



# The Swift September 2025

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*Welcome to our latest newsletter!*

*Please see news from last month below*

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## A Greeting from the Headteacher



Dear Connaught Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the new school year, especially with our Year 3s settling so well. They are definitely benefitting from the school grounds and everything we have to offer at Connaught.

Mr Weeks and Miss McNeill have been ensuring that OPAL is running smoothly. As well as the Small World play, dressing up, lego area, sandpit and digging area, tyres have now been added to the list of items that the children can play with! They are happily balancing on them with help and support from their friends and rolling them down the mound on the field (with or without a child inside them!) It really is a joy to watch!

We have started our tours for the new intake next year and have already had some fantastic feedback on our school. It's a pleasure to show it off. We have two more tour dates: 9th October and 16th October so do encourage friends and neighbours to attend so that they can make an informed choice about the best school for their child.

Can I remind parents again about being extra careful when parking, driving or reversing near the school. We have little lives to be aware of and an accident would be horrific with so many children about at the beginning and end of the school day. Please, please park further away from the gates and walk up.

As the new Executive Head of Connaught and Windlesham, I am definitely enjoying the best of both worlds. They are both lovely schools and I feel very lucky.

Please have a look at all the school news and learning for this month below.

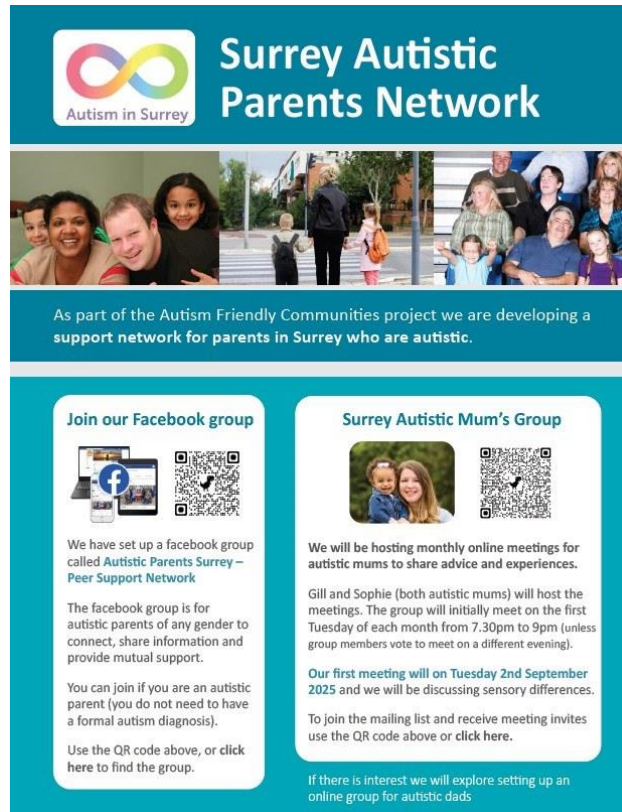
Kind regards

Miss McGann

## School News



## Support Group for Autistic Parents



The flyer features the 'Autism in Surrey' logo (a colorful infinity symbol) and the title 'Surrey Autistic Parents Network'. Below the title is a collage of photos showing diverse groups of people, including families and individuals. A central text block states: 'As part of the Autism Friendly Communities project we are developing a support network for parents in Surrey who are autistic.' The flyer is divided into two main sections. The left section, titled 'Join our Facebook group', includes a QR code and text: 'We have set up a facebook group called Autistic Parents Surrey – Peer Support Network. The facebook group is for autistic parents of any gender to connect, share information and provide mutual support. You can join if you are an autistic parent (you do not need to have a formal autism diagnosis). Use the QR code above, or click here to find the group.' The right section, titled 'Surrey Autistic Mum's Group', includes a QR code and text: 'We will be hosting monthly online meetings for autistic mums to share advice and experiences. Gill and Sophie (both autistic mums) will host the meetings. The group will initially meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm to 9pm (unless group members vote to meet on a different evening). Our first meeting will on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 and we will be discussing sensory differences. To join the mailing list and receive meeting invites use the QR code above or click here. If there is interest we will explore setting up an online group for autistic dads'.

Please have a look at the flyer above to see if this would be of interest to you.

