

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

What an exciting week we had in Reception. Our focus this week has all been on our school trip to Wellington Country Park and how our runner beans are growing. We are also closely watching our caterpillar to see how they're changing too! On Monday, we recapped addition to 10 and played some games to represent addition. We explained how we knew how many more had been added. Later in the week, we did the same with subtraction and played games to help our understanding. On Monday afternoon, we read a Wellington Country Park Social Story which made us feel more at ease with knowing what our exciting day would look like. We saw some pictures of Wellington and this made us feel even more excited! On Tuesday, we had a fantastic day pond dipping, visiting the farm and even got a ride on a train inside the park! There was some big play areas too which was loved climbing on. On Wednesday, we wrote some sentences about what we did on our school trip and drew a picture too. On Thursday, we continued with our runner bean writing and trip writing. Lots of our beans have started to grow and we discussed how and why this has happened and what the seed needs to grow. In our provision, we had a go at making a bug with coloured paper, rescued traps rubber bugs with tweezers as part of our fine motor, made toilet roll butterflies and practised addition using cubes. Have a great half term!



Year 1

In usual Pirbright style, we have managed to fit a lot into a four-day week in Year One! This week, we used Henri Rousseau's Tiger in a Tropical Storm painting as inspiration for our own art work. After learning all about birds and their key features, we chose a bird to create. The children were able to make their own choices about medium – some using paint or oil pastels, others choosing felt tips and pencils. We then explored ways of camouflaging our bird with leaves – again, the children used their independence to decide how best to make their leaves with some using coloured paper, others using tissue paper and some using pre-cut shapes. We then evaluated our creations with two stars and a wish. 1JR were lucky enough to enjoy a visit to the Nurture Farm on Monday. While they were there, they enjoyed seeing the animals, learning how they are looked after and some fun facts about them. We wrote a recount to recall what we learnt during our visit before choosing our favourite animal from the farm and created a poster as a group! In 1DG, we created our own animals and wrote a non-chronological report all about it. It was lovely to see the children's creativity. Ask us about the animals we have created! In Maths, we explored arrays practically and practised writing the repeated number sentences to match. We then moved onto division, sharing and grouping practically. It was our last session of Tennis this week – but unfortunately the rain meant it was a hall session. This didn't dampen our spirits though and we were able to practise our ball skills and have lots of fun playing different games. We wish you a fabulous half term!



Year 2

This week we have continued learning about the Victorian times, and we were very excited to learn about Victorian schools in preparation for our Victorian day next Tuesday! We also learnt about the Victorian artist William Morris and after going on a fact hunt to learn about his life and his work, we created an artist study page in our sketch books. Over the next few weeks we look forward to planning our own wallpaper design inspired by nature and bringing it to life using ink and printing rollers. In PE our focus is athletics and we impressed our teachers with the resilience we showed when running and taking part in different races. This week also saw us develop our coding skills, as we learnt how to create codes to make different objects follow our instructions to move around the screen. In English we watched a wordless video clip called 'Something Fishy' and have already summarised what happened and learnt some creative vocabulary, which we then used to write expanded noun phrases. In this week's maths sessions, we continued our unit of fractions. We began by learning about unit fractions and moved on to finding non-unit fractions of shapes and amounts. As we are coming to the end of the year, we are focussing on ensuring everyone can answer 2, 5 and 10 x table questions. Can you race your child on Times Table Rock Stars or on Hit the Button?



Year 3

Money, money, money... has been our focus of the week in year 3. We have learnt how to find change by subtracting pounds followed by pence. We looked at partitioning the coins into smaller amounts, for example swapping a 50p into five 10p coins. We drew number lines in our books making sure to use a ruler. On Monday afternoon, we put our magnets and forces learning from science together with our DT skills and built magnetic mazes. We shared these with year 4 whilst discussing our knowledge on attracting, repelling, friction and magnetic materials. Later in the week, we were back out on the field, practising our athletics skills. Following on from last week's jumping and throwing skills, we looked closely at sprinting. In partners, we came up with a checklist which included: arms bent and pumping, lifting knees horizontally, keeping our head still and up and staying light on our feet. We took it in turns to sprint whilst our partner ticked off our success criteria and gave feedback. It's been a wonderful half term filled with forest school adventures, starting our biodiversity topic, lots of descriptive writing and having the fabulous Miss Chadwick join us for her last teaching placement. We hope all the children enjoy their break and we will keep our fingers crossed for the sunshine!



Year 4

Although it has only been a short week, it has not been a quiet one! There has been a lot of excitement and plenty of amazing learning! Most excitingly, on Tuesday and Wednesday, we had a visit from Steph Glen, who taught the children how to make Roman peg dolls. It was great to see the children re-visiting and building upon their experience they had in Year 2. In the classroom, we have all become very invested in the story 'Krinklekrax'. After reading more and re-visiting extracts from the book so far, the children created a picture of how they imagine Lizard Street to look. They used these to write detailed setting descriptions, using their senses, powerful adjectives, expanded noun phrases, similes and metaphors. In Maths, the children have really enjoyed our new topic on money. Having spent the last few weeks learning about decimals, it has been great to see the children put this into action! We have been so impressed with the children's abilities to recognise different coins and notes, convert pence to pounds, compare different amounts, estimate costs and calculate with money. Make sure you ask your children to help you the next time you go to the shops! If all of this weren't enough, we also learnt how to say different French foods in French, what happened during the Roman invasion of Britain in history as well as the rules for playing rounders. Phew! What a week! We hope you all enjoy a fantastic half term and we look forward to seeing you all soon!



Year 5

What a whirlwind of activity it has been in Year 5 this week. We have written some beautiful setting descriptions of Kensuke's Kingdom, using all the writing skills that we have been learning this year. In Art, we learnt about a Japanese artist called Hokusai. We created an image in the style of some famous paintings of his which featured a wave. Using oil pastels, we blended and used hard edges to create the stylised image. Another image that Hokusai is famous for is the Japanese blossom paintings. We had great fun working out techniques to produce tree branches, and then used stippling to add different coloured petals to the tree, creating a textured blossom effect. In History and Computing, we researched where Kensuke came from, and found out why he did not want to return to Nagasaki or Japan after World War II. We then completed our reading of the book, which is always an emotional moment! Our final week of forest school came on Tuesday, and everyone enjoyed a fire and some toasted marshmallows. Our thanks to Miss Russell for taking us for this: we have really enjoyed our time outside using tools to make things from sticks and branches, building dens, and generally using the forest area for fun learning.



Year 6

With the SATS behind them now, Year 6 have turned their attention back to writing (where there are still a few short weeks before the end of key stage assessments need to be finalised!). This week, they have been writing detailed character descriptions of the mysterious title character from Katherine Rundell's, 'The Explorer'. They used clues from the text, and their growing inference skills, to describe his appearance, dress, personality, behaviour and background; there were certainly some imaginative similes in evidence! Providing a refreshing variation to their writing, the children have also had a go at composing a more whimsical piece about a magical book whose content comes to life! Outside the classroom, we have also been doing athletics and OAA in PE, discovering and analysing fossilised iguanodon footprints in Science and taking part in an invigorating, early morning skipping workshop on Wednesday. The children also enjoyed the opportunity to complete their enterprise activity by selling skipping ropes afterwards. On Tuesday afternoon, in another indicator that their time at Pirbright is coming to an end, most of Year 6 took part in some transition activities with Winston Churchill School, including the opportunity to interrogate some strangely familiar Year 7 students!

