Welcome to Auchengray Primary School’s newsletter. We have included lots of our work from this term. We hope you enjoy it. We have included artwork, stories and REALLY important information about our friends the bees.
P1 - 3 Antarctic Ocean Art Work
Well, hello there! I am the Indian Ocean. I might be relatively small, but I am still the mightiest! Today, I'll be telling you all about me, from one of my little, cutest animals, like the hawksbill sea turtle, to the mighty blue whale. So, let us begin.

I think it is best that I start by telling you where I’m located. I’m located in between Africa and Australia. Above me is Asia and below is Antarctica. So now, you’ll know where to go if you ever visit, which I hope you can. Be sure to say hello if you ever see me!

I am the third biggest ocean there is, and I cover a huge 20% of the world. But I’m not even half the size of the Pacific Ocean, who is the biggest. I don’t like the Pacific Ocean, because he brags about being the biggest. And plus, he tends to call me a sink, because he thinks I’m so small, which I am not! Anyway, let’s move on before I completely lose it!

My greatest width is between the western coast of Australia, and the eastern coast of Africa, which measures to be 6200 miles wide. Ha! I’d say that’s pretty wide!

There are many important cities that are on my coast as well, such as; Mumbai, Colombo, Perth, Durban, and Singapore, and y’know, Singapore has the busiest container port! Now, I’d say that’s pretty important! In fact, I should probably be telling the Pacific all these facts I’m telling you, just to prove a point to him on how really awesome I really am!

OK, it’s time I told you how deep I am. I am 1,025 metres deeper than the Arctic Ocean, and since that midget is only 6000 metres deep, I am an all-mighty 7,025 deep. But that’s only an AVERAGE depth. My deepest point is in the Java trench, which stretches all the way down to 7,450 metres deep! Now, isn’t THAT pretty deep! In fact, that’s sooo deep, it reaches all the way down to the TRENCH. Only the bravest oceans dare to go down there.
Talking of the Trench, it reminds me that I need to talk to you about the layers of the ocean. So, there are 5 layers. And each of them cover a depth of the oceans! We'll start with the first one. The Sunlight zone. Lots of sunlight gets through the water here, and most marine animals live here. It stretches down to 200m below the surface. This zone is actually one of my favourites, because this is where the bottlenose dolphin lives, and he and his pod are great friends of mine. But more about them later. The next zone is the Twilight zone. The sunlight can still get through, here, just not as much as the sunlight zone. This zone stretches down to 1000 metres below the surface, and not so many marine animals live here, but still quite a lot. This is my number one favourite zone, due to the hiding places I can find in there. The zone down is the Midnight zone, and that zone stretches all the way down to 4000 metres below the surface. Very little light gets through, here. And only a little amount of animals live here. I don't really have much to do with that zone, except from meeting up there with the blue whale. She loves it there, I'm not too sure why. The next zone down is the Abyss. That place stretches down to 6000 metres below the surface and no sunlight gets through here. Not even the tiniest bit. It is pitch black down there, and it is way below freezing down there. If a human were to go down there, they would die very quickly, because of there no oxygen, the very high pressure, and temperature. Lucky for me though, none of those things affects me. The next zone is the Trench. That place gets no sunlight, its pitch black, like the Abyss. Hardly any animals live down there. Even less than the Abyss. But, you know, even down there, at the bottom of the Trench, which is 11,000 metres down, there is STILL PLASTIC. And that angers me. Humans. They are the ones who did it. Horrible. I don't get it. I let them ride their boats all around me, and swim in me, and surf on my precious waves. And this is what I get in return. Rubbish. Seriously, though, they don't know how harmful it can be. It hurts all of my animals, and gets caught up in my seaweed. In fact, only the other day, a blue whale that I know quite well got caught up in a HUGE area of plastic. She ended up swallowing a huge amount of plastic, and the baby in her stomach died. Only a short amount of time after, the blue whale herself died. I wish the humans wouldn't do it. Anyways, we're getting off topic. It's time we moved on.

There are loads of islands in me, quite a few important, and famous ones. I'll tell you my long list of islands. There is – Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Maldives, (which are very flat, and because of global warming, they might actually go underwater!) The Comoros, Reunion, Seychelles, Mauritius. A lotta islands, right!? 