## Papaya Mobile Phone Talk

This talk to parents has come highly recommended by other schools and parents. On offer:

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Strategies for delaying the smartphone
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology
- Question and discussion time

This is being offered to parents across the Trust and is being funded by the school. Please come along to hear what Jennifer has to tell us. It is 7pm in the school hall next Wednesday, 8th October.

**PAPAYA**

## Let's talk about our kids and their tech

PARENT TALK WITH JENNIFER:

CONNAUGHT JUNIOR SCHOOL

DATE & TIME

WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025 — 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

**Jennifer Powers**



Jennifer has been central to the success of the UK's Smartphone Free Childhood movement, serving as a regional leader in London and Surrey. She is co-founder of Smartphone Free Schools Rating and serves as its development director. Jennifer is the founder of the Unplugged Coalition uniting organisations committed to reclaiming childhood from addictive technology.

She is the host of the POWERS UNPLUGGED podcast and a frequent media commentator. A former Special Adviser to the Prime Minister on energy and business, Jennifer has over 25 years of experience in public policy and strategy.

**PAPAYA**

## Helping families to thrive in a digital age

Smartphones, social media and screen time are the parenting challenges of our age.

Whether your child already has a smartphone or you are considering delaying until they are older, this talk is for you.

Hard hitting but non-judgemental, Jennifer unpacks the complex issues surrounding addictive technology and helps you find solutions that work for your family.

### Topics

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Strategies for delaying the smartphone
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology
- Question and discussion time

*"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."*

— Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.

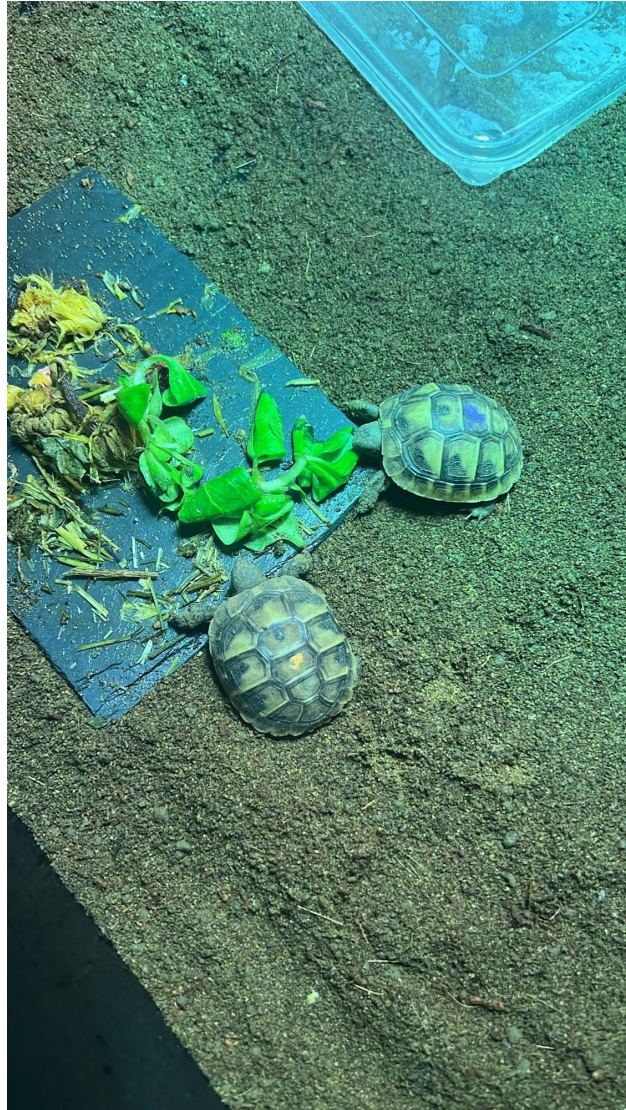
## Allergy Awareness



As we have mentioned, we have several children with a very serious allergy to peanuts and tree nuts so it is essential for parents to help us keep those children safe. Connaught is a nut free zone so no nuts or nut products are permitted onto the school site, not even the staffroom. If your child eats nuts before school, please ensure they brush their teeth and wash their hands afterwards.

