



★ Newsletter ★

14th January 2022

Happy New Year to you all!

As mentioned in my email last week, it was so lovely to see the children back at school, looking happy, healthy and ready for the challenges that lie ahead this term. I really enjoyed listening to and reading about all the exciting things that the children got up to over the Christmas holidays! I would like to thank you once again for all the lovely gifts that I received for Christmas – I was thoroughly spoilt and speechless for once!

I am sure now that we are all grateful to be back into some kind of routine after so many late nights and indulgence!!

As always, we have been very busy! The children completed a science assessment at the end of last week which they really enjoyed! I was really pleased with the outcome of this assessment as many of the questions were on topics that were covered in Year 1 as well as more recently.

In R.E. this half term, our focus is to explore key beliefs and stories within Christianity and Judaism. So far, the children have spent time thinking about what they believe to be a fact or a belief and have reflected on their own important and special beliefs.

We began our topic 'Coastline' this week. As well as finding out about different types of boats and ships, the children will also develop their knowledge of the very important work carried out by the RNLI, locate coastlines and ports on a map and study a significant historical individual – Captain James Cook (whose statue can be found in Whitby!) This week, the children looked at a variety of different boats and vessels. From this, I challenged them to create one out of modelling clay! Their very creative results can be viewed in the photograph section of my class page on the school website.

We were delighted to welcome Gordon Fearn into school last week for our first indoor P.E. session with him. The children loved all of the activities and I was very proud of how well they listened and took all of his instructions on board. In fact, Gordon was also very impressed – so much so, that he gave his weekly 'secret agent' award to the whole class as he couldn't pick out an individual!

Moonbeam (the class bear) has been very spoilt over the last weeks – in fact, his social life is way more exciting than mine! Every Monday, we are treated to a detailed account of where he has been, what he has eaten and who he has visited. Recently, Moonbeam seems to be attending rather a lot of birthday parties – he is certainly a very lucky bear and I really appreciate the support given at home to make this run so smoothly. Every child will have a turn by the end of Year 2 and some will be lucky enough to take him home twice!

Maths

In maths over the last couple of weeks we have been focusing on money. So far, we have looked at the different values of both coins and notes, selected various possible combinations of coins to make the same total and applied $<$, $>$ and $=$ to a series of money values to compare each amount. We will continue our learning over the next week or so before moving on to multiplication and division later in this half term.

English:

We are basing a lot of our written work on the short film 'Something Fishy' It is about a young girl who is sitting in the launderette waiting for her washing to finish. Suddenly, she notices something unusual inside the washing machine. On further investigation, she climbs inside to swim alongside sock fish, hat turtles and a t-shirt octopus...! The children have really enjoyed the activities based on the clip this week. So far, they have sequenced the events as they unfold, created a story map to show their understanding of each event and have drafted a description of the setting using powerful adjectives and verbs.

Homework:

All children have been given a copy of the homework grid for our topic 'Coastline'. You should also have received this by email. As always, this homework is optional but I am always really pleased to look at completed activities on a Friday when the children bring their homework book into school. The children are very proud of the work they complete and enjoy sharing it with their peers. All children will now have weekly spellings to learn and test day is on Fridays of each week. Again, you have received the lists for all of this half term by email but children will be given weekly lists to stick in their diaries each Friday for the coming week. It is really important that children have their diaries in school on Fridays so that this process can run smoothly – thank you for your support with this.

Any words that have been highlighted in pink (after the spelling test) need to be written out 3 times each as corrections. The children should all know this!

New spelling rules, paired reading and reading comprehensions take place in school daily across the week. I have attached some maths homework this week to reinforce some of the learning related to money. The questions become more challenging so I would suggest that your child completes the tasks that they feel most comfortable with. Any completed sheets can be stuck into the homework book and returned to school next Friday or if you are unable to print the sheets, answers can be written directly into the book if that is easier. Please let me know if accessing/printing homework from the email is a problem and I will provide a paper copy in future for you.

Reading:

Once again, thank you for supporting your child with their home reading and for encouraging them to read at least three times a week. As always, all children with three or more pieces of reading evidence in their diary, will receive a sticker and a house point for their efforts.

Additional Information:

- P.E. days will continue to be Tuesdays and Fridays (both indoor)
- Rearranged Nativity – Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 2.15pm

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend,

Kind regards,

Mrs Gilbey ☺

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