

Weekly Updates 05.04.2019

Early Years

We have had a wonderful week, however, the children are really tired and definitely in need of a break!

This week we have told the children 'The Easter Story' explaining to them that this is the reason Christians celebrate Easter. We watched the 'Lets Celebrate' programme available on Cbeebies which tells the story in an age appropriate way; it shows how a child and his family celebrate Easter and shows an amazing artist retelling the story using sand art.

Please continue to add your own observations onto Tapestry as we love looking at the photos and so do the children when we show them to their friends in class. This is also a good way for you to see how well your child is doing at school by looking at the assessments and Characteristics of Learning that we put at the end of each observation.

If you have time over the holiday, we recommend you look at the games and activities on this website www.phonicsplay.co.uk, there are lots of activities that support the phonics we are doing at school. Nursery are working within phase 2 and for Reception it would be helpful to consolidate Phase 3; especially the digraphs and trigraphs, the children will tell you what they are!

Nursery

We have had a wonderful week doing Easter hunts, having egg and spoon races and lots of other craft activities which will either be going home with you or been eaten!

Reception

Mrs Gualda will be going on maternity leave soon and we anticipate that her last day will be 10 May. After the Easter break Mrs Maddock will be increasing the hours she does in Reception and will be covering Mrs Gualda in Sunshine Class alongside Mrs Dade, up to the end of the Summer term.

We will be doing PE outside on Wednesdays next term so the children will require their outdoor PE kit for this. Please ensure all kit and trainers are named.

We wish you all a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Wednesday 24th April.

From all the Early Years Team

Year 1

This week in Literacy we have read 'The Easter Story' explaining to the children that this is the reason Christians celebrate Easter. They have ordered and rewritten the story and we were very impressed with how well the children are using their phonics and punctuation in their writing. In Science we have thought about the signs of spring all around us and have enjoyed a variety of Easter activities too!

During the Summer term we will be focusing on a variety of topics such as dinosaurs and how houses have changed over time.

We will be doing PE outside next term so the children will require their outdoor PE kit for this. Please ensure all kit/trainers/plimsolls are named.

We are hoping for good weather after the holiday, so please ensure your child has a named sunhat with them and if they require sun tan cream - please apply this before they arrive at school. You can now buy varieties which will last the school day.

Please try to read with your child as much as possible over the holidays and visit the phonics website.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Thank you for your support. Have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Wednesday 24th April.

The Year 1 Team

Year 2

This week we rounded off our Zoo topic by learning about habitats, thinking about different landscapes like forests and deserts and which animals would be suited to living where. The children have really engaged with this topic – we've heard they have talked about it a lot at home too!

Next half-term our topic will be Living Things. We will be learning about minibeasts and their microhabitats, as well as how plants grow.

We are not setting any homework over the Easter holidays, so that the children can have a proper rest.

We hope you have a lovely break and will see you ready for the Summer term!

Thank you for your support

The Year 2 Team

Year 3

The last week of the term has flown by! The children have worked hard to complete work our Spring term topics before we start next term's new themes.

We have not set homework for the Easter holidays as we think that the children have earned a well deserved rest! However, we would ask that the children read regularly throughout the break and practise their times tables (visit Times Tables Rock Stars!)

The Summer term sees swimming for Y3 and an exciting trip to Banham Zoo to reinforce our learning about rainforest animals and their habitat. Please ensure that all permission slips are returned for both of these events, as we cannot take your child out of school without your signature.

Just a reminder that outdoor PE will be on Wednesday afternoons next term, so please ensure that full PE kit is at school on these days.

The topics we have to look forward to next term include Rocks and Fossils, Plants and Soil and Stone Age to Iron Age. We have lots of challenging, fun and exciting learning activities planned for the term.

The children will be provided with new Home Learning Menus for the term on their first day back on Wednesday 24th April.