Thank you

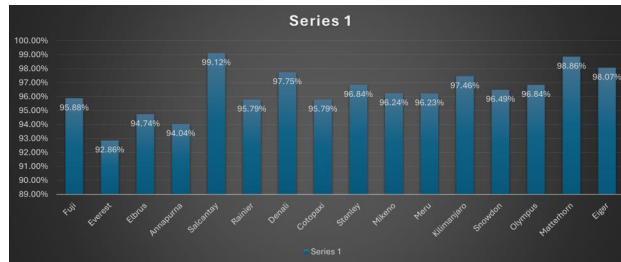
## Tortoises



The baby tortoises have arrived in school and the children have been very excited to meet them. They are affectionately known as the Twins until we have made a decision on their names. If you would like to make a suggestion, please email us at [tortoise@cjs.tamat.org.uk](mailto:tortoise@cjs.tamat.org.uk) - a decision will be made after the weekend!

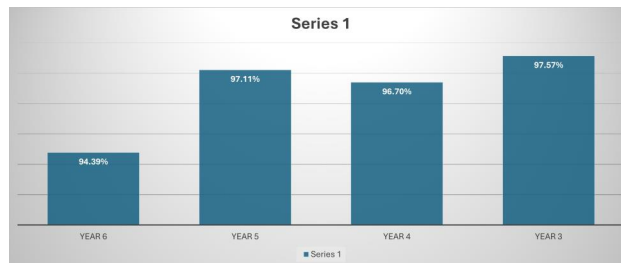
## Best Attending Class this month

Congratulations to Salcantay class and Mrs Bell for being the best attending class this month with 99.12%



## Best Attending Year Group for this month

Congratulations to Year 3 for being the best attending year group this month!



## Attendance Rules

Please note that the new attendance rules have been in place since September 2024

As a school, our core purpose is the education of the children. Taking children out of school for a family holiday is extremely disruptive to their learning and they will never get the opportunity to make this time up again.

The following applies to parents/carers who take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive):

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to your child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21

days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

This applies to all Surrey schools and there will be no exceptions. Any requests for time off from school will need to be accompanied by proof.

## Children's Achievements

We love celebrating children's achievements outside school and will happily include them in the school newsletter. If you would like us to include your child's achievements, please see below what we need you to do.

1. Include **one** photo of your child.
2. No other children should be visible in the photo (standing beside your child or in the background)
3. Your child should not be holding up a certificate on which their name is visible.
4. Please write a short piece about the achievement to accompany the photo but do not include your child's name. Due to safeguarding, we will not print your child's photo with their name.

5. If we do not have photo permission, we will not be able to share your child's photo.
6. Please email your child's achievement via the school office and entitle the email Newsletter. This will make the email easier to find when it is time to write the newsletter.

THANK YOU



*1 - This year 4 pupil, recently represented Connaught Junior School in the 2025 London Schools Ski Championship, achieving a 2nd place in the U12 category.*



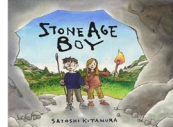
*2 - This Year 6 took part in a Wellness Walk around London in aid of diabetes. He should be very proud of himself!*

## Year 3



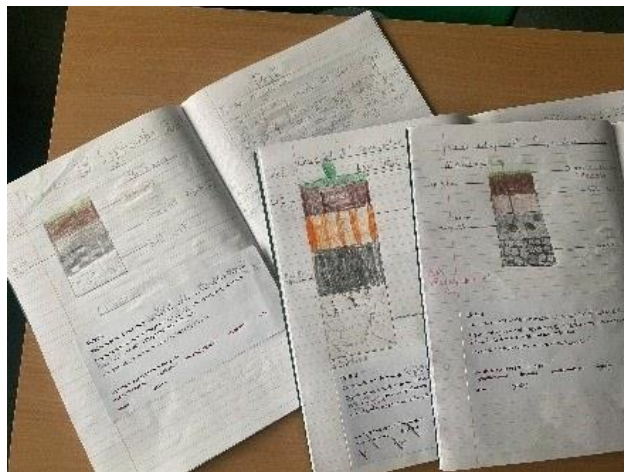
## Tribal tales

What a terrific start Year 3 have had to our Topic: Tribal Tales! In history we have been exploring the Stone Age. We began with a reading of 'Stone Age Boy' and we are looking at the three periods of The Stone Age: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic. Trust us, it was a tongue twister. We explored Stone Henge through VR headsets and evidence archaeologists have found of the Stone Age in Britain. We also designed our own stone age outfits and made spears from salt dough.



