



★ Newsletter ★

27th January 2023

We are now well into the swing of things once again and your children have been extremely busy, working hard and most certainly enjoying all our new topics for this term.

In science, we have discussed the four seasons in greater detail and all the children should be able to talk about the changes we might see as we move from winter to spring. They have also created a montage of the four seasons with related pictures to show the differences..

In R.E. the children enjoyed listening to a song 'You are a Star' (apologies if some children have been singing this at home – we couldn't get the tune out of our heads!!) The song highlights that we are all unique and should be accepted for who we are. From this, we wrote our own verses by changing some of the lyrics.

Our geography work over the last couple of weeks has been about human and physical features of the United Kingdom. We have also focused on the features and characteristics of a city.

We have listened to and appraised various styles of music and found different ways to move our bodies rhythmically to the beat of the music – the sessions have proved to be quite a workout!

So far in computing, the children have revised how to log in and out correctly on our school laptops and have created their personal profiles with their own avatar. They will be accessing Purple Mash regularly in these sessions. It would be helpful if all children could have their Purple Mash login details with them in school on Thursdays – this should be in their diary. We do have a master copy if they do not have it.

Your child may have mentioned that we are collecting small tissue or mini cereal boxes over the next weeks in readiness for our project in Design and Technology next half term. The plan is

for the children to work in pairs to create a London taxi with fully working axles and wheels. The boxes will make an excellent chassis! If you happen to have finished with any boxes described above, I would be very grateful if you could send them into school.

I have been so impressed with the homework that many children have completed from their optional topic grid! There have been some amazing paintings, pictures and pieces of writing! We enjoy looking at each other's work on a Friday morning and lots of teachers from Key stage 2 have popped in to have a look. They are equally impressed with the quality of the children's efforts!

Maths:

Year one have continued their unit on place value where the children have worked hard with their understanding of tens and ones. We have also looked at number lines and using our existing knowledge, the children have estimated where numbers should go on a blank number line. From this we have compared numbers using greater than, less than and equal to.

Within year two, we completed our unit of work on money last week and all the children completed a short assessment to check their understanding. Although working with money can prove to be quite tricky, I was really pleased with the outcome of the assessment. As with all units, we will revisit this again in the summer term. We have now started quite a lengthy unit of work on multiplication and division. This focuses mainly on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, introducing the formal symbols and lots of doubling and halving. It would be very useful if you could reinforce learning at home from time to time by asking your child to count backwards and forwards in jumps of 2, 5 and 10 from different starting points or asking them to double and halve a variety of even numbers.

English:

As well as spelling, handwriting and reading comprehensions, the children have been really enjoying our text 'Katie in London' which links perfectly to our current topic 'Bright Lights, Big City'. The story is about how two children experience all of the different landmarks of London whilst riding on the back of a lion. So far, we have internalised the story through drama, repetition and story maps. We have also looked at different ways to begin our sentences and wrote in the first person. I have been super impressed this week with our independent writing where we have all completed a 5 sentence recount story. The children worked hard to slow down and push past their first idea. This has created some fantastic sentences with imaginative vocabulary. All these skills will then be applied to our 'hot write' story when we write about our own adventure in London over the next week!

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. 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:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Monday and Friday sessions (we now have P.E. with Gordon on a Friday)
- Monday February 20th – Partake Theatre Workshop – Great Fire of London.
- Wednesday 29th March – Thursday 30th March – Year 2 Overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall
- Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher 😊