



Fortnightly Newsletter



17th May 2024

The time is really flying by now. I can't believe we are approaching half term already! At least we are now experiencing some warmer weather and it is beginning to feel a bit more like summer! We strongly recommend that your child brings a sunhat as well as applying sunscreen for playtimes/lunchtimes now that we are moving into the summer months.

In history, we have continued to enjoy learning about some different monarchs and over the last couple of weeks, the children have placed a selection of key monarchs onto a timeline to help them understand that a historical period is the duration of each monarch's reign. We have also started to look at some significant monarchs in more detail, and so far, our focus has been Alfred the Great.

In R.E. we have spent time discussing and looking at different examples of baptisms and next week, the children will use their knowledge to create a card for someone who is about to be baptised.

The children are continuing to build on previous knowledge in science and as well as enjoying our first forest school visit where we were able to look for examples of micro habitats, we have also spent time learning the correct names of a range of animals and their offspring – there were some that were new to me! We have also looked more closely at some life cycles as well as discussing how we can help protect microhabitats.

In art, the children used an image of themselves to sketch. The image had to be of a chosen pose using either a football or a PE hoop – they concentrated really well, using just a pencil to recreate their image. I was very pleased with their efforts – we have some excellent artists in our class! The next step will be to repeat the activity adding Tudor features!

I have been very impressed with the lovely portraits that the children have created of themselves as a monarch – we are looking forward to sharing these across key stage 1 and also in achievement assembly. Also, a big well done to the children who had a go at the acrostic poem that was set as an optional activity – there are some super efforts!

Maths:

We have been covering a range of concepts in maths just lately – some has been revision of units that we worked on in the autumn and spring terms. We have also now completed a short unit of work on fractions which the children have really enjoyed.

Although key stage 1 SATs have been officially phased out, all schools in the Aspire Trust have been asked to complete these assessments in maths and reading to give us a formal measure of your child's progress before they move into key stage 2. These will be administered in a very low key manner and we will begin the process sometime after half term. If your child is absent for any reason, we will catch up with them on an alternative day.

English:

As well as spelling and handwriting and extra reading comprehensions, the children have written some amazing suspense stories as their 'hot write'. This brings our non-fiction unit of work based around Kassim and the Greedy Dragon to a close. As ever, I was really impressed with the quality of their final, edited story – they have made so much progress with their writing since the beginning of Year 2. We have started a new unit – non-fiction this time. This will involve looking at a range of information texts to learn new skills.

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 quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I am also happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to, 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.

Additional Information:

- Class photos – Wednesday 22nd May
- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for both Tuesday and Friday sessions – we now have P.E. with Gordon again on a Friday on the school hall.
- Remaining Forest School dates – (Thursday afternoons) June 6th, June 13th
- Please provide your child with a sunhat/suncream for outdoors.

Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great half term break!

Mrs Gilbey