## Rocks and Soils

In Science we have been learning about rock formation and the different types of rocks and soil. The two most interesting facts we have learnt to date are that it takes approximately 500 years to make 2cm of soil and a handful of soil contains more micro-organisms than there are people on the planet!



## Apple Crumble



The year group is split into different groups for Wednesday afternoon activity. In our STEAM Lab, half of Matterhorn had their first Ready, Steady, Cook experience with Mr Weeks. They got stuck in making a delicious apple crumble!



**Year 4**



## Launch Day

It has been such a lovely start to the new academic year with our fantastic new year 4s. We started our year with a Launch Day to introduce the children to the amazing countries in Europe. Everyone enjoyed running around the playground to find facts about countries like Wales, Sweden, France and many more! The children have been excited to continue learning about Europe this term and are passionate about visiting some of these places themselves through our VR headsets.





PE and Movement in Year 4!









We like to Move It Move It! Here's some of our Year 4s being active on the field and the playground!

## Year 5



### English - One Small Step!

In writing, the children have been exploring '*One Small Step*', describing Luna's incredible journey to the moon. They wrote with real creativity, capturing the emotions and description of space travel. We have gone through our first cycle of writing with 'sentence stacking' leading us into different sessions of independent writing- and self-editing!

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025

One small step PP2

1.	2.	3.
Fast: $\leftarrow$ Sirius As fast as a bullet. Faster than a train Faster than a cheetah As fast as a lightning bolt	Said: $\rightarrow$ Scream Exclaimed Squealed Screamed Squealed Screamed Squealed	3. $\rightarrow$ Pivotal verbs Subordinate clause Luna and her dad: The pair The astronomers The two of them The duo duo
Excited: As excited as a child in the candy store. More excited than a child at the theme park.	Adverbials for excitement: Breathlessly EASILY - Excitedly Lively Joyfully Happily	Looked: Admired Stared Gazed upon Peered Observed

As fast as a bullet, Luna and her dad shot into the sky and burst in excitement as they landed on the moon in all the excitement they didn't notice they were just imagining it.

"Look at all the planets out and all the shiny stars!" Exclaimed Luna joyfully  
"Yes they look beautiful." But I thought the moon was made of cheese.  
Luna's dad said loudly and questioned.

After landing on the lumpy surface of the moon, the astronomers gazed upon the lit up Earth compared to the moon it was way more colourful than they started jumping up and down and flying around.

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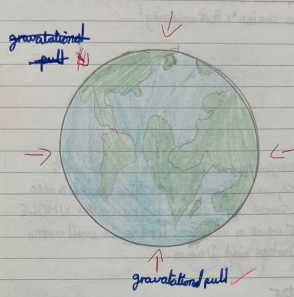




# Science

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025


Gravity




Gravity is an invisible force that pulls everything to the center of the Earth.

Does gravity exist on other planets?

Weight and Mass  
Mass is how much matter something is made of. It is measured in kilograms (kg).



Weight is how strongly gravity is pulling an object down. It is measured in Newtons.



Your description is clear and concise

I believe that the Earth is a spherical body.

Some people believe that the Earth is flat just by looking up on a hill they see that it is flat.

All scientists believe that the Earth is a spherical body.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025

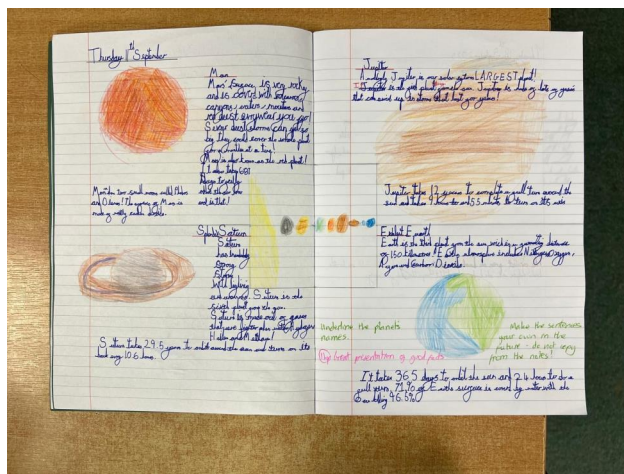
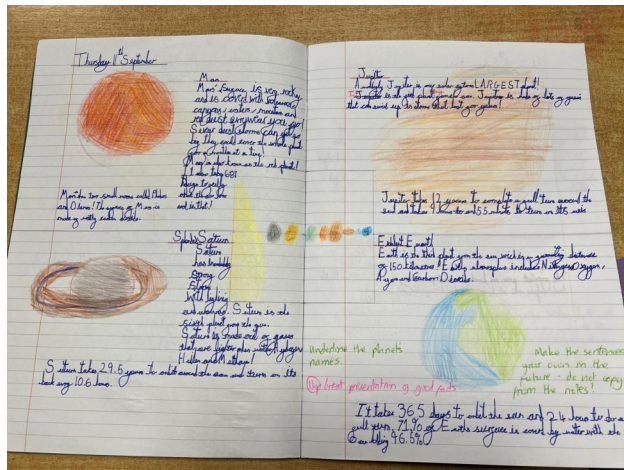
Sun and Shadows

