

Every week is a busy one at Pirbright Village Primary School, so we thought we'd take the opportunity to share with you some of the exciting things which have been going on inside and outside of the classroom in each year group.

## Reception

We have continued our theme of 'bees' this week which we have really enjoyed! Especially all the exciting activities we have had out in provision. We have hunted for tiny tricky words and built tricky word towers with cups in the phonics area, made paper bees and toilet roll bees in the Creative Area and Workshop, threaded lolly pop nectar sticks into the beehive in our fine motor area, used sand filled gloves to show on a hand the different ways to make 5, used bee dominoes to explore the composition of 10 and TEN frames to complete number sentences in the maths area, threw bean bags into a 'beehive' and added up our score and then used part-part-whole models to show our answer in the outdoor maths area, made a rainbow stick with string in the Harwood Hideaway, used pipettes to transfer nectar and finally, we took turns with playing on our brand new bike outside! In Art this week, we used oil pastels to draw a bee! We thought carefully about the right colours we would need to use and tried hard in ensuring we drew the bee big enough to fill the whole page. We showed our Super 6 skill of Perseverance as it was quite tricky but we are so proud of how they turned out; they look fantastic! In maths this week, we have been recapping number bonds to 5 as well as learning about adding and taking away. We worked with a partner to find out answer to number sentences and learnt the keywords for add, plus, minus, subtract and take away! RJL also spent lots of time practising for their class assembly and we are so proud of all their hard work! They did such a great job! We hope you all have a lovely half term!



## Year 1

Year 1 have had a lot of fun with fruit this week! As part of the DT curriculum, we have been learning how to cut and slice. First of all, we practised these skills using a fork to hold the fruit still before we cut with our knives. We then went on to learn the bridge hold. Ask us how to cut fruit safely and we will show you! We also spent time tasting different fruits and thinking about how to describe their look, feel and taste. We designed our own healthy fruit salad, thinking about how we could make it look colourful and attractive to eat. Finally, we made our fruit salad. Our Maths learning has focussed on fractions. We investigated how to make halves and quarters of different shapes and quantities, remembering that when you work with fractions, each part needs to be equal. We were able to use our maths vocabulary when we cut up our fruits too! In English, we finished writing our non-chronological reports. We made sure we looked back over our work to check that we had used capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. We have also kept up with our Phonics, looking over lots of our Phase 5 sounds. This half of term has gone by in a flash! We are looking forward to a good rest but also can't wait for all the excitement of the next half of term!



## Year 2

As this half term comes to a close, Year 2 have had a fantastic final week packed with learning and fun! In maths, we've been continuing our work on fractions. The children have been recognising one-third of shapes and amounts by drawing arrays, as well as exploring non-unit fractions and equivalent fractions. We've enjoyed solving problems and proving that  $\frac{1}{2}$  is the same as  $\frac{2}{4}$ . In history, we've continued learning all about life for children in Victorian times, with a particular focus this week on schooling. The children explored the similarities and differences between school then and now and found out about the inspiring work of Dr Barnardo. They then created leaflets showcasing all he did to help children. The highlight of the week was definitely Victorian Day! The children loved dressing up and experiencing a day in the life of a Victorian schoolchild. From the moment the children walked through the door, they stepped back in time — with desks in rows and traditional sums and handwriting to begin the day. The boys took part in technical drawing and drill exercises, while the girls practised sewing. There were hand and nail inspections, poetry recitals, the three Rs, and a rousing rendition of the national anthem. The afternoon was full of fun with traditional Victorian games like hopscotch and skipping — and even a taste of Victoria sponge, fit for a queen!



## Year 3

We may be at the end of the half term but there was no letting up this week for our learning. The highlight of our week must have been our trip to Gilbert White's House where we learnt how to use compasses by orienteering around the grounds to find clues and completing beautiful nature art. We also learnt about plant and animal adaptations in the museum including touching penguin fluff and smelling penguin poo! Back at school, we continued our English work by learning some of the key skills we need for writing setting descriptions such as the use of prepositions and ways to describe the time of day and the weather. Our Maths time topic saw us heading outside with the stopwatches to time ourselves completing different activities in seconds and minutes. We also enjoyed playing some of the Year 6 maths games at the Money Circus on Thursday. Our topic work has continued with us zooming in on the United Kingdom, looking at the different countries that make this up and their relevant capital cities. We also explored how these places have changed over time and considered how they may change even more in the future.



## Year 4

It has been another fun week of learning here in Year 4! We started the week by taking a closer look at the Roman Army and what made them so successful. We looked at their armour and training and can't wait to explore this more at Ufton Court next month. We began designing our own Roman shields this week too, ready to finish after half term and share with you at our exhibition. Continuing all things Roman, we became gladiators in English this week and developed our diary writing skills with a focus on past tense vocabulary and time adverbials, ready to write diary entries once Emperor Caesar has decided our fate. Why don't you ask us what happened? This week saw us round up our learning of decimals, ready to start solving calculations with money after half term. We have partitioned decimals, compared, ordered and rounded them to the nearest integer. This week also saw us (somehow!) manage to squeeze in another tennis session (despite the pouring rain on Wednesday), attend the Year 6 Money Circus to get points for our house teams and also a Basketball workshop on Thursday! Phew... we are certainly half term ready!



## Year 5

Our current topic, 'Raiders and Invaders' is a mixture of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, and this week Year 5 have had a taste of both. We began the week by completing our non-chronological reports about the Anglo-Saxons; the children have worked very hard on these over a number of weeks: researching information, deciding which areas to focus on, learning about the key features of the genre and drafting (and re-drafting!) their reports. The final pieces are fantastic and a real credit to their dedication – have a look during the next 'Learning Look' on 6th June. Towards the end of the week, our focus shifted to the Vikings: finding out information about who they were, where they came from and why they came to Britain, writing a short paragraph to explain. We also had the opportunity to read one of our favourite heroic epics, 'Beowulf'. The children really enjoyed re-imagining the scene of Grendel's attack on Heorot, using some excellent descriptive language. In other curriculum news, both classes have been creating collaborative databases (populated with a motley set of characters!), and then used them to extract usable information. In Maths, we have completed our current maths topic of this half term—position and direction, showing excellent understanding of co-ordinates, translation and symmetry. Phew – I think we're ready for a week off!



## Year 6

We have started our new maths unit entitled 'Theme Park Maths' where the children design and manage their own imaginary theme park. This brings in plenty of maths skills as they work through their construction, loans, profits and losses. This will continue as our main maths topic over the next few weeks. In English, the children produced some creative writing about Bilbo's journey into the heart of Erebor and his first sight of the dragon, Smaug. In Music this week we made great strides in our songwriting unit of work. The children are loving the freedom to be expressive and independent. We have written our own lyrics, chosen our drum beats and started layering tracks. We are now focussing on how we will structure our songs and are looking forward to performing them after half term! The Year 6 did a great job with the Money Circus and thanks to the support of the rest of the school raised over £300! That completes our fund raising towards our residential trip in a couple of weeks.

