

5th April 2019

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy Spring term High Cliff has had! We have seen lots of incredible learning by all of our amazing children.

Year Three had 10 weeks of swimming lessons. They thoroughly enjoyed their lessons and made fantastic progress!

Reception and Year One have recently been on their school trips. All of the children were extremely polite and well behaved. A big thank you to the parent helpers who came along on the trips.

Year Three are looking forward to their upcoming trip to Brighton Museum when we return after Easter.

We had a great turnout for both the maths morning and the reading for pleasure evening. We really appreciate your dedication and time in learning how we are teaching maths at High Cliff and the importance of reading for pleasure.

We have also been lucky to have 'Open for Parents' host parent discussion groups which has proved to be a huge success and we are looking forward to the upcoming parent weekly course. Look out for details of how to sign up on ParentMail.

Thank you to all of the parents who came along to parents evening. It is great to be able to show you all of the amazing progress the children are making.

I hope you all have a relaxing Easter break.

Best wishes,

Miss Kilgarriff



Parking and road safety



We would like to kindly remind you that if you are driving to drop off or pick up a child from school we ask that you park in accordance with the Highway Code (no parking on double yellow lines and parking on pavements) and are considerate of other road users as well as ensuring the safety of pedestrians.

The school gates must be kept free from any obstruction at **all** times.

We appreciate your co-operation.

**Put children's
safety before
your
convenience!**

**Please think
before you park
and help keep
children safe!**

**Show you care
and park
elsewhere!**

5th April 2019



Tiny Turtle News



This term we have been learning about growing, we have looked at this through the books Jack and the Beanstalk by Nick Sharratt, Titch by Pat Hutchins and The Growing Story by Ruth Krauss.

We have been looking at growing and growth. We planted beans and watched them grow and hopefully they continue to grow at home. (Let us know how tall they grow!) We painted still life of daffodils, self-portraits and blossom paintings using different mediums.

In our maths sessions we have continued to look at NumberBlocks and how numbers 1-5 are made using the part-part-whole model.

In PE we have been learning to throw and catch with different sized objects.

In Phonics we have been learning to listen carefully to initial sounds and we will start linking some of these sounds to symbols next term.

We had great fun celebrating World Book day and Red Nose Day.

When we come back, our context will be "Transport", there will be lots of opportunities to explore transport including exciting stories to get the children engaged in the world of transport.

We hope that you have a wonderful and relaxing time off, and we look forward to seeing you all again. We will miss Mrs Packham and wish her all the best in her new adventures and we look forward to creating new memories with you.

Miss Hunter



5th April 2019



Penguin News



Receptions Context: Spring Chicken

We have had an exciting term exploring dragons, animals that hatch from eggs, life cycles and good friendship behaviours! This was finished off with our trip to the farm which all children enjoyed and made me proud with their behaviour, well done!

In this last week we have started to explore plants and how they grow and the children are enjoying planting and caring for their seeds. I wish you all a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing you when we come back.

Mathematics: We have been exploring and learning numbers 0-15 and also looking at grouping and sharing (early multiplication and division, though these terms will be introduced to the children later on).

To support our knowledge we have been learning to count in twos, fives and tens. The children have discovered what a pair is (a group of two). We are enjoying learning time in our mathematics meetings and continuing developing our vocabulary to describe shapes and their properties.

Literacy: "The Egg" this fairy tale adventure led us to explore the world of huge golden eggs and a dragon. The class worked together to make our own large castle and we had fun predicting what would hatch from the golden egg.

"In the nest" we used this non-fiction text to discover how to care for an egg and a baby chick. Alongside this we looked at life cycles. We wrote our own command sentences as a list of instructions.

"The Ugly Duckling" We explored how our actions affect others in this story where a little duckling was treated badly by his peers. Well done Penguins on your caring nature and understanding of what is right and wrong.

"The Little Red Hen" We are learning to retell the story using a story map and actions. The class can then use their knowledge of the text to rewrite and develop their narrative voices.

Phonics: th, sh, ch and ck.



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Dolphin News



The Year 1 context this half term has been 'Space'. The children have discovered what it is like to be an astronaut and go to the moon! They had a fantastic time at the Science Observatory Centre where they watched a space show and received a video message from Tim Peaks!

English

This half term we have been reading 'Beegu'. The children have focused on using different types of punctuation (full stops, exclamation marks and question marks). They wrote a letter to Beegu to find out more about her and tell her some information about themselves. They focussed on using a range of punctuation in their letters. The second book we read was 'Man on the Moon.' The children wrote about Bob's day on the moon ensuring that they used time connectives to sequence their writing (first, then, after that, finally).

Maths

In maths, we have been finding the difference between two numbers up to 20. As well as this, we have explored fractions. The focus has been to recognise, find and name a half and a quarter as one of two or four equal parts. Lastly, we have had great fun measuring different lengths and weighing items. We have used paper clips, multi-link and metre sticks when measuring and have weighed different items using balance scales.



