to plant some runner beans that they took home to nurture over the next few weeks.



Year 4

In Year 4, we began the day by constructing an analogue clock using natural materials. We then used these clocks to show the time when given mathematical problems to solve.

Afterwards, we went on a mindful walk around the school grounds to discover new sights and sounds unknown to us. We then used this experience to help us write some exciting poetry about expressing what we find beautiful in our environment.

Towards the end of the day, we reflected on seeing nature from a different perspective through sharing our sketches of animals and plants from different angles. In the process, we discovered the beauty and sense of awe that arises when we take our learning outside.



Worship

In our classes this week we focused on God's amazing world as our worship theme. Children were encouraged to look at the beauty of nature all around them and take time to pause and reflect upon it. We shared a video of some of the World's amazing sights and we also shared the following prayer:

Thank you God for all that grows,
Thank you God for the sky's rainbows.
Thank you God for the stars that shine,
Thank you God for these friends of mine.
Thank you God for the moon and sun,
Thank you God for all you've done.

Amen

