



Pirbright's Learning Week

Friday 17th November 2023

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 on Birthdays and the different ways we celebrate them. We read 'Kipper's Birthday' and had some lovely discussions about what a celebration is and the different things we have at birthday parties. During Choosing Time, we had a go at writing CVC words to write what our class animal/fairy would like for their birthday this year. In maths, we have learnt about the numbers 4 and 5 and how to subitise 4 and 5. In Art, we painted some lovely self-portraits and used mirrors to help us paint our facial features. In phonics, we have learnt the sound 'z', the digraphs 'qu' and 'ch' and the plural 's'. In Forest School we learnt about Fire Circle Rules, Fire Safety and even roasted some marshmallows for our final session of this term! We also did lots of Nativity rehearsals this week and are doing so well with learning the songs for the Christmas Show. Some of our Continuous Provision activities have included making birthday cakes with Play-Doh, making and writing in Birthday Cards, identifying circles and triangles and sorting pictures based on their initial sounds.



Year 1

Christmas has started to come to life in Year One this week as rehearsals began! We have been busy learning new songs with accompanying actions so be prepared to hear some of these at home too. This week, we started learning about 'The Great Fire of London' which has us all very intrigued indeed. In Geography, we began by exploring London now and comparing this to the village of Pirbright. We spotted that there are some similarities, such as parks and schools, but the children soon concluded the two places are very different with London having many tall buildings and lots of cars and buses. In History, we learnt all about what London would have looked like in 1666. We discussed key features of London that we know about, such as the London Eye and the Shard, and noticed that these were not there hundreds of years ago. This led us on nicely to looking at images of the Great Fire itself, with the children using the 5 W's (Who, What, When, Where, Why) to write questions, before finding out the answers! In English, we have been exploring 'bossy' verbs in preparation to write our own instructions next week. In Maths, we continued looking at the part-part whole model and write the accompanying number sentence, using the addition symbol. In Music, we learnt about our Musician of the Month, Dame Evelyn Glennie, and the way she feels the vibrations of music as she cannot hear.



Year 2

What a busy and exciting week Year 2 has had! With the shows only a few weeks away, Year 2 got together with Year 1 to plan seating arrangements and practise a few of the songs. In addition to this, in the classroom during activities, Year 2 got together in small groups to start practising their lines. We have been blown away by those children who have already learnt them all! During all this fun, in Geography, we travelled to Brazil. On Tuesday, the children used atlases to locate cities, famous landmarks and physical features. In English, we read Mr Elephant's Rio Tour, wrote some expanded noun phrases, learnt how to use alliteration and practised using conjunctions. Phew! In Maths (with no link to Brazil), we continued to practise column addition with exchange and moved onto using the column method for subtraction. A tricky concept which they have tackled incredibly well. Of course, the highlight of the week was Brazil day. The children looked fantastic in their bright clothes and brought the energy to the learning during the day. We learnt Portuguese, made some salsa dip and wrote a rainforest poem. Thanks for a great day Year 2. In a few weeks' time, we will be using shoe boxes for a very exciting design and technology project. If you have one, please bring it in.





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Year 3

What a fun week we have been having in Year 3! This week we have been embracing the role of geologists, exploring rocks scientifically, looking carefully at their properties and creating scientific sketches of them in preparation for our rock investigation next week. We have also been amazing writers, producing a recount of our trip to Butser Farm, ensuring we included adverbial phrases, key information and our opinion about different activities across the day. In PSHE we have been talking about using the internet safely and with kindness, considering the information we should keep to ourselves. In Maths we have been applying our addition and subtraction skills to a range of arithmetic and reasoning style challenges and in Music we have been practising our glockenspiel playing skills, looking at different accompaniment to 'Three Little Birds' by the legendary Bob Marley, while also beginning to learn some of our songs for the Christmas show 'The Grinch'. We have included a costume letter with this home learning today, and the children are very excited to be part of their first KS1 show!



Year 4 We have had another great week of learning again here in Year 4! Sadly, we had our last swimming session until after Christmas. It was so great to see the progress the children have made in just three short weeks and how engaged and excited they are to swim! We've moved on from looking at mountains and avalanches to start looking at volcanoes. We started the week by exploring the Earth's layers and tectonic plates and how they move and collide to form different geographic features. In Maths, we started and completed our unit on area! First of all, we learnt what the area of a shape is, were able to calculate the area of a shape using arrays and then used our knowledge to draw shapes with different areas and compare them. We read Chapter 8 of our Guided Reading text, The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe, and focused on our summarise VIPERS skills. We had the tricky task of creating an Instagram post to let our "followers" know what had happened in the chapter, using 30 words or less! The children had to really think about the key points of the story and their word choices. Christmas is also in full swing here in Year 4. On Wednesday, we listened and learnt our song for the Christmas performance (sorry grown ups for the constant Ghost Busters melody in your head for the next 3 weeks!) as well as created a Christmas Card Factory to make cards for members of the Pirbright Village community! Phew... what a week!



Year 5

This week in Year 5 we have finished our multiplication and division topic and started learning about fractions, with a focus on identifying unit, non-unit and equivalents. As our 'In Your Imagination' topic continues, we have enjoyed reading a couple more chapters of Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone. Our writing focus this week has been all around the chapter 'Halloween' where we have taken inspiration from the troll to begin to plan and create our own non-chronological reports about some of the weird and wonderful creatures developed by JK Rowling. In our topic lessons, we have learnt how to use 8 point compass directions around the grounds of Hogwarts and written scientific DEAL conclusions about some of the brilliant potions we created last week during our theme day. In our computing lesson, we have continued exploring how to use Pivot animator to create our own digital moving pictures—we love his SO much! Another busy week for us!



Year 6

With performance rehearsals after school in full flow, it's all getting quite exciting here in Year 6! In class, we are working through our fractions topic in maths. This is always a challenging yet very valuable aspect of maths and the children are developing their confidence in using the four operations with fractions, converting mixed numbers and improper fractions, and comparing fractions. In English, we have completed our unit on Letters from the Lighthouse with a book review and have started to focus on poetry. We have begun constructing our very own model lighthouses in DT, incorporating electrical circuits to operate the lights. In French we have continued 'getting ready for school' by considering the clothes we wear and their colours; and in RE we have focussed on the synagogue as a place of prayer and gathering. In science, the children have planned and carried out investigations on circuits, exploring how the length or thickness of wires affect the flow of the current and the brightness of the bulb. Our focus in history has been the events of D-Day and the implications this had on the outcome of WWII.

