



## Reflections on two weeks back

What a wonderful start to the Autumn Term. Everyone has settled back into classes very happily and I spend each day surrounded by smiling faces and happy voices.

Parents whose children have just started at Annan have all reported how much their children are enjoying school. Some came from not such a happy school experience, so it is lovely that they are on the journey towards enjoying learning again. It is so important for children to feel safe and secure and happy at school, and when they do, they learn enthusiastically.

This week the new children joining kindergarten have been taking their first steps towards independence which for some is easy and for others it can be hard and take longer. The kindergarten staff are so experienced and calm in their welcoming of new children that the first few days for new children are also going really smoothly.

It is also great to see children going out on school trips this term which has been something which has not been possible during lockdowns. Teachers have been careful to prepare children thoroughly, particularly younger children so that this too becomes an exciting and positive experience. This week's newsletter has some pictures from the Elder Trip, Oak Trees are out today and Willow and Chestnuts next week. After that will be the Sycamores turn. These trips not only stimulate interest in the topic for the term but also enrich children's learning. Teachers will be sending you a Topic Web so you can see what their plans are for the term.

## Natural Art at Forest School

At Forest School this week, Sycamore Class created some natural paintbrushes using sticks and attaching ferns, leaves and feathers and made a pallet of natural coloured paints by crushing and mixing mud, berries and charcoal. They then made a natural art masterpiece to hang on their classroom wall.



### Apple Art

Oak Trees practised their observational drawing and painting skills using apples harvested from the orchard. They also loved printing with leaves in the wildlife area and created some beautiful pictures.



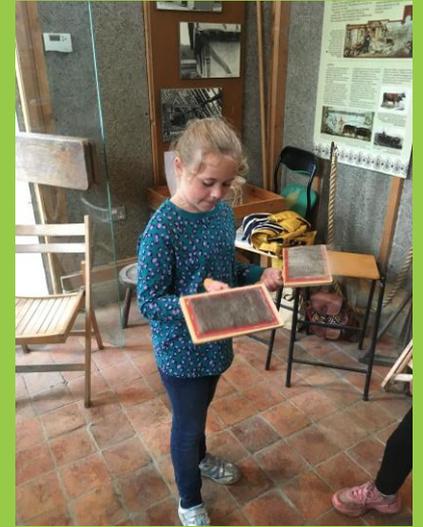


"Writing in pictures and in symbols assumes an overflowing richness of life in thought and experience. This richness gave rise to writing and only in virtue of it does the child develop a real need to write."

Friedrich Froebel

## Elders go to Weald & Downland Museum

On Tuesday, Elder Class had a great day at the Weald and Downland Museum learning about clothing through the ages. They took part in a workshop where they learnt about linen and wool and tried carding and spinning. After lunch they looked around the whole museum answering questions and exploring. The trip was a great way to start their topic and the children have been trying their new skills back at school.



## Willow Weaving

Willow class have been learning how to use pencil weavers to create simple textiles and new obsession has been born. It has been great to see how keen they have been to work on their weaving, both in the classroom and also in the playground too. Once the children have become confident using this weaving method Alastair is planning to introduce other ways of working with wool, hopefully building up to creating a collaborative mural.



### Menu for next week:

Monday: Spaghetti Bolognese + veg  
 Tuesday: Pizza and veg  
 Wed: Falafel, hummus, salad and wraps  
 Thurs: Tomato soup and sourdough bread  
 Friday: Packed Lunch

### Dates for your diary:

Monday:  
 Tuesday: Willow Outing  
 Open Classroom - Sycamores (Year 1)  
 Wednesday:  
 Thursday:  
 Friday: Chestnut Class outing