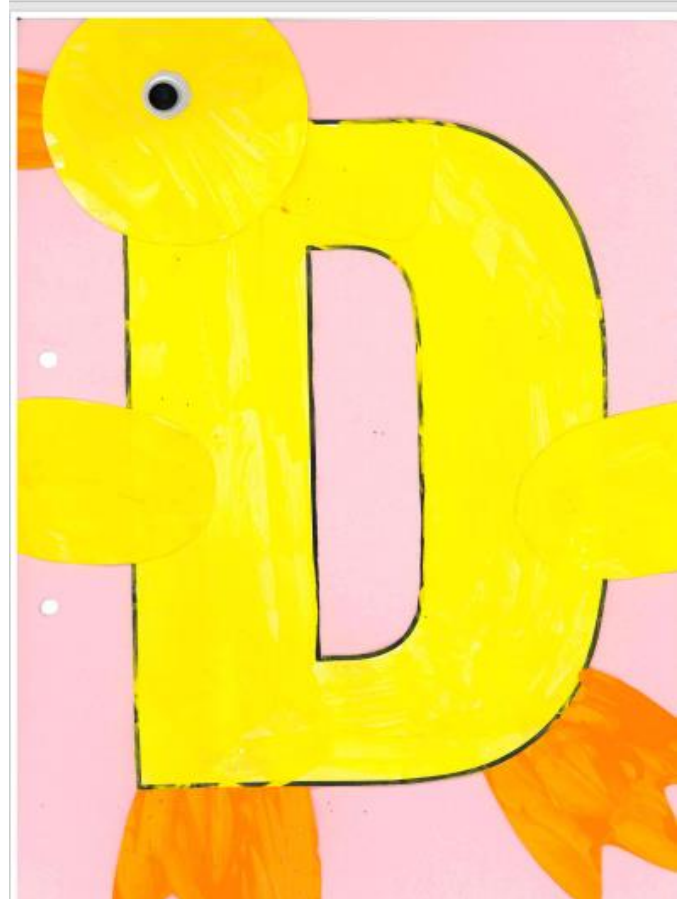


Easter

Newsletter



Artwork by Darcy and Stevi



A massive thank you to parents, pupils and staff for everything over the period of the pandemic. It has continued to be a challenging time for us all with Covid still having an impact. Staff continue to do an excellent job and consistently go above and beyond to ensure they are providing the best education possible for the pupils. However, with the lighter mornings and evenings heading our way and some finer weather, things should start feeling a bit brighter and more optimistic for us all.

Thanks to the easing of restrictions, we have been able to open up the school once again and reinstate outings to the wider community. The school is once again filled with energy and it is wonderful to see the pupils moving around school freely again and being able to use all the facilities the building has to offer. Our pupils have been incredible in the way they have adapted to the necessary changes over the last few years.

Some pupils have already begun their work experience placements and next term we are looking forward to some of our older pupils taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, which includes an overnight camping stay. We would all like to wish our pupils who will be sitting exams in the summer term the very best of luck, they have all been working very hard in preparation for the exam season.

Yours sincerely

Jon Mount

Deputy Principal



Spring

Blue class thought about the people of Ukraine and planted their national flower, a sunflower, as a sign of respect. This term we have learnt about Egyptians, different animals and have been thinking about the environment. We love story time too!

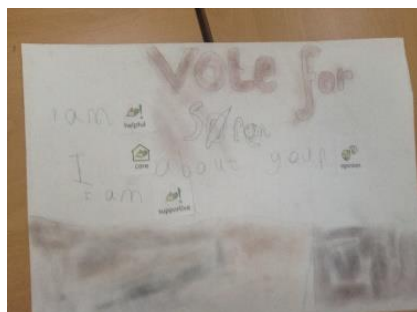
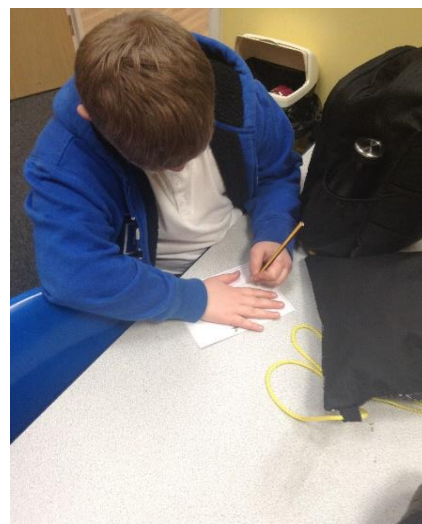
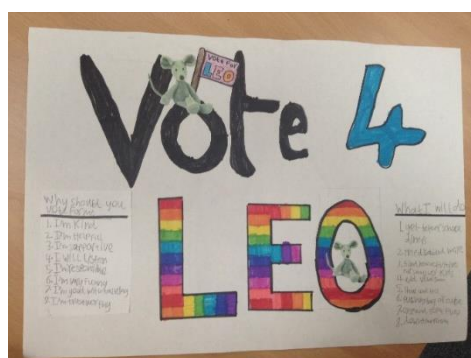