Next term our context is 'Fantastic Flora'. We will be reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk' 'The Curious Garden' and 'It Starts with a Seed'. In Maths we will be exploring numbers 50 and beyond and looking at estimation and place value. We will then move on to recognising the value of different coins and notes, and solve one step addition and subtraction problems linked to money.

Thank you for all of your support this term – I hope you all have a lovely Easter!

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Jellyfish and Starfish News



Wow, Starfish and Jellyfish have had a packed term full of learning and fun!

Our context this term has been Roald Dahl, and it has provided us with lots of great lessons. We began with *The BFG* and we learnt about how Roald Dahl used figurative language to describe his characters. We practised using similes and choosing the right adjectives to describe our characters, as our final destination, we showed this off in a character description of the BFG. After this, we moved on to reading Dahl's *Revolting Rhymes*, where we learnt about rhythm and rhyme. First we found the rhythm and the rhyming words in simple poems and then we moved on to looking at nursery rhymes. Then it was our turn to manipulate a nursery rhyme by changing the words, which led to some brilliant new rhymes! We were very lucky having Dahl as our main author, as he has so many wonderful books. In our reading lessons we have read sections of his books as well as other poet's work.

In our maths lessons we began the term by revisiting addition and subtraction, but this time we looked at regrouping. We explored it through manipulatives, pictures and a formal method. After this we moved on to investigating money and learnt how to make different amounts and how to give change.

Our wider curriculum subjects have also been influenced by Dahl, in history we learnt about his life and how to order events in his life chronologically. We also compared his life with that of David Walliams, another writer, and found out what was similar and different about them. We took inspiration from *George's Marvellous Medicine* in our art lessons because we made a pot for his medicine using clay. We learnt how to manipulate the clay and how to add lines and detail to the surface. We also revisited colour theory by mixing primary colours to create secondary colours. We then moved on to adding white for tints and black and tones.



In science we have been learning all about materials. First, we learnt how to identify materials and then how to group them. We also learnt how to complete a fair test when we completed some experiments. Our favourite was finding out which material was best for children's trousers, which involved us sanding the materials with sandpaper to find out which one was the most hardwearing.

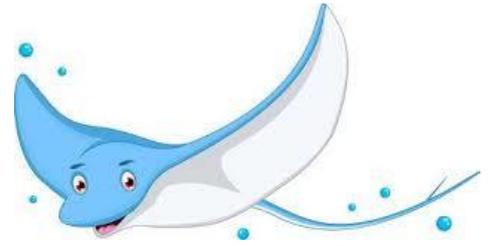
In our PSHE lessons, we have been learning how to keep safe. First we looked at keeping safe near water then from fire. We were very lucky to have a visit from a local fireman who helped us to learn more. We also learnt how to stay safe online and how to keep our private parts safe too.



5th April 2019



Stingray News



Wow! What a hard working bunch of Year 3's we have!

We started this half term with an incredible pyramid display created over the February half term – well done all! We kicked off our Ancient Egypt context by reading a text by Julia Jarman called 'The Time Travelling Cat and the Egyptian Goddess' – all about a boy named Topher who time travelled back to Ancient Egypt to rescue his cat. We then created some truly AMAZING time travelling stories of our own using the skills we had been learning – similes, expanded noun phrases and relative clauses to name a few!

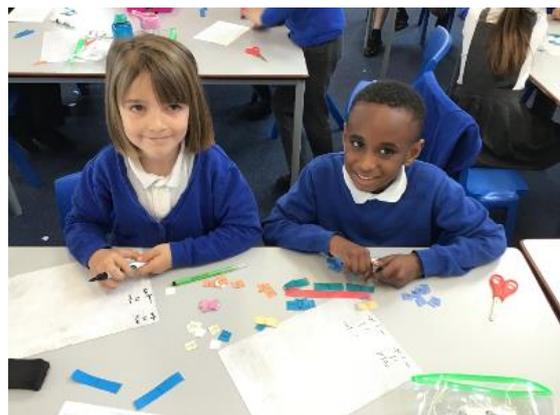
I was so proud of every single child for the writing they produced independently! Throughout this text we learnt about Ancient Egyptian Gods and Goddesses, the importance of the River Nile, where Egypt is located, about Tutankhamun and the Pyramids.

We then read The Egyptian Cinderella – a twist on the traditional Cinderella. The text is beautifully illustrated so the children became immersed in the text immediately. This tells the story of Rhodopis, who is seen as being different to her peers. It not only gave us a different perspective of Ancient Egypt but it also gave us the opportunity to look at the morals behind the story and why this was important.

We started the term learning how to tell the time, which the class picked up incredibly quickly using different strategies and known facts (the 5x table!) and then we moved on to our unit on fractions.

We began by using Cuisenaire rods to compare and then used fraction bars to find equivalent fractions.

I have been so impressed with how enthusiastic and dedicated the children have been to their learning in maths.



We also completed our 10-week swimming course this term! The progress the children made was incredible!

We can't wait for the final term of Year 3!