The sun, Earth and moon are all spherical in shape. When the Earth faces the sun it is day time and when it faces away from the sun it is night time. The moon orbits the Earth and the Earth orbits the sun. The Earth axis rotates on its axis.

When a planet rotates on its axis, we call the length of time a day.

When a planet orbits the sun, we call the length of a time a year.

24 hours is how long it takes for the Earth to spin on its axis.



The Year 5 Scientists have been investigating space! One experiment the classes have taken part in was testing tennis balls against cricket balls to see how they each fell — with some surprising results and lots of curious questions. "I was so surprised to learn that gravity is the same for all objects - even the watermelon landed at the same time as a tennis ball!"

## Maths - Tackling Big Numbers!

### Maths

In Maths, we've been tackling big numbers, working confidently with place value up to the millions. The children have also been rounding numbers, showing growing accuracy and resilience in their problem-solving. The children have been reading and writing numbers up into the millions. "I can count so high now!" said one eager student!

3. four hundred and eighty thousand two hundred and sixty seven ✓  
 4. one million three hundred and eighty seven thousand three hundred forty seven ✓  
 5. four million eighty two thousand and ninety one ✓

**Well done!**

19/9/25

Place value

Climbing

1.

thousand		ones		
H	T	H	T	O
2	3	0	4	1

2.

TH	TTh	Th	H	T	O
2	3	0	4	1	3

3. four hundred thirty six thousand, six hundred and thirty four ✓  
 4. four hundred sixty three thousand, six hundred forty three ✓

Peak

460,032

229,25

Powers of 10

Climbing

3.  
 A. 200  
 B. 400 ✓  
 C. 43 ✓  
 D. 47

4.  
 A. 500 80  
 B. 580  
 10  
 58 ✓  
 580 ✓  
 5800

Peak

A.  
 1. 207  
 2. 2700 ✓

B.  
 1. 400  
 2. 4000 ✓  
 3. 40000 ✓

Summit

8.9.25

Place value

Climbing

1. 8184 = 8000 + 100 + 80 + 4  
 2. 4657 = 4000 + 600 + 50 + 7  
 3. 6255 = 6000 + 200 + 50 + 5  
 4. 9377 = 9000 + 300 + 70 + 7  
 5. 3076 = 3000 + 70 + 6  
 6. 6423 = 6000 + 400 + 20 + 3  
 7. 4835 = 4000 + 800 + 30 + 5  
 8. 6018 = 6000 + 10 + 8  
 9. 2864 = 2000 + 800 + 60 + 4  
 10. 2720 = 2000 + 700 + 20  
 11. 592 = 500 + 90 + 2  
 12. 3585 = 3000 + 500 + 80 + 5  
 13. 7688 = 7000 + 600 + 80 + 8  
 14. 4585 = 4000 + 500 + 80 + 5  
 15. 6336 = 6000 + 300 + 30 + 6  
 16. 7658 = 7000 + 600 + 50 + 8  
 17. 5259 = 5000 + 200 + 50 + 9  
 18. 6986 = 6000 + 900 + 80 + 6

Climbing

1.  $\begin{matrix} 25820 \\ \uparrow \\ 25824 \\ \downarrow \\ 25830 \end{matrix}$

2.  $\begin{matrix} 18760 \\ \uparrow \\ 18769 \\ \downarrow \\ 18770 \end{matrix}$

3.  $\begin{matrix} 6520 \\ \uparrow \\ 6523 \\ \downarrow \\ 6530 \end{matrix}$

**Well done!**

11/9/25

Rounding

★ When rounding I look at the column to the right.