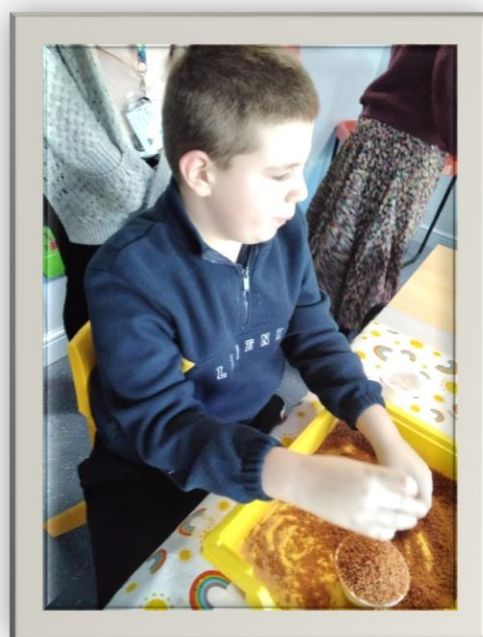
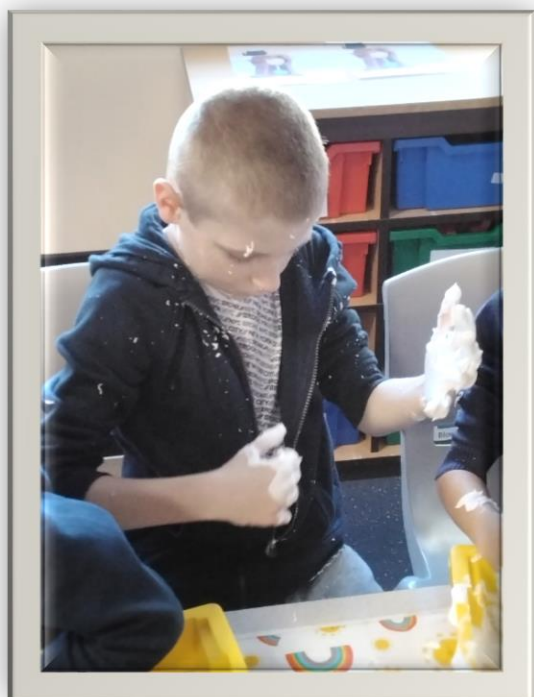
Indigo Class

News letter

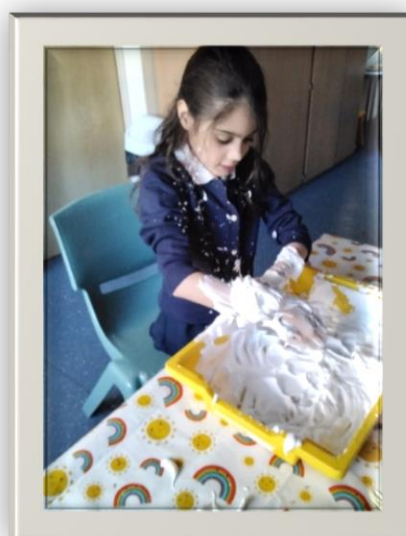
In PHSE this half term, we have looked at the importance of pupil voice in school and voted for our class representative for the School Council. A School Council is a group of pupils selected from each class to represent their class in discussing school issues with staff and ways to improve it. In Indigo class we looked at what makes a good

class representative and created voting posters before all the pupils voted who they would like as their class representative. Well done to Leo and Soren who are Indigo's class representative for school council!





This half term Red Class
have been enjoying
sensory activities at
Enrichment.



Green Class

This term Green Class have been learning all about animals. Pupils in class have been looking at the types of animals we have as pets, farm and wild animals. Pupils have been looking at different animals habitats and diets. On World Book Day we dressed up as animals from "Dear Zoo". George and Alex are enjoying horse riding at the Disabled too.



Yellow Class Spring Term

Spring 1

This term our topic has been about the Ancient Egyptians. We enjoyed learning about the pyramids and Pharaohs, how they lived and also what happened when they died. In PHSCE we have learnt about the environment, including ways to protect it and how we can recycle items or reuse them. We have taken part in local litter picking sessions as well as going to the charity shop to buy second hand items for our activity room.