My marine life is so perfect here. The bottle nose dolphin. This lovely, friendly, affectionate animal is a mammal, and also a carnivore. They live in huge groups called pods. They can measure up to 2 – 4 metres, and weigh up to 1,100 pounds, and live from 45 – 50 years. Our next animal is called a dugong, or sea cow. They are mammals, and lives in a group called a herd. It's average life span is 70 years, weighs 510 – 1,100 pounds, and are 8 – 10 feet long. The hawksbill sea turtle is a reptile, that is a carnivore. It lives from 30 – 50 years, weighs about 100 – 150 pound, is 24 – 45 inches long, and avoid deep waters.
P4 - 7 Ocean Artwork Pieces
The Indian Ocean

I am the Indian Ocean, many creatures swim in my depth, all around me, from the sunlight, twilight and midnight zone, and then it is the deep dark abyss. Then then it is the trench that is the darkest deepest scariest darkest, deepest part of the whole Indian Ocean! Reaching down to at least 7025m down!!! I may be one of the smallest oceans, but I also may be one of the most interesting. I'm not trying to be a spoiled brat or anything but Mother Nature made me perfect, the most perfect ocean there is, forget my cousin the Pacific! Just simply ask the dusky dolphin, she can tell you all about how brilliant I am using clicks, clucks, squeaks and whistles. Or a blue whale, SO BIG, but she is obviously not as big as me!

Speaking of the blue whale, she has been bothering me all day for her to tell you her story, it won’t be as good as the one I was going to tell you, but, you know, I can’t let my fans down! Anyway, here she is.

“Well, hello there, you heard the Indian Ocean, I’m going tell you about what it’s like living here, recently I’ve been noticing that where I live is continuously getting deeper, my mother had told me it is because the big white cliffs melting, they are located south from where I live. Big things they are as well, huge white cliffs going to fall one day, I have seen one fall myself. And, the water is so cold there, and the white things ARE THE COLDEST THINGS I HAVE EVER TOUCHED!!! I only went down there when my mother went into deep sleep, never woke up. I followed her all the way, before I knew what was happening, the strong current pulled her away and she wasn’t talking to me or anything! Anyway, enough of that you’re getting me all bubbled up. I don’t live in the Southern Ocean; I live in the Indian Ocean.

Anyway, the area of the Indian Ocean I live in, is next to Asia, just below Asia is where I swim. East from me, is Australia. West from me is Africa, the water is nice and warm round there. And occasionally you can hear a roar of a lion in the distance…….

I’m getting of topic now, anyway. One of the last things I’m going to tell you, is about a place called………..

THE JAVA TRENCH

The Java Trench is the deepest part of the Indian Ocean, at the bottom, which reaches down to 7,450 metres. Minimum light can get through; I can’t go there. I can only dive about 500 meters down. Other oceans don’t think it is that deep, but it most definitely is. I’m also going to talk about my friends like the crabs that scuttle around the ocean floor, the sea cow, the blue glaucus, or even the friendly cuttlefish and how they’re affected by this HORRIBLE THING CALLED PLASTIC. PLASTIC IS THE WORST THING IN THE WORLD, IT’S MADE BY THOSE HORRIBLE PEOPLE. NOBODY CARES ABOUT THE WILDLIFE ONCE THE PLASTIC IS GONE, IT’S ONLY ABOUT HOW IT’S OUT OF THEIR WAY!! HOW RUDE!!! One of my good turtle friends was recently taken away because of this plastic; he was taken on a boat then came back fine! Just think for a second reader, think that, if the plastic wasn’t there in the first place it wouldn’t have harmed him would it?? If that happened to one of them, the whole wonky world would know about it. Then the plastic would be GONE! AAAAAAAAA it’s so unfair! 😊 mneheheheeheeenenenen! Anyway it’s time we continue, but if you are a human yourself then you better try to do your bit for us. Oh and my friend Thomas (the turtle I was talking about earlier) later had an allergic reaction to something they had given him! I have never seen him since. And you know, because of the white cliffs melting the ocean I live in, it gets 20cm deeper every winter! Which means in only ten years, the ocean I live in will get 1 whole metre deeper, so, so, imagine a hundred years! Anyway, I have been babbling on for long enough now, INDIAN OCEAN come back you can talk you “adoring” fans now!"
Some more pieces of artwork from the Primary 4 - 7
We have been learning about pollination for Leavenseat we hope this year we will win the acorn award! We have been working so hard so far.
Bees!

We are learning about bees and why they are so important to biodiversity.

We learned about the life cycle of the bee from an egg to an adult bee. We have also learned about the different types of bees like the queen, drone and worker bees.

We have made giant flip books about the life cycle of a bee.

We have also shown our learning from the Royal Highland Show by making models. We have also made seed bombs with Kelly from WAT-IF?

We have other things planned for after the summer too. So watch this space!!

Without bees, many of our foods would not exist.

Please make space in your gardens for bees.
This is our models for Leavenseat!

What's below your feet?

The beehives in the honeycomb are on top of each other. It is strong and stable.

There are different types of bees like the drone, worker and queen.

Honey bees differ throughout the year.

People use bees wax to make things like candles and soaps.

Bees can do more than wax.

Bees can also pollinate.

When bees are born, they cannot fly.

When bees are born, they do not have colour.

It takes 21 days for a bee to get its wings.

Bees keepers make rectangular hives for the bees to make honey.

Bees can fly in the rain.

The ends of the hive are chopped.