

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.

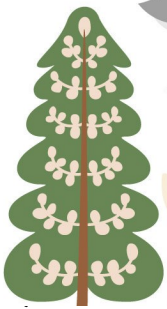
Reception

This week our focus has been Antarctica! We began by reading the story Poles Apart and discussed where in the world we live and where we might find the polar bears and penguins. We took time to explore the map of the world and identified the parts that were land and sea. We learnt how some places in the world are hot and others are cold and discussed how we know that Antarctica is a cold place. After listening to some information about penguins and Antarctica, we used our fantastic phonics skills to write our own sentences. There has been some lovely imaginative storytelling happening in our polar small world trays. Using our artistic skills, we have identified primary colours and explored colour mixing using finger painting. In maths this week, we have been learning how to identify zero, how to find numbers 0-5 and subitising numbers 0-5. In phonics, we have learnt the digraphs 'ai', 'ee', 'igh' and 'oa' and worked hard on reading some trickier sentences! In Drawing Club, we read Poles Apart and drew the penguin family at the start of the week followed by using our imagination to draw how Mr White the polar bear gets home! As part of our enhanced provision this week, we have explored Antarctica in the small world area, become teachers in our role play area and had lots of phonics and maths practise in the form of activities!



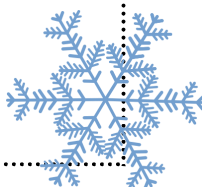
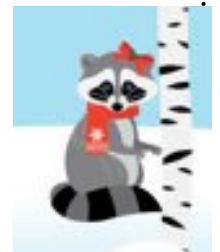
Year 1

Year One have made us very proud completing their first full week this term. It has been lovely to see them all getting stuck into their learning again. The week started with a new reading book—the children enjoyed spotting some of their new alternative graphemes in the text! In Geography, we learnt about the four countries that make up the United Kingdom and their capital cities, as we begin our new topic 'Far, Far Away!' We were able to remember the position of the different countries and practised this with a jigsaw. In Computing, we used laptops to research the names of the four flags for each country in the UK and practised our typing and keyboard skills to write them. In History, we started learning all about 'air explorers', focusing on the invention of the hot air balloon and the first planes. We have enjoyed designing our own flying machines for the future and making paper aeroplanes, experimenting with different sized paper and weight to see which flew the furthest. In English, we started a new text, 'Journey'. We looked closely at the pictures in the book, predicting what might happen next and where the little girl would end up. We ended the week putting our adjective knowledge to good use, describing the forest that the girl found through the magic door. In Maths, we have begun learning how to subtract effectively, using part-part whole models and First, Then and Now stories.



Year 2

What a brilliant first week back we have had! As soon as we returned to school, we became detectives due to suspicious dinosaur-looking footprints being found on the KS2 playground. We ran back to class, researched different dinosaurs and immediately wrote letters to Mr Dutton to let him know which type we thought it was and why we think they visited Pirbright. Our creativity and curiosity shone on Tuesday, when we learnt about the different dinosaur periods and plotted them onto a time line. After learning about Mary Anning and her incredible discoveries, we learnt about fossils and created skeleton artwork. In English we have begun reading 'The Secret Dinosaur' and have made interesting predictions, answered VIPERS questions and looked at features of instructions, ready to write a set next week. In Maths we have been enjoying our new shape unit. We began by naming, drawing and counting the properties of 2D shapes and then moved onto naming 3D shapes and counting their faces, edges and vertices.





Pirbright's Learning Week

Year 3

Welcome back Year 3! We hope you had a wonderful and fun-filled Christmas. The children have made a great start to the new year, throwing themselves into our new topic of Ancient Egypt. So far the children have explored the tunnels inside an ancient pyramid, identified and sketched some artefacts from an Egyptian tomb and learned about the important historical artefact the Rosetta Stone. Why not ask your child about the 3 different languages on the stone and how we are able to understand hieroglyphics? In Maths, the children have continued where we left off before the break, looking at multiplication and division. We have also been deepening our understanding and developing our fluency of our doubles facts as a daily activity. Why not ask your child to recall their doubles facts up to ten for you while they get their shoes on each morning? In Science, we have explored the roles of the skeleton, while also discovering the kinds of skeletons each creature has; endo-, exo- or hydrostatic, and whether they are vertebrates or invertebrates. We even looked at x-rays of the human body and brought out 'Bob' our science skeleton for the children to see.



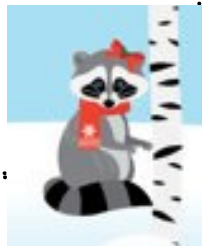
Year 4

Welcome to 2024! It has certainly been an action packed first full week back here in Year 4! We kicked off the week by returning to Guildford Spectrum to carry on our swimming sessions—it was great to see how much progress the children have already made. We completed our first unit on multiplication and division facts and have begun our second, focusing on factor pairs. Last week, we became time travellers and found different parts of history hidden around the school to complete our very own history timeline. We then used this to introduce us to Ancient Greece and we were able to understand where it came in the timeline of history. This week, we moved on to look at where Ancient Greece was on a map and how it has changed over time. Excitingly, in English, we introduced Myths and Legend and started the week by reading Pandora's Box. We looked at the features of myths, improved vocabulary and created a comic strip of the story. We then polished up our speech punctuation knowledge as well as our comprehension skills in guided reading. In PSHE, we introduced the concept of boundaries and personal space to keep us safe and continued to look at the covenants



Year 5

It has been a great first week back for Year 5 as we kick started our new topic 'The Diversity of Life'. It has been wonderful getting stuck into some really mature conversations around this theme and looking at ways we can celebrate our similarities and differences. As a visual stimulus, to get us thinking about diversity, we have watched the short clip 'For the Birds' and used it as inspiration for some comic strip, PSHE and dialogue construction. To develop our skills when working scientifically, we began a project thinking about ways in which we are all different in class and collected, grouped, classified and presented data. We continued to learn about Hinduism in RE, exploring some key beliefs and considering the impact that those beliefs have. In French, we began learning and using some new vocabulary around hobbies and used actions to help us retell a short extract. In Maths, we have been continuing with our fraction work, ensuring that we are super confident finding equivalent fractions and adding or subtracting.



Year 6

Welcome back to everybody, and a Happy New Year! We have been delighted to see that Year 6 have returned to school with renewed energy and have really hit the ground running for what will be a very busy term. Our main theme for this term will be '*Celebrating Me!*' and we have started by looking at biographies and autobiographies in English: identifying the characteristic features of the genre and also having a go at writing an autobiographical account of a memorable moment from our lives. We also used a fictional character, Ellie Fredricksen from the film *Up*, as the inspiration for writing third-person biographies. This idea has been carried into our Art lessons too, where the children have been learning how to draw portraits, including some slightly surreal blended portraits, mixing four quadrants, each of a different classmate! In Maths, we have been busy wrapping up the end of the fractions topic that we began before Christmas before moving onto decimals and percentages over the next few weeks. This week, the children have been tackling the tricky task of multiplying and dividing fractions as well as finding fractions of amounts.