Purple Class

We have been looking at different types of pets for our new topic. We have been on a trip to a local farm to see the animals and to a pet shop to buy an item for a pet. The children chose to buy toys for dogs and cats.



In the classroom, we have enjoyed exploring role play areas such as a vets and a farm; the children spent time playing with animals in chocolate mud and taking turns to catch fish.

We also made our own bird food with suet, raisins and oats. The children then helped to put it into bird feeders and put them outside for the birds.

NAS 60th



Children

from



Pink



Class



celebrated

60th



Birthday of



the National Autistic Society

with an



afternoon



party.



Children



danced,



played

with



balloons

and



tasted

some



party



food.





Children

from



Pink



Class



played

with their



friends

in



local

parks

and

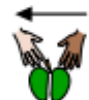
play areas.



They

shared

equipment,

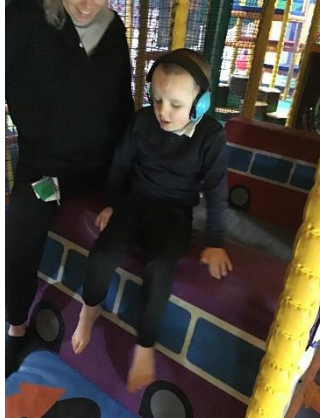


took turns

and had lots of



fun.



Ukrainian Day



Children



in



pink

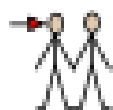


class

took part in an



Ukrainian Day.



They



wore



blue

and



yellow



clothes,



donated



money,



clothes

and



food

to



support



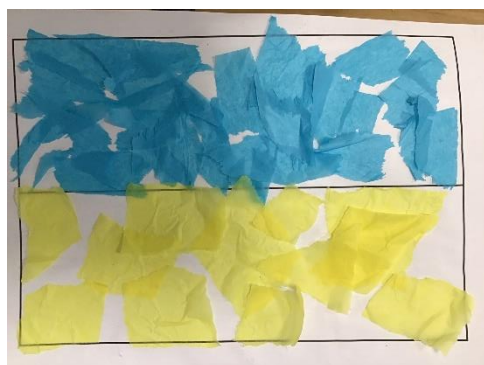
Ukrainian



people



in need.



Rowling



Rowling class have been experiencing weather stories, activities and walks throughout the Spring term.



Churchill



Churchill have been looking at pets as our topic. The class have carried out a range of activities building on our skills whilst exploring different pets and their needs.

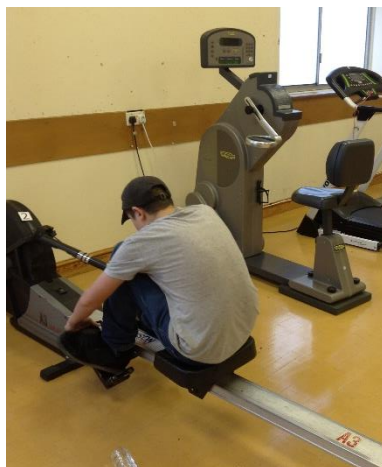
Simmonds Class

In Simmonds class our pupils have been working on their Duke of Edinburgh bronze award. They have three different areas to complete: Physical, Skill and Volunteering.



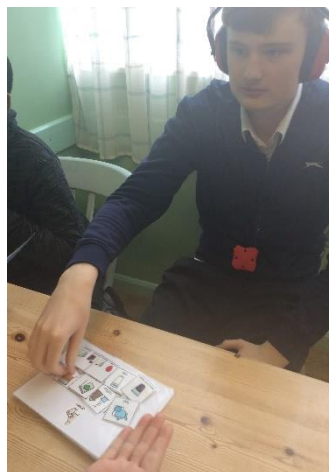
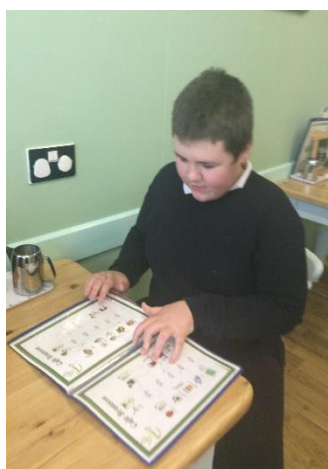
For the skill section of Duke of Edinburgh Cameron chose woodwork. He has designed and made a bird box. He also made a list of materials he needed and went to B&Q to purchase these.

For the physical section of the award Blake chose to use the school gym. He spent time creating a gym routine for himself and then completes it each week.

