

Our Shared Values

When done right, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts should bring people, cultures, and differences closer together than further apart.

This half term, we are focusing on our shared value of determination.

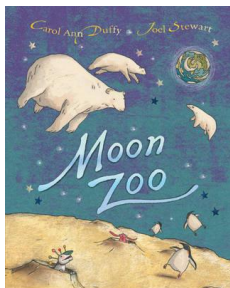
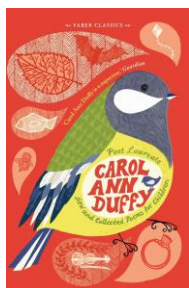
All schools are required by law to do all they can to eradicate discrimination. At Normand Croft, we are **determined** to make sure that by the time children leave Normand Croft they have the knowledge and skills to be safe, be kind and be the best that they can be. If they can achieve this, it will help them to be proactive in standing up to all forms of discrimination.

We are proud of our international family of learners and the way our children embrace our shared values and make our school a safe and inclusive place to be.

Author Focus: Spring 1

In the autumn term we focused on two Black British authors across the school Malorie Blackman and Benjamin Zephaniah (who sadly died in December). Both of these writers promote positive Black characters and in some of their work tackle issues such as bullying, racism and disability.

This half term, we will be reading stories and poems by, Carol Ann Duffy, a Scottish writer who has experienced discrimination as a result of being part of the LGBTQ community as well as sexism.



Unity Farm and Outdoor Learning

During the holiday Rosie the smallest of our chickens sadly died. We will be planting a rose in memory of her in the school garden.



In happier news, we are pleased to welcome Laurie Martin to our staff team.

Ms Martin will be building on the work Ms Harvey began and will be at Normand Croft every Monday Wednesday and Friday. She has already met with the eco – committee and will be starting lunchtime and after school clubs in the next couple of weeks.

Breakfast Club

Our free Breakfast Club for children in Reception to Class 6 starts at 8.30am and finishes at 8.45am

There are a number of parents that are using the main entrance in Bramber Road as a short cut to entering school in the mornings.

If you arrive after 8.45am, you must go directly to the main playground so please do not sign your child into breakfast club after this time at the school office.

You will also be directed to the playground by the receptionists.

It is also important that you arrive before 8.55 am. Families of nursery children who attend mornings only need to be picked up promptly at 12 pm.

Thank you for supporting our arrangements to keep all children safe.

Be Safe, Be Kind, Be The Best That You Can Be Early Years and Primary Learning

This week in Nursery we have been reading *The Gingerbread Man*. The children have enjoyed acting out and retelling the story using props and puppets, and are looking forward to baking gingerbread men next week. We have also been busy drawing and painting and creating art work in the sand tray outside:

Reception children have been using their phonics skills to write CVC words independently by writing the sounds they can hear.

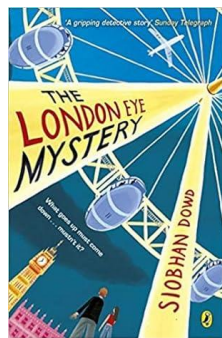
Class 1 have dived straight into new topics after the holidays. In Maths, they have been naming and sorting 3D shapes. Our new science topic is materials. The children have been noticing the difference between the object and the material which it is made from. They have been writing lists of objects made out of different materials. In English we have been exploring the differences between a fiction book (story) and a non-fiction book (not a story) where we have been starting to identify contents pages, index, pictures and headings.

This week in science, Class 2 have been learning to identify materials and describe their properties. They used the stem sentence "The object is made from _____ and some of its properties are _____." to work as a group and describe what they felt and saw using scientific language. In English, we have started our new book called 'Bob and the Moontree Mystery' by Simon Bartram. We have been making predictions about the book and have learnt how to write in a list using commas.



Class 3 have begun a new unit of English, on 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We have enjoyed learning a range of new language to describe the characters and setting. We are learning the 8 times table in maths, so please practise this if you have an eager Year 3 mathematician in your family.

Class 4 have started the new year with renewed energy and enthusiasm. In English, we have begun reading *The Iron Man*, developing new vocabulary so that in a few weeks time, we can write our very own impressive character descriptions. In Maths, we have worked hard on the 3, 6 and 9 times tables, exploring the 'commutative' properties of multiplication. Well done!



Classes 5 & 6 have started reading their new English text 'The London Eye Myster'y' by Siobhan O'Dowd and will be writing to try and persuade Ms Boote and Ms Daniells to let them visit the London Eye to test out certain theories. They also enjoyed their first recorder and ukulele lessons of 2024, having all made progress with their instrument playing last term

Diary Dates Our Shared Value Determination

Mon 15 Jan	Y5 & Y6 PE 3:30 - 4:30 Year 3 & 4 Multisports
Tue 16 th Jan	Y3 & Y4 PE 9:05 Y5 meeting re school journey 3:30 - 4:30 Y1 & Y2 Multisports
Wed 17 th Jan	Y1 & Y2 PE 3:30 - 4:30 Y5 & 6 Multisports 3:30 - 4:30 Y5 & Y6 Girls football Parent Meetings YR 3, 5, & 6
Thu 18 th Jan	Y5 Swimming 3:30 - 4:30- Y5 & Y6 Boys football Parent Meetings YR Reception, 1, 2 & 4
Fri 19 th Jan	Y4 Swimming
Mon 22 nd Jan	Y5 & Y6 PE 3:30 - 4:30 Year 3 & 4 Multisports
Tue 23 rd Jan	Y3 & Y4 PE 3:30 - 4:30 Y1 & Y2 Multisports
Wed 24 th Jan	Y1 & Y2 PE 3:30 - 4:30 Y5 & 6 Multisports 3:30 - 4:30 Y5 & Y6 Girls football
Thu 25 th Jan	Y5 Swimming Y2 AM Smugglers Way Easte and Recycling Centre 3:30 - 4:30- Y5 & Y6 Boys football Parent Meetings YR 1, 2 & 4
Fri 26 th Jan	Y4 Swimming