

Chaffinches (Yr2)

We ended last half term enjoying our final stages of our Explorers theme. We wrote non-chronological reports about boats and ships and can't wait for the finished articles this week to go in our writing wallets. In science we learned about how food chains and life cycles work. Our football coaching sadly came to an end, but we felt that Chloe had helped us all develop lots of teamwork skills well. This term we are looking forward to a new topic called A Royal Celebration. We will look at various festivals that use light in symbolic ways. We will learn the history of our Queen and focus on celebrations of royal weddings. In art we will learn about the famous painter Monet and look at recreating some of his styles. We are looking forward to Christmas themed learning later in the term. We can't wait to get this term underway.

Sparrows (Y1).

Year 1 we have been learning about adding numbers together using different equipment in our classroom. We have also been learning about nouns and adjectives ready to describe in our writing. We loved using imperative verbs (those 'bossy ones'!) to write instructions. We have tried really hard to meet the targets we set ourselves at the beginning of the year. We are beginning to see a real improvement.

Owls (Reception)

We have started this half term with lots of magical fun! We have enjoyed reading and doing lots of activities linked to the book 'Room on a Broom' by Julia Donaldson. We have explored capacity by making and discussing enchanted potions. We are looking forward to the mystical adventures that lie ahead. Keep an eye on the class blog to follow our adventures.



Autumn Newsletter 2

Headteacher's Message

Hello

We enter one of our longest half terms with lots of exciting events on the horizon, not least our residential next week.

We have been working on developing an overview of our curriculum and what learning looks like in our school and the rationale behind this.

All the active engagement and events we plan are centred around our core aims to give children real or concrete imagined experiences that they can base their developing thinking around. This helps them start to form opinions about real issues. For example, if a child has to read or write about a working in a vets then we need to make sure they know what happens in a vets, not just assume they have been to the vets... they may not even own a pet so it is important we find different ways to enable them to consider what this is like.

Above all this is their ability to talk in clear sentences and explain their ideas clearly. This is a key focus in every class, so you will hear children saying we don't accept one word answers. We are really focusing on enabling them to rephrase and discuss their ideas and to expand their vocabulary - essential to this is the dialogues you have at home and reading a wide range of books that have a mix of different language styles... newspapers, descriptive language and different types of stories.

Have fun with words everyone and if you're not sure how to help, ask your teachers and use our online resources.

Some of you have asked about ways to help. Here are some more tips.

It is essential children get chance to practise spellings and phonics and times tables regularly. Phonics are tested in Year 1 and we've had some well attended events recently to show you how we teach phonics.

Tables need to be secure by year 4- repetition is key! There are reams of games available online to help with this.

Learning spellings and using them in sentences is great for a rainy day activity or for ten minutes regularly is fabulous support for children.

The main thing is make it fun, simple and short bursts regularly are better than a last minute stressful hour. Most children learn by revisiting and repeating and within their attention span. A clear love of reading and opportunities to write are essential for lifelong learning.

Have fun!

Robins (Yr3)

We have started this term with learning lots of interesting facts about people from the past particularly the Stone age. We have been exploring how they used to live and where, how they survived and how different life was all those years ago. This ties in with our class texts this term; Stig of the Dump and UG of the Stone Age. These texts will allow us to use our imagination and creativity to explore the emotions and hardships the characters may have faced.

We are looking at rocks and fossils in Science and how they are formed/changed over time. This

Swallows

This week year 4 have really enjoyed studying the topic of vikings. I was really pleased to see the level of skill and time taken to produce the amazing viking longboats that are going to be used in our hall display. The children have also produced brilliant Viking God Top Trump cards and have shown a fascination and passion for all things Viking. Keep it up Year 4.

Eagles

Year 5 have been working with their new teacher - Mr Bates. We have written letters to introduce ourselves, putting in details about who we are, our hobbies, our school life and our ambitions. We have also done a piece of art inspired by an artist called 'Monsieur LeBumble!' ask your children for more details! In Maths lessons we have mainly been concentrating on quick arithmetic methods including decimals, percentages and units of measure. Finally, we have done lots of descriptive writing based around the story 'Cosmic'

Year 6 (Kingfishers)

We are loving this year so far and really enjoying our learning. We have just finished reading our class book, 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom', and if you haven't seen our review of it on our class blog, you really must check it out! We thought it was incredible. Next up is 'Wonder' by R. J Palacio, which promises to be just as exciting and emotionally exhilarating. We've been fascinated by our Science topic this half term too: light. We've learnt about reflection in a lot more depth this year and have **EVEN** linked this to Maths, measuring angles of incidence and angles of reflection! We'll also be looking at how light behaves when it is refracted and investigate Shadows when we're back from our trip to Conover. We're really proud of how our spelling scores are improving each week too, using our knowledge of suffixes and the rules for adding these to root words. Spelling has become so much fun now!

Headteacher's messages

School Bank Dates

Wednesday 1st November

Wednesday 22nd November

Wednesday 6th December

Wednesday 20th December

Wednesday 17th January 2018

Drop in session for School Nurse

School Andrea Fiford, will be in School of the afternoon of 5th December from 2.30pm, Parents are welcome to drop by to talk about health issues regarding your child's well-being i.e. Sleep, behaviour etc.

Parents can also message by text to the School Nurse Service on 07520 615382