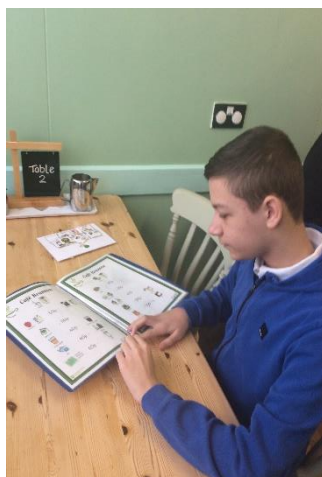


For the volunteering section Jake chose to litter pick in the local community. He does this for one-hour each week and helps keep the school grounds and surrounding areas nice and tidy!

Pankhurst Class



This term the pupils in Pankhurst class have enjoyed accessing more areas within school. They now visit the school café! Pupils enjoy ordering tasty snacks from the menu.



Pankhurst Class



In Humanities pupils enjoyed learning about how the Victorians lived. Two pupils visited Abbey House Museum in Leeds.



In PSHE our topic was Environment. We accessed our local environments such as parks and woodland areas.

Ennis-Hill

This term, Ennis-Hill class has been learning about the environment and being a good citizen. We have thought about the impact that waste has on the environment, recently focussing on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and the plastic debris littering the world's oceans.

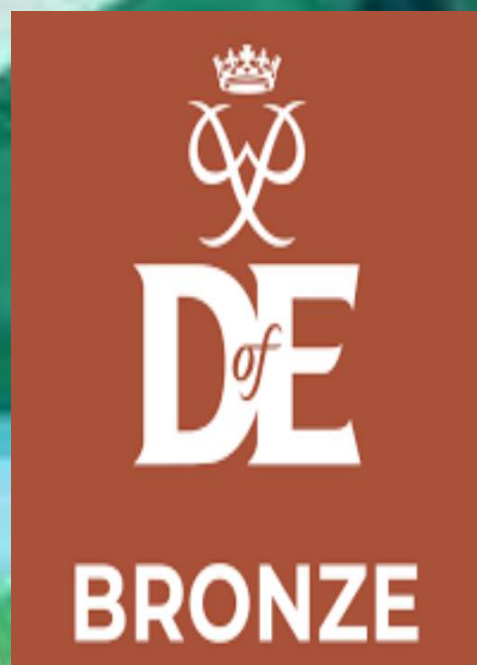
We have also been thinking about reducing, reusing and recycling. In English, the class has been working on persuasive writing, and after deciding the class needed recycling bins, the pupils used what they had learnt in their English lessons to write persuasive letters to the Principal, asking if the class could have plastic and paper recycling bins. Shortly after the letters were delivered, Ennis-Hill class had their own special delivery of two recycling bins and a letter of reply from the Principal.

The class is now happy they can do their bit to help the environment!

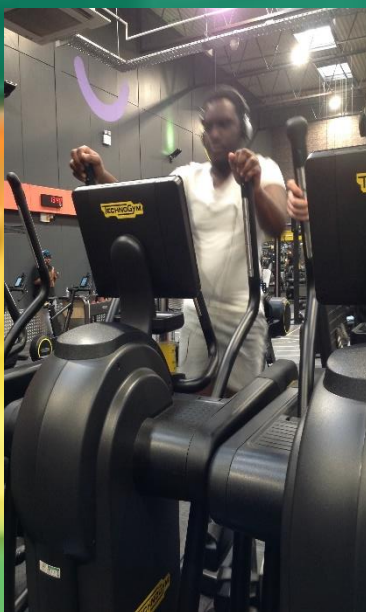
In Art, we have been looking at Hokusai's 'Great Wave Off Kanagawa'. The students have created their own versions of this in their art books, with spectacular results! Next week, we will begin to create a large-scale 'trash art' version, using plastic waste, to represent the plastic pollution in our oceans. We're very excited to see the final result!



This term students from Seacole class have been working toward their DofE bronze award. They have been volunteering by litter picking in the local community. Learning a new skill and making a snack. For the physical element they have been going to the local gym. They have also visited Silverwood Scout Camp where they will be doing the expedition and overnight stay.



Here are some photos of us at Silverwood Scout Camp and at the gym.



Branson Class

Branson class have been volunteering within the local community to help maintain Thurnscoe Flower Park. They have been visiting every week since September and have made a big difference to the overall cleanliness.



Some of the volunteering activities they have been up to include: litter picking, cleaning block paving, gardening.



As a class, we enjoy volunteering and ensuring the park is clean and tidy for us and other people in the community who may use it.



Our next project during the spring/summer will be to design and fill our own flower bed within the park.





This term, Attenborough have enjoyed taking advantage of the dropping of Covid restrictions, and the gradually improving weather!

