



Pirbright's Learning Week

Friday 3rd May 2024

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

This week, our focus in Reception has been all about beanstalks and spiders! We started the week by reading a lovely story called Jasper's Beanstalks and then planted our own beanstalk seeds which we will observe over the new few weeks and see how they grow. We'll also discuss what plants need in order to grow successfully. Not to forget our caterpillars! We've also been watching to see how they're growing (and they're growing very quickly!). Our focus this week in maths has been length and height so we will also observe whose beanstalk grows the tallest and the shortest. On Tuesday, we started learning about spiders! We found out some exciting facts and using our hand writing and sentence skills to write about them. On Thursday, we learnt some more facts about spiders and during phonics, have been working hard on Phase 4 and compound words; our teachers are really impressed with our reading progress! In maths, we have also been learning about 'time' where we recapped and discussed our baby photos from the beginning of the year and as part of Busy Bee groups, timed ourselves to see how many star jumps, hops etc we could do in a set time. We also compared the height of different brick towers and the length of ribbons and compared our height with our classmates. Well done Reception for another superb week!



Year 1

Although it has been a shorter week, it has still been filled to the brim of learning! Year One have been immersed in their maths learning, focusing on mass and capacity and height and length. The children have practised their measuring skills practically, exploring the vocabulary 'shorter' 'taller' and 'longer' before measuring items in the classroom using non-standard and standard measurement. We listened carefully when learning how to use a ruler properly, remembering the important rules such as lining the item up at the 0cm mark. Another morning saw us using the balance scales to explore mass. The children learnt how to recognise if one object was heavier or lighter than another. Making use of our outdoor area and the added bonus of sunshine, we used the water tray to practically explore volume and capacity. We poured water between different sized containers to find out how much it could hold and which containers held the most. This came in useful working out which mug would be the best for the teacher's cup of tea! The tallest didn't always fit the most in it! In Science, we began to learn about the five different types of vertebrate with a focus on Mammals. We looked at many different mammals, sorting them using key characteristics. Ask us what things a mammal needs to do or have to make it a mammal. In Computing, we continued our Coding topic, creating algorithms to make different parts move and in RE, we reflected on the importance of Shabbat. During our Tennis sessions with our tennis coach, Michael, we focused on hitting the ball over the net gently to our partners. We were excited to end the week with an opportunity to share our amazing learning in our Learning Look —thanks to those that joined us—and watch 1JR's class assembly! Well done 1JR!



Year 2

What a lovely week we have had in the sun after a wet Bank Holiday Monday. Everyone cross their fingers for this to continue. This week in English, the children became Queen Victoria. They planned, wrote and performed a speech to their royal subjects explaining what a bathing machine is and why it has changed her life. In Maths, we continued to explore Fractions. The children have now learnt what a half, quarter and third are as well as being able to find a half, quarter and third of a number. I wonder if you can test them on their knowledge. We also read the second chapter of our Guided Reading book 'Hodgeheg' as well as discuss how we respect our own and others special people in our lives in RE. On Thursday, in the sun, Ms Jackson took them out onto the field to practise their batting and fielding skills in miniature games of Cricket. In History, the children learnt about the jobs Victorian children had. We had some great discussions and all wrote a diary entry in our History books. I hope you had a chance to read these during Learning Look. Finally, Friday afternoon, we learnt about who Dr Barnardo was and his impact on people during the Victorian times. The children created leaflets on him and his life.



Year 3

The children came back from their long bank holiday weekend full of beans. We hope everyone enjoyed the weather; I think I had my sun cream and heating on all in the same day on Sunday. We kicked off the week with our fractions topic, revisiting the idea that a unit fraction means you only get to eat one piece of the pizza, no matter how many slices you have got and a non-unit fractions mean that you get to eat more slices! With this in mind, the emphasis is to turn each question into a two-step problem, by sharing into equal groups according to the denominator. Then multiplying by the numerator for the non-unit fraction. The children were encouraged to show all their working out pictorially to enhance their understanding. In computing, both classes refreshed their knowledge of how Discovery Coding works on the laptops.

They used their retrieval skills to manipulate pictures by giving them a code to move in a certain way.

We then moved onto creating a simple code with more than one instruction and making our own space animations in pairs. On Wednesday, it was wonderful, for the second week, to spend the morning with Miss Durdle at our forest school. can really tell the difference in the children after a morning in the fresh air, completing hands on activities and enjoying the nature.



Year 4

Even though it has been a four day week, that hasn't stopped us from having another busy week here in Year 4! In Maths, we have developed our knowledge of decimals even further to look at making wholes from tenths and hundredths, partitioning decimals flexibly and even comparing them too. Excitingly, in English this week, we have started our new text 'Krindlekrax' by Philip Ridley. We used vocabulary from the text to draw images of the main character and have had a focus on our spelling, punctuation and grammar skills to write a character description. Thursday saw us launch into our new learning all about the Romans! (Our trip to Upton Court certainly set us up ready for this learning!). Ask us what we know so far. Friday afternoon, we were incredibly lucky to have Mrs Peers come and join us for our music lesson, as we start learning 'Black bird' by The Beatles. The classrooms have also been full of song as 4EC start preparing for their class assembly next week!



Year 5

It has been a short week this week, but still busy! With some lovely weather (finally), it has been nice to get outside for PE, and get some athletics training on the field—it's probably not long until Sports Day! On Tuesday morning, year 5 enjoyed their second forest school session—it still involved vast amounts of mud, but also woodcraft, den-building and even some lizard catching. As we become fully engrossed in our topic, we used our scientific enquiry skills to investigate some of the forces involved in travelling through water: upthrust, water resistance and gravity. We completed our dreamcatchers in DT, and evaluated our finished product against our original designs—they have really turned out well. In English, we looked at the character of Michael and began to write some character descriptions of him, using information we retrieved from the book. We are working really hard to incorporate the SPaG we have learnt into our writing, as we approach year 6, and start to take more responsibility for our learning, extending it beyond the minimum expectation. In Maths, we have begun a unit on Shape, and started looking at angles -classifying and estimating the degrees in different angles. We moved on in Music to our new topic: we formed little bands and used the keyboards, ukuleles, glocks and tambourines. We began to learn to play parts of the melody of 'Dancing in the Street' and are focusing on being accurate at keeping the pulse, learning the melodies and working together in a band.



Year 6

It has been a short week but, in true Pirbright style, we have crammed an awful lot in! Not surprisingly, most of the time have been taken up by some last-minute preparation for next week's SATS. In Maths, we have covered an eclectic range of topics, including line graphs, pie charts, calculation strategies and even some algebra! We have also been doing regular bursts of arithmetic to keep that mathematical fluency going. Our SPaG practice has been similarly wide-ranging: looking at tenses, word classes, advanced punctuation, sentence structure and tone amongst others. We also worked collaboratively on some reading comprehension questions, focusing in-depth on how to gain maximum points from the all-important 3-point questions that lurk at the back of every SATS paper. We have been so impressed by the children's work ethic, as well as their willingness to embrace feedback in terms of how they could answer the questions more accurately and comprehensively. Away from SATS preparation, the children have also been busy finalising the design for their rainforest-themed cushions, including creating templates and prototypes. It's been quite a four days!