Climbing

1.  $2760 < 2763 \rightarrow 2770$  A. 3800 ✓ 3700  
 2.  $950 < 951 \rightarrow 960$  B. 3200  
 3.  $280 < 287 \rightarrow 290$  C. 5000 ✓  
 4.  $6150 < 6154 \rightarrow 6160$  D. 10,000 ✓

29.9.25

Counting in powers of 10

Basecamp

100	10	1	0
100	10	1	0
100	10	1	0
100	10	1	0

26.9.25

Partitioning up to 100,000

1000 = 1000

1000 = 1000

29.9.25

Climbing

23.9.25

gathering tent staff

Basecamp

10,000,000	2,000,000	300,000	40,000,000	5
10,000	200,000	30,000	400,000	50
1,000	20,000	3,000	40,000	500
100	2,000	300	4,000	5,000
10	200	30	400	500
1	20	3	40	50

Sm. which way do we jump adding 1 lot right

Climbing

1,400,000 + 42,143 = 1,442,143

2,380,040 + 4,700 = 2,384,740

3,499,000 + 300 + 71 = 3,499,701

4,810,130 + 400 = 4,810,530

5,913,000 + 122 = 5,913,122

6,131,300 + 831 = 6,132,131

7,000,000 + 313,831 = 7,313,831

7,310,831 + 3,000 = 7,313,831

Peak

a) 70,000 ✓

b) 60,000 ✓

c) 50,000 ✓

d) 160,000 ✓

Summit

29.9.25

Mental Strategies

9,000 - 5,000 = 4,000

20,800 - 12,710 = 8,090

Base camp

1,4 + 9 = 13

2,4 apple + 9 apple = 13 apple

3, 4 ten thousand + 9 ten thousand = 13 ten thousand

4, 40,000 + 90,000 = 130,000

Climbing

1,30,000 + 1,7,000 = 1,47,000 ✓

2,3,890 - 1,740 = 2,1,150 ✓

3,12,040 + 8,010 = 20,050 ✓

4,30,500 + 1,740 = 32,240 ✓

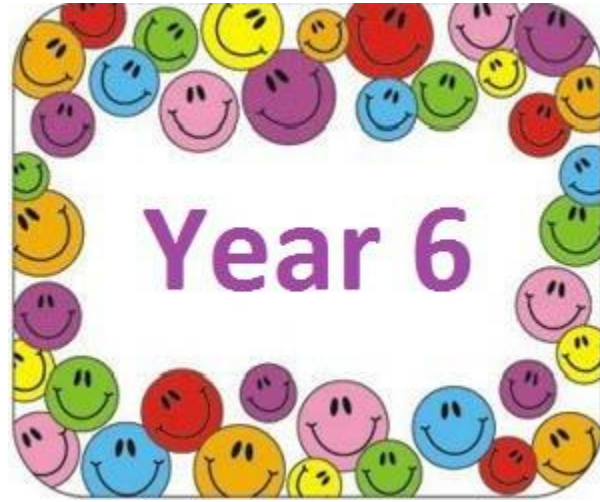
5,97,800 - 1,6,200 = 96,200 ✓

83,600 ✓

Peak

Tiny is wrong because 40,800 + 30,000 is 70,800 but 4,826 + 300 is not and because you need to add 4,000 and 1,000 and Tiny has do 40,000 + 1,000 so the answer is 58,260

## Year 6



## North America





What an amazing, positive start the children have had to Year 6. We started the year with our Launch Day to introduce our topic of North America. The children learned about traditions and examples of folklore from this part of the world. They made some very creative dream catchers as part of the introduction to this topic, which got them really excited for their learning this half term.

David Hockney









In Art, Year 6 have been learning about different artistic styles and how these are expressed through paintings. One of the artists we have studied is David Hockney who painted 'My Parents'. We looked at how he used colour and texture to paint it and the children recreated using their own interpretations of it. We had some very creative thinkers as a result of their analysis of the painting.

## Contact Us



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X (formerly Twitter): @connaughtsch and @tweets\_toffee

Look for us on Facebook too! Both a current and Alumni page.