We have been out in the local community litter picking and helping out at the local park, which is contributing to the 'volunteering' section of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, that a few of our students are undertaking.

Students are also starting to prepare for the 'expedition' element of their Duke of Edinburgh, which will take place in small groups in April and May. Students are enjoying learning these practical skills, which include map reading, first aid, and meal preparation.

Sam and Jake have returned to 'Climbing Works' in Sheffield, where they are making progress towards a certificate in bouldering. They are really enjoying getting back out into the community and returning to an activity that they did before lockdown.



Students' are continuing to enjoy their individualised timetables, and while they are working hard to attain



their relevant qualifications in English and Maths, they also have the opportunity to pick options from a range of subjects offered. Two of our students do Art and Design, and have worked this half term on print making. We're really proud of our students and the creativity and talent they have shown in their work.

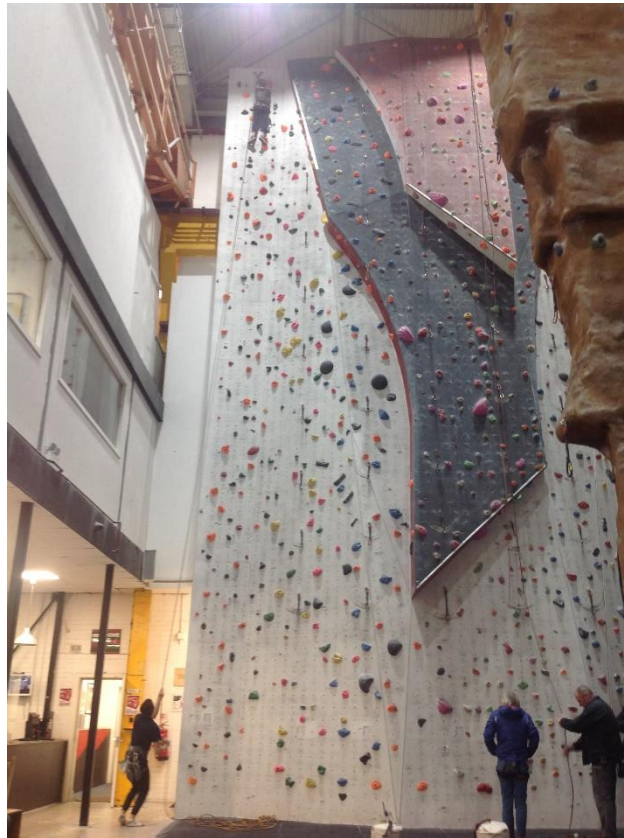
Between all this, we've enjoyed contributing to the school's charity days, such as Ukraine Day, and Red Nose Day. Students partook in a range of activities, and one of our students ran the bake sale for Red Nose Day, making a range of



cakes, cookies and brownies for students and staff to purchase at our Red Nose Day event. We're really proud of the skills he showed to bake such a wide range of goods, and how committed he was to raising money for such a worthwhile cause.

We've had another great term, and are looking forward to the Summer!

Community Access



George visited Awesome Walls Climbing Gym in Sheffield.

He managed to get right to the top! Can you spot him? :)

“Friday Quiz!”



Every Friday morning staff and pupils in Hub 1 are encouraged to take part in the “Friday Quiz”. Different subjects are covered each week including Science, Geography, History and General Knowledge. It’s a great opportunity for the pupils to socialise and work in teams to participate in the quiz.



Science—Heart Dissection



Pupils in Hub 1 enjoyed a different type of Science lesson... they were able to help the Science tutor dissect a cow's heart. They thoroughly enjoyed it!

HUB 2



This term, Stevi accessed the community for the first time since starting school. Stevi chose to go to McDonalds for her lunch then played on the iPad afterwards.

HUB2- Ukraine Day



In support of Ukraine, staff and students of Hub 2 came to school dressed in yellow and blue. Izzy, Darcey and Stevi engaged in activities around the topic such as word searches, flag making and hand printing using the colours of Ukraine's flag.



Friday 18th March was Red Nose Day, for the first time in two years due to Covid we were able to set the main hall and dining room up with Red Nose games and activities. I would like to say a huge thankyou to all staff, pupils and parents for their donations. We raised

£419.72



Dawn Garner
Theme day coordinator

NAS 60th Anniversary

This year marked the 60th anniversary of the NAS, in school we held socially distanced birthday parties in our zones. We also buried a time capsule. One of the students asked when it would be dug up. I asked him what he thought and he suggested when the NAS is 100 years old. “A great idea” I replied, he then asked if I would be still here? I told him I would be too old so he offered to bring me in a wheelchair which I thought was a lovely idea.