Have a wonderful and restful Easter break,

Year 3 Team

Year 4

We started this week in egg-cellent fashion with the compulsory element of our homework this half-term. The children raced their egg carts and tested out their egg-parachutes in the school hall with many prizes being won. These included prizes for the best designed parachutes and most attractive carts (as well as the most entertaining!) Thank you for supporting your children in these fantastic designs, we had great fun and the range of creations was wonderful!

Easter has definitely been a good focus this week! The children have all made Easter cards and have studied the Easter story.

We couldn't resist marking April Fool's Day with the year group by informing the children that the lawnmower was broken and we needed the grass cutting. Armed with scissors and rulers the children happily cut the grass to 3.5cm in the lovely sunshine! We were impressed with their measuring! They all saw the funny side of it when we asked them what day it was!

To complete our topic on extreme weather the children took part in varied activities such as playing a game and drama to discover how the water cycle works. We are all very grateful that we have a water cycle – see if your child can remember how it works.

This week has also been assessment week so many of the English and Maths' lessons have involved the children working through assessed tasks. Miss Lee's maths group will be bringing home one of the papers to work through with an adult at home. The expected standard for this is 15 and above. Please return it after the holidays.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break (fingers crossed for sunshine!) and we'll see you when we get back on Wednesday 24th April!

Year 4 Team

Year 5

We have had a busy end to the term in Year 5. On Tuesday, pupils performed 'Mamma Mia' and an adaptation of 'Mambo. No.5' on their cornets and baritones to children in Years 3 and 4. The younger children were thoroughly impressed with Year 5's musical talents. We look forward to the Summer term performance at the Apex. Thank you to those who have already returned their permission slips for this trip.

On Wednesday, Year 5 pupils ran their cake stalls raising money for EACH. A huge thank you to everybody that contributed towards this great cause. We raised a whopping £197, which will make a difference to the lives of many.

Today, Upper Key Stage 2 took part in a Spelling Bee competition. It was brilliant to see so many pupils take part and congratulations to our five finalists from the year group who will compete in the grand final next term.

Next term, the pupils will continue our study of Chile before starting a unit on the Maya. In Science, we will continue the unit on changes in materials and then progress to plants and living things. Outside PE will continue to be on Mondays, and indoor PE on Thursdays.

Easter homework will be to complete home learning set on Mathematics and make use of Times Table Rockstars, and to read as much as possible.

We hope you have a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 24th April 2019. We welcome Mr Desira, who will be joining the school after Easter as Class 11 teacher. Many thanks to Mrs Watson for her hard work this term.

The Year 5 Teaching Team

Year 6

We have reached the end of a very busy term in Year 6. We are all very impressed with the mature attitudes the children have shown towards their learning and the effort they have been putting in to all their hard work. It has really shown in the results the children achieved in their mock SATs taken last week. This afternoon, the children enjoyed their well-earned treat: an afternoon of free choice, either in the classroom or outside on the field.

This week, the children put the finishing touches to their 'Fuzzy Mud' narratives, before working collaboratively to edit and improve their writing. Miss Woods and Mr Crew are looking forward to reading these. In Maths, we finished looking at fractions, decimals and percentages and also completed their data analysis work in Geography. The children have made a good start with producing their Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar games; please ask your child if they need any additional materials to complete this e.g. cardboard and assist them in collecting these over the holidays.

This morning saw the return of the Annual Year 5 and 6 Spelling Bee. It was great to see so many children taking part and lots of difficult words were spelt correctly. We now have our finalists from both Year 5 and 6 – the finals will take place after the Easter break.

Easter homework

We have set the following pages for the children to complete over the Easter holidays. It is up to the children whether they choose to complete it all in one session; however we have set this amount with the intention that the children complete little and often throughout the holidays.

Maths Reasoning: pg 22-31

Reading Poetry: In the Rush Hour Traffic Jam

Reading Non-Fiction: The Real Black Beard

We would expect this to be completed and brought in on the first day back (Wednesday 24th April).

We hope you all have a relaxed Easter holiday and enjoy a well-earned break and we'll see you back on Wednesday 24th April.

The Year 6 Team