



Fortnightly Newsletter



4th November 2022

I hope you all had an enjoyable half term break – your children returned to school on Tuesday full of enthusiasm and news to share. In fact, they wrote some super recounts for me about all the different adventures they got up to over the break – it sounds like there were some very scary costumes on show for trick or treating!

We finished last half term with our harvest service (after a very damp walk to the church!) For those of you who were able to attend, I am sure you will agree that the children were fantastic and performed their prayer and song with real confidence – they have grown up so much and I was really proud of them all! It was a shame that the dreadful weather prevented us from visiting Forest School but thankfully we were able to visit yesterday. The children worked in groups to build a larger type of shelter using anything they could find in and around the area – there were some very impressive results, and I will add photos to my class page of the school website shortly for you to enjoy.

In Art, the children have now designed their Christmas card to help raise money for school through our PTA. You will receive information shortly about how to purchase cards and other items with your child's design on if you wish to in time for Christmas.

We enjoyed a super drama session yesterday afternoon. This was organised for the children by Jade Quinn (mother of Billy and Vinnie) and led by the wonderful Amy from the 'Perform' drama group. The session was based on the story of 'The sword in the Stone' which the children were familiar with as we watched a performance of this last half term. In groups, the children were challenged to create still frames of various characters in the story – they did a fantastic job and Amy was highly impressed with their behaviour, imagination and super listening skills! Your child should have a leaflet advertising the drama group (based in Bingham) in their school bag. Look out for some photos from the session on my class page!

You might be aware that I have been getting excited about the forthcoming World Cup tournament beginning on November 20th! This is an excellent opportunity to broaden the children's knowledge of the world whilst adding some excitement and interest to the competition. We had a very exciting 'draw' this morning when everyone was matched with a participating country to represent. Your child does not need to know anything about football to take part – they simply have a country assigned to them and they will decorate a shirt and flag of their team to be displayed on our 'World Cup Wall' We will track the results of each match through the group stages and into the next rounds. Each shirt on our wall will display an 'OUT' caption once that country is knocked out. There will be small prizes for the semi-finalists, finalist, and overall winner! (The presentation of prizes will have to be after the Christmas holidays as the final is not until Sunday 18th December!) The World Cup also links in nicely with our work in Geography – we have spent

time this week learning about the seven continents and the five main oceans of the world. From this, we have been able to place each participating country into the correct continent. Your child should hopefully be able to name (or sing!) all seven continents!

We have such a busy and exciting half term ahead – The World Cup, Children in Need Day, a visit to Sudbury Hall, lots of creative artwork, the Key Stage 1 Nativity performance, a visit to the pantomime and Christmas jumper day to name a few things off the top of my head!! Your children will be ready for a lie down by the time we break up for Christmas!

Maths:

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our work in maths focusses on addition and subtraction for the next few weeks. Over the last few days, we have spent time looking at the relationship between number bonds to ten and to one hundred. From this, the children have been able to write related addition statements eg. $1 + 9 = 10$ and $10 + 90 = 100$. Many children have been able to see the pattern quickly and have then challenged themselves to write out all of the related bonds in order. In mental maths, the children have also been recalling their bonds by saying what number goes with another to make ten or one hundred.

English:

We have now completed our unit of work based on 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. As mentioned previously, the children have really enjoyed this text and produced excellent pieces of written work. To finish off, we began to rewrite our own version of the story taking into account all of the different skills acquired over the last weeks – we call this a 'Hot Write' I was really impressed with the super descriptive sentences, use of different adjectives and punctuation that were evident in their work – a job well done! We will now spend a week or so looking at some different autobiographies before writing one of our own. We will then focus on our final text of the term which will be 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes.

Reading:

Please encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner. As always, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers 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.

Homework task:

Lots of children have spoken about their ideas for the creative homework task that was sent out at the end of last half term. This task is linked to our main driver topic 'Childhood which runs across the whole of this Autumn term. As mentioned in the letter, the children can research any type of toy or game from the past and present their ideas in whatever form they like – this can be a painting, a drawn picture, a model or even a power point presentation that can be emailed to school. Homework tasks are always optional at this

age, but it would be great if every child could contribute something as we are hoping to set up childhood 'museum' of their work for other classes in school to visit and enjoy.

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Tuesday sessions and a warm outdoor kit for Friday mornings.
- Friday 18th November – Children in Need Day
- Tuesday 22nd November – KSI Trip to Sudbury Hall. (Information has been sent out separately about this)
- Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th November – Parents evenings
- Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great weekend and a safe (and hopefully dry) bonfire night!

Mrs Gilbey