Dawn

Theme Day Coordinator



Ukrainian Appel

As we all know, the humanitarian situation is
desperate.

Hundreds of thousands of people have no food, water, no medical care, and no heat or electricity.

We at Robert Ogden School could not sit back and do nothing so an appeal was sent out to staff.

We asked for pupils and parents to donate. The response was overwhelming and I personally want to thank each and every one of you who supported us.

At the moment they are no longer accepting food and clothes, however we are still selling Ukrainian

ribbons that were made by staff and we still have a collection box for any money donations should you wish to donate. To date we have raised **£350.70**



Thank you

Dawn

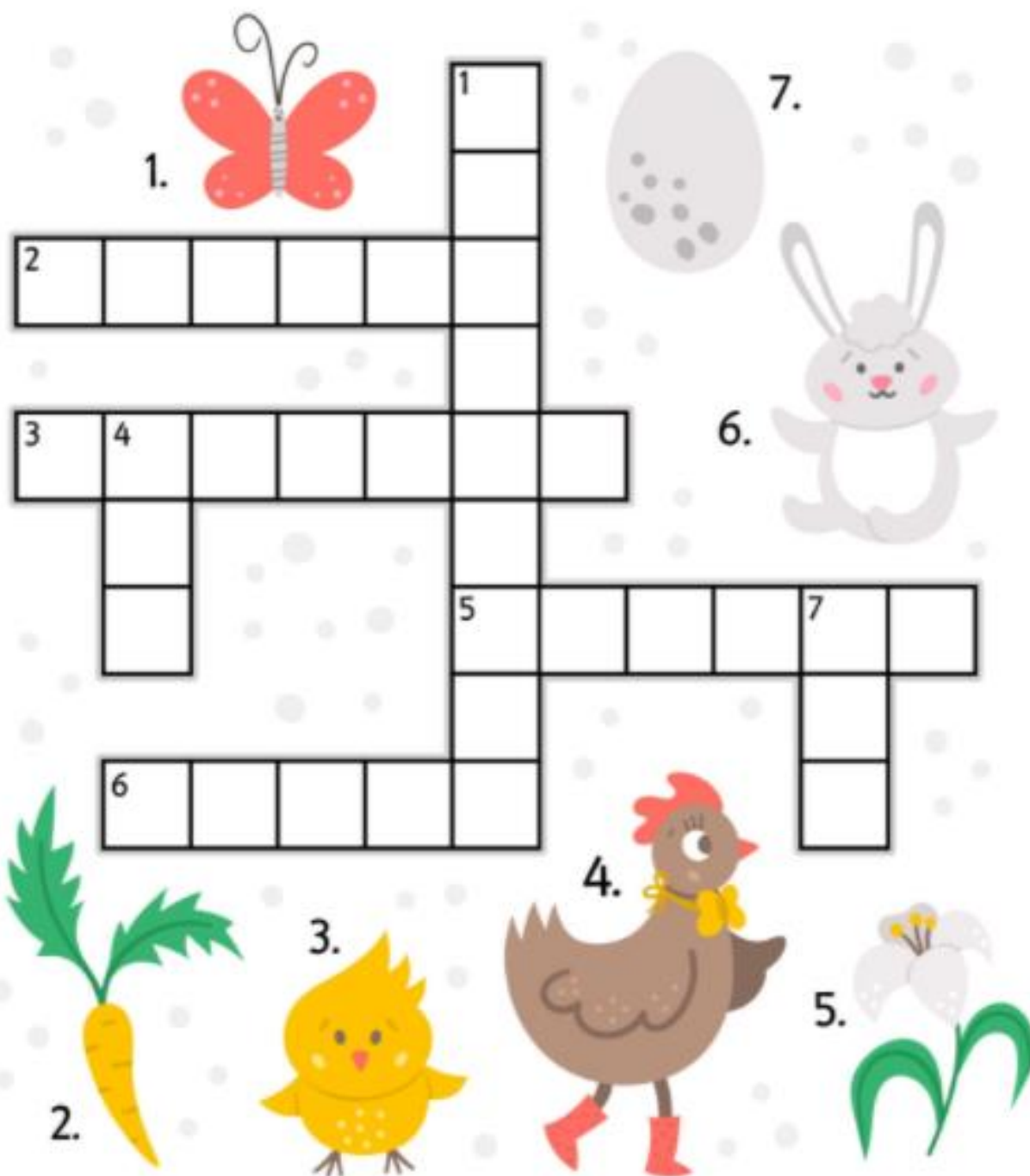
Theme Day Coordinator

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EASTER

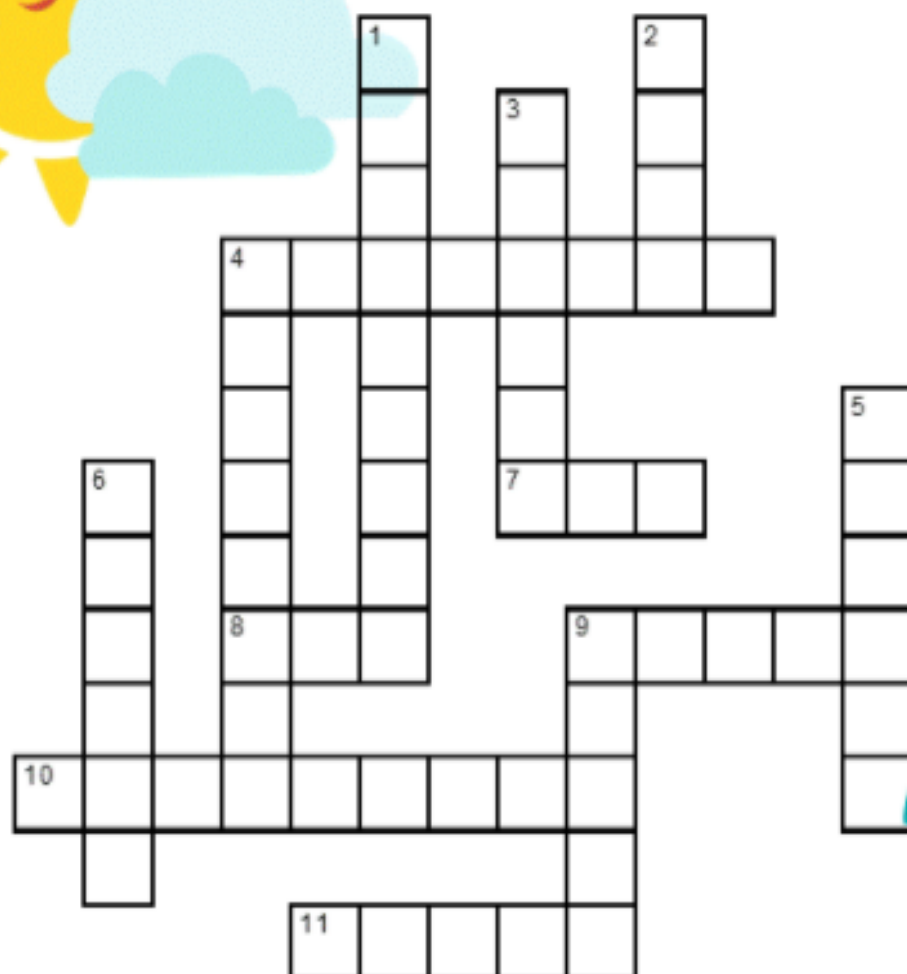
— crossword puzzle —



ANSWER: 1.Butterfly 2.Carrot 3.Chicken 4.Hen
5.Flower 6.Bunny 7.Egg



Easter Crossword



ACROSS

4. You might do this to eggs for Easter
7. A hen makes this
8. Used to color eggs
9. The hen's baby
