

14th February 2019

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a great start to 2019. Year Three have had swimming lessons this term and it turns out we have some water babies in our midst! We have also had a number of trips and visits. Without fail, our children are extremely well behaved and polite; something that is always noticed by the members of the public they encounter. They are a real credit to the school.

We really enjoyed our Mental Health and Wellbeing week last week. The yoga was a very big success and something that the children found both fun and useful. Thank you to Zara for giving us her time and expertise by leading these sessions.

We had a great turnout for the phonics workshops this half term and really appreciate your dedication and time in learning how we are teaching reading. Next half term we hope to recreate this for Mathematics Mastery.

Finally, I would like to highlight the fact that our attendance this year, as a school, has been 97%. This is fantastic! Thank you so much for supporting us in ensuring your children are in everyday, on time. This has such a positive impact on your child's education and is evident in their learning.

I hope you all have a lovely half term.

Best wishes,

Miss Kilgarriff

14th February 2019



Tiny Turtle News

This term we have been learning about the weather and the seasons, we have looked at this through the books A Year in Percy's Park, by Nick Butterworth, Dr Xargles book of weather by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross and Kippers Year by Mick Inkpen.

We have been looking at the different seasons, what they are called and how we can tell them apart. We looked at what different activities we can do in the different seasons, for example we can have a snowball fight in the snow, and play in the sea in the summer. This led us on to the different weather we have in the different seasons and the clothes that we would need when it is cold or windy.

In our maths sessions we have looking at numbers under five, how we can represent them, make them and what needs to be added or taken away to make a new number. The children are really engaging with the Numberblocks delivery of maths and enjoying the games we are playing from it.

In PE we have been learning about dance, we used the sounds of weather and seasons to move to. We have been learning how to move differently to different types of music and how that makes us feel.

Our phonics sessions, have been developing out awareness of the sounds we can hear in words, we have been breaking down words into the individual sounds or building them back up again. We have also been identifying how many syllables in words that we use, we do this by clapping each syllable we say and counting the claps.

We also had our mental health week activities which gave the children time to think about our feelings and express how they make us feel. We looked at naming the feelings and emotions we have and what we can do to make someone feel better.

When we come back, our context will be "Growing", we have some fun and exciting ideas planned. I'm sure the children will have fun learning about how things grow, including ourselves.

We hope you have a wonderful and relaxing time off, and we look forward to seeing you all again.

Mrs Packham Miss Vine and Terrence



14th February 2019



Penguin News



Receptions Context: We Can Build A Rainbow

Well done Penguins, we are now half way through your first school year! What amazing progress you have all made from that first day. I am sure all parents and carers are amazed at the emerging readers you have become. Please remember that reading at home has a massive benefit and will help your child develop, not only a love of literacy, but also fluency and confidence.

Mathematics: I am so impressed with how Penguin class have been using the correct mathematical vocabulary, both in number and equation, as well as 3D shape names and their properties.

We have started to focus on number bonds to ten and addition and subtraction within ten. The majority of the class are confident in recognising the equation symbols and are starting to use these independently. We have also started to explore numbers to fifteen and we will be continuing to practice these so they are easily recognisable for all.

Literacy:

“The Day the Crayons Quit” The class enjoyed this funny story where Duncan’s crayons quit! The crayons sent letters to Duncan explaining their feelings. We explored character development and imagined what we would write back to the letters. This also inspired our post office role play where the children have enjoyed sending and receiving letters.

“The Rainbow Fish” We used this children’s classic to explore feelings and behaviour in time to help us relate to Mental Health Week. We also got creative by learning the ingredients of a story: characters, setting, beginning and endings, before writing our own friendship stories.

The class have been learning about nouns: a person, place or thing and adjectives: a word to describe a noun. We have been aiming to use these in our writing.

We continued our creativity with a whole class afternoon art workshop; inspired by The Rainbow Fish. The children were very proud of their creations and Carol Havard was very impressed by both **Phonics:** We have been blending and segmenting CVCC, CCVC and CCVCC words.

Science: The class have enjoyed a range of experiments involving colour, water and materials.



Our Art workshop



Hands on exploration of 3D shapes.



Helping to create our new mud kitchen area.



Exploring money and role play in our post office role play.

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Dolphin News



The Year 1 context this half term has been 'Towers and Turrets'. The children have worked extremely hard and are making brilliant progress.... well done Dolphins!

English

This half term we have been reading 'The Paper Bag Princess' and 'How to catch a Dragon'. The children re wrote the story 'The Paper Bag Princess' and came up with their own ending. When reading 'How to Catch a Dragon', the children wrote instructions focussing on using time words and imperative verbs (bossy words).

Maths

In maths, we have been reading o'clock and half past times. We have also been learning calculation strategies such as deriving facts from known facts and the 'make ten' strategy. The children have learnt how to use doubles to help them when solving problems and have explored the idea of the = symbol as an indicator of equivalence.

Context Learning

The children have learnt all about castles and the different features. They have also found out about William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings. In art we have been making our own version of the Bayeux Tapestry all about our time in year 1.



