

Well, here we are at the end of yet another busy half term and we have certainly been busy once again! Your children have worked so hard and are certainly ready for a well-deserved half term break!

In art, the children have experimented with line and mark making using sketching pencils. We have also created some wonderful London silhouette skylines which will shortly be on display in the classroom.

In geography work over the last couple of weeks, we have further developed our understanding of physical and human features in the United Kingdom. I would hope that your child would be able to tell you the difference between the two and describe some features that they have learnt about.

In science, we have looked at the four seasons in more detail, resulting in some wonderful 'tree cycle' work where the children were required to draw the same tree, showing how it would change in appearance over the year. They have looked at how the seasons effect different animals. We have also discussed the difference between evergreen and deciduous trees.

Thank you so much for all the empty boxes that have been appearing at school so far! Our collection is building up nicely in readiness for our design and technology project after half term when the children will be learning all about how wheels and axles operate in a moving vehicle.

Maths:

Year one have begun a new unit of addition and subtraction. We have revised our number bonds to ten and looked at the relationship of when totalling up to 20. The children have used a variety of methods to practise totalling and counting on. We have looked at doubles and how

we can use these within other problems. As this is a topic that we have visited before with smaller numbers, I have been very impressed with their remembering of different methods. For year 2, we are now well into the swing of our unit of work on the relationship between multiplication and division and this particular unit will stretch well into next half term. The children have completed a variety of tasks and challenges involving their knowledge and application of the two, five and ten times tables and their recall with this is improving greatly. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, lots of practice counting in 2s, 5s and 10s will only benefit your child moving forward and many children have been improving their times table skills at home. This week, we have looked at different ways of writing number sentences to show arrays e.g. 3 rows of 2 can be written as 3x2, 2x3 and 2+2+2 or 3+3 as repeated addition — the outcome is the same.

English:

As well as phonics/spelling, handwriting and reading comprehensions, the children have loved creating their own adventures in London! Last week we planned our own adventure and 'boxed up' our ideas. They had to use the format of Katie in London but could change the characters, animal that they travelled on and London Landmarks that they visited. This resulted in the most amazing adventure stories about an adventure in London. We had some very creative ideas. The children are very proud of their work and rightly so!

Reading:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner — I really appreciate your support with this. As always. I am happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to, but it is important that any reading is still recorded in their diary so that the children are able to earn their gold and platinum reading certificates later in the year — thank you! 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 book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

Additional Information:

- P.E. Children will require an indoor kit for Monday and Friday sessions
- Monday February 20th Partake Theatre Workshop Great Fire of London.
- Wednesday 29th March Thursday 30th March Year 2 Overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall — you have been emailed information about this visit.
- Wednesday 29th March Year I visit to Beaumanor Hall

Have a fantastic half term break!