10. Colorful candy you might find in an Easter basket
11. Peter Cottontail is one

DOWN

1. Eggs might be made from this
2. Look for eggs
3. Easter Day event
4. Yellow or white spring flower that grows from a bulb
5. What the Easter Bunny brings
6. A pretty hat worn on Easter
9. Don't eat too much of this or you might get a belly ache



EASTER

Fill in the crossword and find the hidden words.



1

2

1

2

5



3

1

4

3



4

6



8



6

7

8

9



7



10

10



9

11

12

Happy Easter!

12

13

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15



13



11



14

16

17

18

19

?



18



16



19



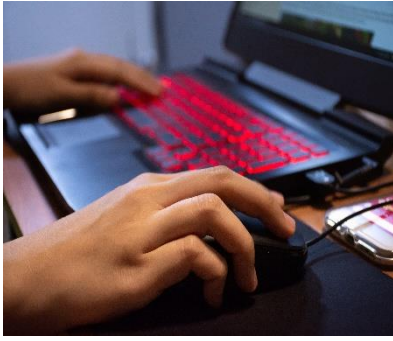
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15

Online Safety

Gaming mods: what parents need to know



Downloading “mods” – modifications – created by other gamers can be a fun and creative way to enhance your gaming experience, deepening your connection with a game and its surrounding **community**.

The practice has become increasingly popular, with top-tier game developers and publishers such as Bethesda embracing the modding communities for popular titles like Skyrim and Fallout.