We had a fantastic trip to Newhaven Library. The children all have taken a book out and have their own membership cards – don't forget to visit!

Next term our context is 'Space'. Our books will be 'Beegu' and 'Man on the Moon'. In Maths we will be exploring addition and subtraction with numbers to 20. We will also be learning how to recognise, find and name a half as one of two equal parts of an object, shape and quantity.

14th February 2019



Jellyfish and Starfish News



This half term our context has been Dear Diary which we have explored through reading 'The Diary of a Killer Cat'. We have enjoyed discovering Tuffy's mischievous antics!

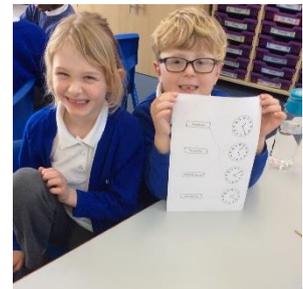


In writing we began with 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' by Anne Fine where we learnt about how to add interesting vocabulary to describe the characters. We also learnt how to use conjunctions such as 'so', 'and', 'but' and 'because' to extend our sentences. This led us to writing our own letter to the teachers persuading them that Tuffy was either an innocent cat or a horrible cat. We have also been reading 'Tuesday' where we followed clues around the school that described what had happened. The children used this story to help them write a diary entry from the point of view of one of the frogs from 'Tuesday'. In our reading lessons we have read about The Great Fire of



London as well as reading our key text 'The Diary of a Killer Cat'. We have enjoyed reading some more decodable texts to focus on using our phonics to help improve our fluency our comprehension skills.

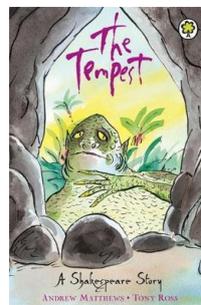
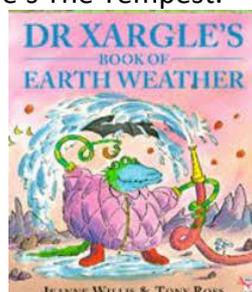
In maths this half term, we covered telling the time to quarter past and quarter to and challenged ourselves to tell the time to five minutes. We then learnt about fractions and how they may be represented as parts of shapes and numbers. We also learnt equivalent fractions and how to write fractions numerically. We have recently moved onto adding and subtracting numbers with re-grouping!



Our wider curriculum lessons have focused on our context of Dear Diary as we learnt about Samuel Pepys and The Great Fire of London in history. In science we have learnt about how dependent babies are on adults to survive and we have compared how we have changed from when we were babies to now. We had a lovely visit from Mrs Lacy and Pearl to help us in our learning. We have in

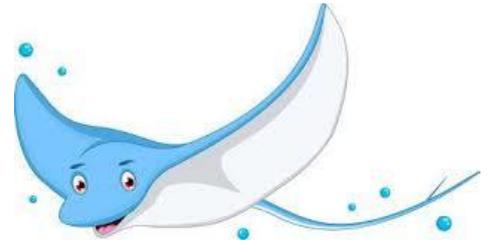


cooperated healthy eating into our DT lessons which centred around designing and making our own healthy pizzas. Finally, in RE we have looked at places of worship including the church which were able to visit, something that we all enjoyed! Next term, our context will be Weather and our key texts will be Dr Xargle's Book of Earth Weather and William Shakespeare's The Tempest.



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Stingray News



Stingrays have had a great start to the Spring Term!

Budding writers have emerged during this term! We have been practising ways to make our writing more interesting for the reader: extending our sentences using subordinate clauses and relative clauses; using powerful words and phrases and using commas in different ways. The children have created a beautifully descriptive piece of writing based on our text, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' and a narrative piece based on a character and their journey to the find out about the Northern Lights.

In maths our focus has been on multiplication and division. We revised our known facts and how we could find new facts based on those. We have also been using place value charts and learning that adjacent columns are ten times less or ten times greater than. We moved on to learning to partition numbers to start multiplying 2-digit numbers. The children have really utilised the talk tasks to explain their understanding.

In our wider curriculum subjects our context was Light. In Science they have explored the way light behaves, how light is reflected and how shadows are formed through lots of explorative investigations and where light is sourced from. There has been a very close link between Art and Science this half term. In Art they have explored the way light can sometimes be split into the colours of the visible light spectrum. They have looked at how artists, in particular William Morris, use light to communicate their mood and have created a light motif print based on his works.



We have been incredibly lucky to have had Bike-It Janie working with us over the past few weeks.

We have been taking part in fun, hands-on activities learning about the importance of air quality and how it can be improved. We have investigated the two main pollutants, mapping cleaner air walking and cycling routes, looking for signs of air pollution in our area and more recently we have held a competition to design a poster to promote clean air living in which Poppy won! Her winning design will be printed on postcards for the children to take home and discuss.



Swimming has started this term and Year 3 have had an amazing start to this. The children have been extremely mature in all aspects of this – from travelling down to the swimming pool to getting changed and showered and during their swimming lessons. I cannot praise them enough! Well done Stingrays!