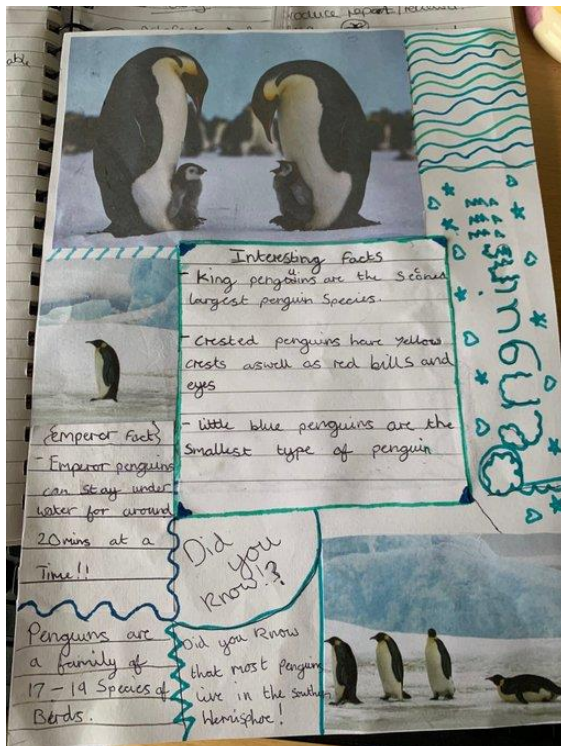


Our whole school topic “Whose Planet is it Anyway?” has been developing well this term, and as you can imagine it has evolved into a very healthy debate amongst the children already! Across the school the children have been discussing their opinions on what animal or plant can rule the Earth. The scope of this topic has certainly captured the enthusiasm of both staff and pupils.



With COVID restrictions and lockdown measures we are keen to remind the community that we are HERE in school to support anyone that needs it. ‘If we can help-we will help’. Everything is very different, as we have now moved to ‘distanced learning’, which means that all of our lessons and support are accessed remotely.
<https://www.llanrhidian.swansea.sch.uk/>

Luckily for us at Llanrhidian Primary School the children have already developed their growth mindset and have already shown independence and resilience when tackling their online learning at home and we are so very proud of them all.



DID YOU KNOW...

...about the Leedsichthys?

Very large *Leedsichthys* compared to a 1.8 meter tall person. Note: Most fossils of *Leedsichthys* are from individuals between 9 and 10 meters long, but even larger isolated remains show that very large individuals could grow up to about 15-16.5 meters long

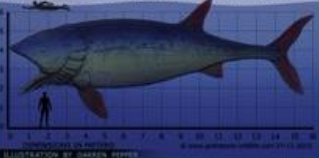


ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREW REPPES

They were initially discovered when Alfred Nicholson Leeds found a lot of different fish fossils in his loan pits during the 1830s. When these fossils were examined by Othoiel Charles Marsh, he decided that they were not looking at dinosaur fossils but were indeed the fossils of a fish, so acclaimed fish expert Arthur Smith Woodward was called in to examine them. Mr. Woodward would then go on to describe and name this species *Leedsichthys* - a name which means "Leeds fish." Named after the farmer who originally found the fossils.

QUICK FACTS

Name: *Leedsichthys* (Break for "Leeds" fish); pronounced Leeds-ICK-thiss

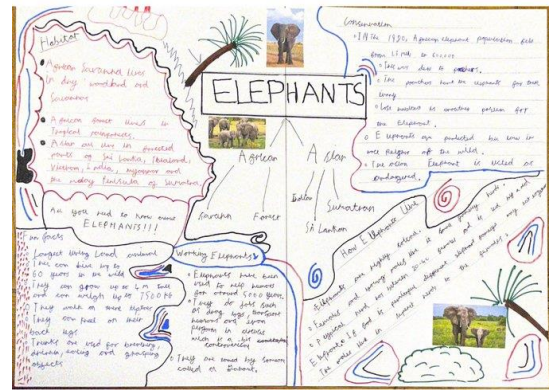
Habitat: Oceans worldwide

Historical Period: Middle-Late Jurassic (189-144 million years ago)

Size and Weight: 30 to 70 feet long and five to 50 tons

Diet: Plankton

Distinguishing Characteristics: Large size; semi-cartilaginous skeleton; thousands of teeth



Last term pupils practiced using the website to access their lessons in school. This ensured that the transition to home learning would be as smooth as possible. As a result, many many more pupils are now engaging imaginatively with the online learning, and we are seeing much higher levels of motivation and self-direction.



We have an amazing community that is always willing to help. We feel very fortunate to have such tremendous support from all our parents and families.

Thank you for your generous support at home in supporting Llanrhidian School. We are keen to develop the pupils into "enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work" (Curriculum for Wales' Four Purposes.) Thank you also, for any food bank donations that any of you sent in to us to help 'Matthews House'. We made a huge collection which was gratefully and who we will continue to support throughout the year.

Mrs Joseph