



★ Newsletter ★

1st October 2021

We are into October already! The time is certainly passing quickly and your children have continued to work hard over the last two weeks. They are now really settled and have adapted so well to the many routines that we have in place. I am so proud of every child in my class!

Our topic 'School Days' is now well underway and after such a wonderful introduction from Mr Maddison, the children have enjoyed observing, discussing and handling artefacts from a Victorian schoolroom. We have also drawn pictures and made comparisons to objects and equipment in our own school and classroom. The children have really enjoyed listening to clips of information about the Victorian era and should be able to tell you approximately how long ago this was! Our forthcoming visit to Perlethorpe Environmental Education Centre next Thursday will provide opportunities for our children to further enhance their learning and understanding of Victorian school days. (Please refer to the letter for further information) In R.E. we have been discussing gratitude and every child has written sentences explaining who or what they are grateful for – there were some very thoughtful ideas, many of which referred to the Covid pandemic. Every child's work is now on display on our 'Reflection' wall in the classroom.

We have also been very busy learning words to our Harvest songs and a poem in readiness for the service in St Peter's church later this half term – you may have heard your child singing or humming the tune at home!

Moonbeam had a very enjoyable first sleepover last weekend. He was thoroughly spoilt and my class loved hearing about his adventures when he returned on Monday morning! We wonder who will be lucky today... Show and Tell is also now underway – your child will receive their invitation to take part in due course. All children in my class are now confident to answer the register in Spanish. Recently I have also introduced how to say 'dinner or sandwiches please' and the children have taken this in their stride with confidence – very impressive!!

Maths:

In maths, the children have been working on place value with numbers to 100 in a variety of different ways. We have been partitioning tens and ones using base ten, counters, ten frames and part-whole models to show our understanding of what each digit in a number represents. This builds on Year 1 learning and I have been really impressed how well the children are taking the new information on board. We are also

beginning most lessons with a quick starter activity using individual white boards (very grown up!) to check understanding from the previous lesson.

English:

In English, we have been enjoying another text linked to our 'School Days' topic – 'Once Upon an Ordinary School Day' by Colin McNaughton. We began by finding the meaning to any new vocabulary in the story. The children have also written some super, descriptive sentences about the main character Mr Gee and were encouraged to use amazing adjectives to expand and improve their draft sentences. This week we have developed this by adding extra description to our sentences and we will use these ideas to eventually create abstract poems later next week. We have also been working hard on handwriting.

Homework:

We were so pleased to see so many homework books in school today and last Friday. The children were very proud of their efforts and were proud to share their work with adults and their peers. There were also house points and a special stamp or sticker as an extra well-done! As mentioned previously, children can complete as little or as much as they would like from the tasks outlined on the homework grid. Please do not send homework in on other week days as we do not have the time to share it every day!

Reading:

Please aim to read with your child at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner. As previously mentioned, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I will be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers and house points as a reward for regular reading. If books need changing in between your child's nominated book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

Additional Information:

- P.E. days will continue to be on Tuesday (indoor kit) and Friday (outdoor, warm kit for tennis) until half term. I will be sending P.E. kits home on the last day of half term for a wash!!
- Visit to Perlethorpe Environmental Education Centre – Thursday 7th October (during school hours).

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Mrs Gilbey ☺

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Please telephone or email the office with urgent matters/changes to home time arrangements as I may not always be able to look at my emails until much later in the day or after school – thank you!