



# ★ Newsletter ★

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

I hope you all had a lovely half term break – as ever, your children returned to school full of news and enthusiasm! The first day back was very exciting as we had our drama session with Steve from Partake Theatre Company! The workshop was amazing, and the children learnt all about the Great Fire of London through drama, music. Steve was really impressed with the children's behaviour, knowledge and listening skills and he thoroughly enjoyed working with us!

We really enjoyed 'World Book Day' yesterday. I heard there were some amazing and creative outfits on show! The day was filled with book related activities, stories and songs.

In history, we have been looking at famous London landmarks in more detail, both old and more modern buildings such as The Shard and The Gherkin. The children have also been able to view these famous buildings from an aerial view to see how different they can look from above. In science, we are continuing to learn about the four seasons and how different animals behave through the yearly cycle. We focussed in detail on the grey squirrel and looked at how it behaves and lives in winter, spring, summer and autumn.

I continue to be utterly impressed by the super homework that many children have completed from their topic grid! We enjoy looking at each other's work on a Friday morning – thank you once again for your support and encouragement with this. As always, homework is optional – I completely understand that your children lead busy lives out of school. Therefore, there is no pressure on any child to complete tasks.

## Maths:

Year one have completed their unit on addition and subtraction. We have looked at doubles and near doubles and how to use this knowledge within calculations. We have also focussed on different methods of subtractions including crossing out, counting on/back and number lines. I have been so impressed with their understanding and this was clearly shown in their end of unit assessment.

For year two, we have now almost completed our unit of work on multiplication and division. The children are improving all the time with their speed of recall when using their 2, 5 and 10 times table and we are practising as much as possible when we have a few spare minutes each day. Over the last couple of weeks, we have looked at the relationship between doubling and halving as well as completing a variety of one and two step number problems that require multiplying and dividing. After a short assessment of this unit, we will move onto measuring length and height as well as a range of SATs revision questions.

### English:

In English, we have started a unit of work on poetry. So far, we have spent time looking at different poems about the weather which links to our science work. We then spent time performing a range of poems out loud to the rest of the class, thinking about how our performance could be improved with the addition of a loud, clear and expressive voice and even some hand actions to make sound effects like the weather! This week we have also spent some time looking at further examples of weather poems and have started to highlight their specific features – for example, does the poem rhyme? Is it written in verses? The children have also learnt about metaphors and how they can be used linking to the weather. Next week, we will be writing our very own weather poems.

### 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
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Parents evenings – letters have been sent out.
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall – EV4 medical forms will be sent out shortly.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher