



★ Newsletter ★

20th October 2023

I can't believe that it is nearly half term already! Your children have worked extremely hard and will definitely be ready for a well-deserved break. We enjoyed a wonderful session with Tom from the Partake Drama Company yesterday morning. The theme was Robin Hood who is a well known significant figure from the past. The children joined in all of the different activities with confidence and enjoyment whilst learning lots of new facts about Robin Hood and his Merry Men!

In History we have developed our knowledge of significant people by placing each of them on a timeline to gain a better understanding of the past. The children were also able to name and talk about some significant people who are still living.

In Science, as well as learning about camouflage, the children have looked at different habitats and we have been able to develop this at our forest school sessions as well as spotting signs of Autumn. The children collected leaves, sweet and horse chestnuts, acorns and pinecones to create Autumn collages. We are so lucky to be able to use the vast grounds owned by Mrs Pinnegar and she was delighted to witness all three classes of children enjoying the great outdoors.

We have been continuing to learn our Harvest songs in readiness for the service in St Peter's church (on Thursday 26th October) Hopefully you will be able to attend next week.

The children are continuing to enjoy their outdoor P.E. sessions with Josh on Friday mornings – he has been really impressed with their listening skills and how much they have grown up since occasionally working with them in Year 1. We have noticed that the weather is changing and there is a chill in the air. I would strongly recommend that you send long jogging bottoms and a warm top for these sessions if you have not already done so as we move into the cooler months. Also, children who are wearing tights as part of their uniform, need a spare pair of socks to change into for P.E. sessions – thank you!

Maths: We have now finished our unit of work on place value and both year groups recently completed an assessment to check their understanding of the work covered this half term. I was really pleased with the

outcome and all children have made a good level of progress over the last weeks. We are now about to move onto addition and subtraction.

Year one have been focusing using the correct vocabulary when comparing groups of objects (fewer, more and same) and comparing numbers (less than, greater than and equal to). We then began to look at number lines, thinking carefully about how we label them and how we can use them to find one more and one less.

Year two have also been learning about comparing numbers and using the language less than, greater than and equal to ($<$ $>$ $=$). We have then moved onto counting up in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. The children found counting up in steps particularly tricky so these are all bits you could practise at home.

English: We have now moved on to a non-fiction unit for writing. The focus is presenting information to persuade people to visit a place of interest. So far, we have looked at the key language used in a leaflet advertising a theme park. From this, the children created a theme park ride out of modelling clay to 'hook' them in. Every child was able to talk about and describe their design to others. We have looked more closely at the layout and key language used for persuasive writing. The children will then apply their new skills to create a leaflet next week.

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

Year 2 Spelling: The children are coping well with their weekly spelling tests. I have told the children that it does not matter if they make mistakes as long as they try their best. There is no pressure on the children to achieve full marks every week at this stage. The important thing to remember is that they can see why they may have made a mistake. I will send the new spelling lists for the second half of the Autumn term next week. This list will also be available on my class page of the school website. Thank you for continuing to support and encourage your child with their spellings.

Reading comprehensions also take place during spelling sessions and the children are given opportunities to develop their skills by reading aloud, focusing on fluency and expression as well as answering questions about the text using full sentences.

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Wednesday sessions and an outdoor kit for Friday mornings.
- Harvest Service in St. Peter's Church – Thursday 26th October.
- Forest School dates: 26th October and 9th, 16th November (see separate letter that was sent home with your child for full information).

Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher