

The Chestnut

Chronicle

What a fantastic and very busy half term it has been! Although it has been a short one, it has certainly been packed full of exciting learning, creativity and memorable experiences.

In English, we have been using *The Clockwork Dragon* by Jonathan Emmett and Elys Dolan to inspire our writing. The children have loved exploring the features of a newspaper report and coming up with exciting headlines! They have worked hard to include exciting vocabulary, powerful adjectives and a range of punctuation to make their writing as dramatic and engaging as possible.

In Maths, Year 1 children have been focusing on place value in two-digit numbers, addition and subtraction within 20, and developing fluency with number bonds. They have also been learning to recognise coins and count in 2s and 10s. Year 2 children have been extending their understanding of number, strengthening their addition and subtraction skills. They have also been working with block diagrams and using their knowledge of money to solve problems.

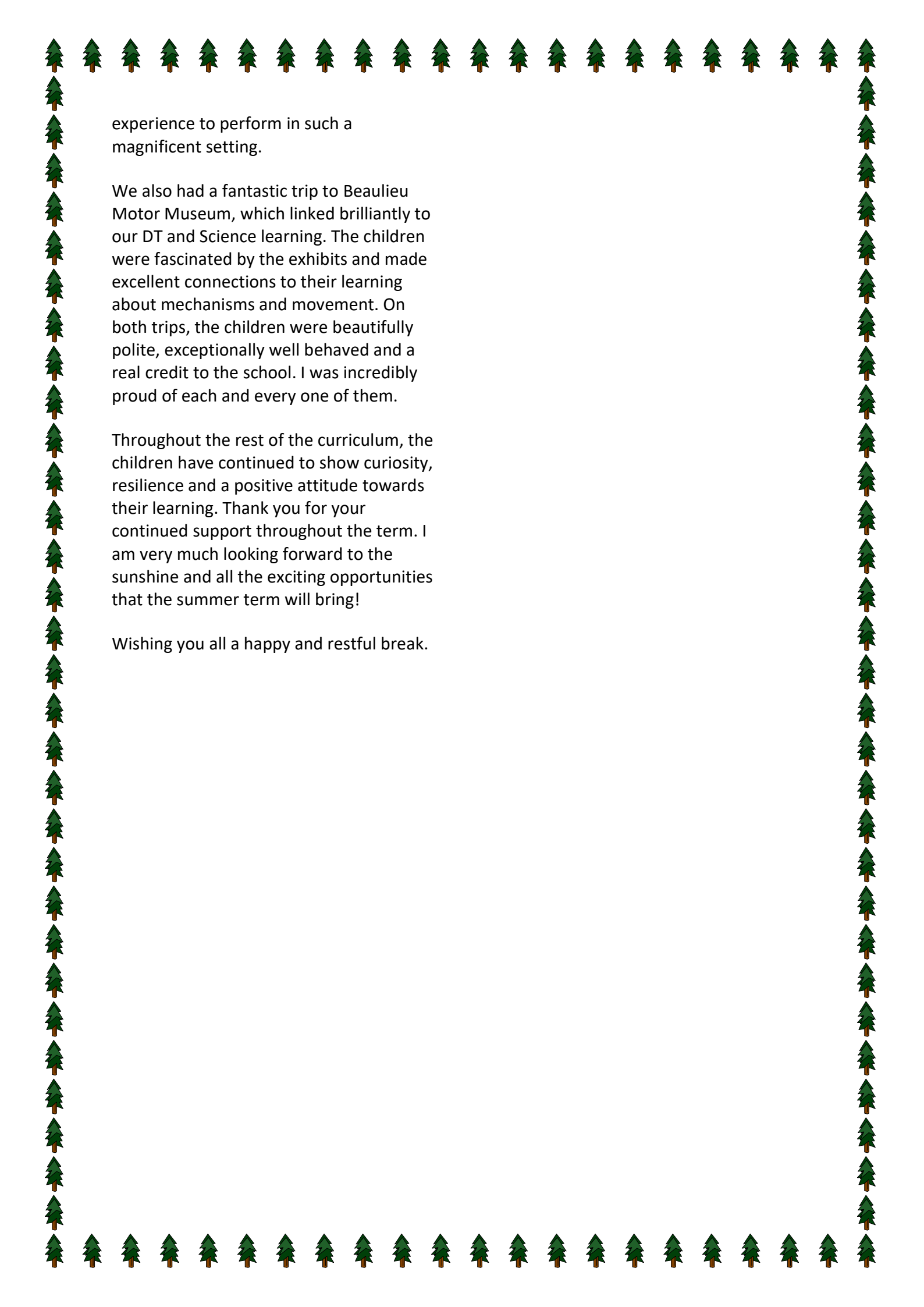


In History, we have been learning about Mary Anning and her important contributions to our understanding of prehistoric life. The children have enjoyed sequencing events from her life, learning about the challenges she faced and comparing life in the past to life today. We have been able to explore real fossils and run our very own fossil shop in challenge time.



In Science, we have been investigating pushes and pulls and their effects. The children have explored how objects move in different ways and how forces can change the speed or direction of movement through a range of exciting investigations. Tying in nicely with science has been our DT project, the children have been designing and making their own pull-along toys using wheels and axles. They have shown fantastic creativity and resilience, carefully designing, testing and refining their products before using them in a science experiment.

In RE, we have been learning about Salvation, exploring the Easter story and the importance of the cross as a symbol. One of the highlights of this half term was our trip to Salisbury Cathedral, where we took part in the Inspire Voices concert. The children sang beautifully and then were able to explore the cathedral linking their experience to their RE learning. The children represented the school wonderfully. It was a truly special



experience to perform in such a magnificent setting.

We also had a fantastic trip to Beaulieu Motor Museum, which linked brilliantly to our DT and Science learning. The children were fascinated by the exhibits and made excellent connections to their learning about mechanisms and movement. On both trips, the children were beautifully polite, exceptionally well behaved and a real credit to the school. I was incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Throughout the rest of the curriculum, the children have continued to show curiosity, resilience and a positive attitude towards their learning. Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. I am very much looking forward to the sunshine and all the exciting opportunities that the summer term will bring!

Wishing you all a happy and restful break.