Modding can be a legitimate route into the gaming industry. Gaming distribution platform **Steam** offers workshops and allows talented mod creators to sell their creations to players. Developer Rockstar

Games recently **paid a modder \$10,000** after they developed a way to improve loading times on the PC version of Grand Theft Auto Online. However, not all developers and platforms are as welcoming. While they are generally created out of a sense of love and enjoyment of that particular game, mods can also contain adult or explicit content – which can be easily inserted into a game targeted at younger players.

Here’s what parents need to know.

What are mods? “Mods” are created when someone alters the code of a game. They are generally designed to introduce new experiences, accessories or settings – such as adding **mythical creatures** to your Minecraft worlds, introducing realistic **weather systems** to Skyrim or giving your Sims characters a wider range of **emotional responses**. More significant mods can alter gameplay itself.

A quick **Google search** of “*game title + mods*” may yield hundreds of options. They are often free to download and can be inserted into a game with just a few clicks. Users decide whether to install or uninstall mods, making them different to content updates published by the game’s developer (known as ‘patches’) which are downloaded automatically. Patches change the code of a game, meaning mods can stop working as a result of a patch being installed. The mod’s code also needs to be updated for it to continue to work.

Are mods illegal?

Modding’s legality varies from country to country. In the UK and US it isn’t strictly illegal, as long as it doesn’t infringe on a game’s copyright – but to platforms and developers there can be a fine line between modding and hacking. In **Japan**, however, modding could lead to a fine or even a prison sentence. The establishment of official modding communities like Bethesda’s **Creation Club** and platforms such as Steam has helped by providing controlled environments for modding, deterring illegal activities. Mods are traditionally applied to PC games, though this is starting to change in the wake of Bethesda’s move to include its games’ modding communities. Xbox calls mods “**fun**” and gives advice to gamers using them, while making it clear that they are not official products or content. Other consoles, such as PlayStation and Nintendo, take a **stricter line** over concerns around mods’ ability to “break” a game or include unmoderated content.

What are the risks?

Adult content

The biggest concern around mods is the possibility of adult, explicit or age-inappropriate content being added to a game. For example, one of the most common modifications across the spectrum of gaming, found from Fallout 3 to Minecraft, is to sexualise a (usually female) character’s costume, or remove their costume entirely. Other mods can make characters’ appearances more anatomically accurate, or simulate sexual activity – which, needless to say, can be used to great effect in combination. Others push this even further, actively seeking to degrade characters’ appearance or demonstrate sexually deviant scenes.

Other types of mod can increase the level of violence and brutality, or be simply disturbing. For example, one mod available in The Sims turns toddler characters into **murderous zombies**. While it might seem humorous, younger players on shared devices, who might not realise certain mods have been downloaded, could find these changes and images distressing. While a game’s **age rating** gives players – and parents – appropriate warning about what kind of content to expect, playing games that have been modded means such content could pop up unexpectedly.

Malware

Mods are sometimes referred to as DLC or “downloadable content”. Accessing content in this way could leave your device exposed to malware or viruses. For example, around 20 apps on Google Play claiming to be mods for Minecraft were in fact found to **contain malware**. Once downloaded, the malicious “app” icon deleted itself, making it difficult to identify the source of the problem – and remove it.

In its guidance to gamers using mods, **Xbox warns** that personal data may be exposed or accessed by the mod’s creator. If your child is interested in gaming mods, ensure they are downloading them from reliable sources and that the computer or device they are using has appropriate virus

protection software in place. Talk to them about the potential danger viruses can pose, as well as the importance of **thinking critically** about whether something online may be potentially harmful.

Enhancing gameplay

Sometimes players download alterations to give themselves a competitive advantage over others in multiplayer games – for example improving aim or enhancing their chosen weapon. This can cause tensions to rise.

Other players feel that adding mod after mod can alter a game so dramatically that it is no longer recognisable – making it feel “inauthentic” and detracting from the “pure” version of the game.

When automatic updates (patches) are downloaded, they change the game’s code, so any mods being used also need to be updated. So-called “**downgrade mods**” can get around this issue and enable players to play an older version of the game, but it is worth noting that mods that removing patches could break the terms and conditions and lead to players being banned.

What else do parents need to know?

Coding skills

Modding can be a gateway to coding and programming – and if your child enjoys creating mods of their own, it could be the first step towards a career in game development. The modding community is generally a supportive one, with creativity, imagination and fun all highly encouraged. It’s a great way for your child to let their imaginations run wild while honing the coding skills they may have begun to learn in school.

All this information and more regarding Modding can be found on the ParentZone website <https://parentzone.org.uk/>

