



Newsletter

17th March 2023

It's been another two weeks of busy and exciting times in our class! We are moving swiftly towards the end of the spring term and the children are now getting very excited about their forthcoming visit to Beaumanor Hall! Here is a brief summary of what we have been up to since the last newsletter:

We are now well into our design and technology topic named 'Taxi' and the children are loving it! So far, we have looked at lots of examples of moving vehicles, identifying the key vocabulary – axle, wheel and chassis on each one. From this, the children then created a moving vehicle out of Lego, making sure they had each of the features visible on their model. They have also planned their own model of a London black taxi cab and most boxes (chassis) and wheels are painted and ready to go! We hope to complete and evaluate our model taxis over the next couple of weeks.

In history over the last couple of weeks, we have been focussing on the main events of the Great Fire of London as it happened. From this, the children were able to sequence each event chronologically to show their knowledge and understanding. We were also able to refer back to the drama session given by Partake Theatre Company which allowed us to add extra detail to our work.

In science, we have been discussing seasonal changes in the weather and the recent snow was a perfect example of how the weather can be so unpredictable and changeable! We also looked at how the hours of light and dark in a day can change depending on the season.

We also enjoyed a whole science day on Tuesday. A STEM challenge (science, technology, engineering and maths) was arranged across all of the schools in our Aspire trust to complete on the same day. We were required to work in pairs to see who could build the tallest tower out of pieces of A6 size card and nothing else! The children could experiment with folding the card to create stronger structures and at 2pm, we joined with Key Stage 1 children from

Gunthorpe School (via Zoom) to discuss and compare our results. We were really pleased with our towers and everyone learnt valuable skills along the way – resilience, working as a team and most importantly communication.

Maths:

I have been so impressed with Year 1 maths; they have worked so hard on their unit of place value to 50. Here we have been using our addition and subtraction knowledge to help complete number lines to 50, make groups and count in tens, and estimate on number lines. The children have worked very hard in maths and have produced some fantastic take care work. They have also completed maths lessons with practical and concrete resources. This has enabled the children to work on their problem-solving skills within maths.

Year 2 have now come to the end of our unit of work on multiplication and division. The children completed the usual end of unit assessment to check understanding earlier this week. We have moved on to measuring height and length and this will run to the end of term. In addition, we have been working on lots of different mental maths questions and challenges in preparation for the forthcoming SATs in May.

English:

As well as spelling, handwriting and reading comprehensions, the children have continued to enjoy our text “Vlad and the Great Fire of London” by Kate Cunningham. This text fits in perfectly with our current spring term topic “Bright Lights, Big City”. The story is told from the point of view of a rat named Boxton who, along with his friend Vlad the flea, experiences the events of the fire. We have loved learning the story. The children wrote full sentences to predict what they thought the story might be about by simply looking at the front cover. They then produced chronological story maps, highlighting the main events of the text. We have also written a series of questions that we might like to have asked Boxton along with drama and hot seating.

Beaumanor Hall Reminders:

YEAR 2

- The children DO NOT require a packed lunch from home on the Wednesday. All food is included in the cost of the visit. The children have already chosen their sandwich choices for both days.
- Children should arrive at school at the usual time on departure day and can bring their luggage and sleeping bag into the classroom.
- If you have mentioned on the EV4 form that your child requires medication of any kind, please label this clearly and it should be handed to a member of staff. Please note

that we will take asthma inhalers from our class medical bag for those children who have them in school.

- If you have stated that your child has a tendency to wet the bed at night, please pack appropriate pull ups/pyjama pants in your child's bag and we will deal with this discreetly at bedtime and the following morning.
- We will be spending lots of time outside so warm, outdoor clothing is advised on the kit list.

YEAR 1

- We will be spending lots of time outside so warm, outdoor clothing is advised. Track suits, long sleeved t-shirt, comfortable trousers and jumpers are essential. Suitable footwear, eg. a sturdy trainer, walking boot or wellington. Warm, waterproof coat, hat and gloves if cold.
- Children will need to bring their lunch. A named packed lunch in a rucksack or lunch bag.
- We will be returning to school at approximately 5pm.

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. I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading.

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Monday and Friday sessions
- Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd March – Parents evenings.
- Wednesday 29th March – Thursday 30th March – Overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall – Thank you for completing and returning the EV4 medical forms so swiftly!
- Friday 31st March – Whole school Easter Egg competition (there are links to ideas on the school weekly newsletter)

Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher 😊