

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 in Reception, our focus has been on Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita. We started with a Circle Time to discuss what 'celebration' means and the different celebrations that people have and wrote a list of things we would have at a celebration, thinking of initial sounds. In maths, we have learnt about circles and triangles. We learnt their names and how to identify them and sorted them into groups. We also went on a shape walk around the school to find different shapes and had a go at feeling a shape in a bag and describing it. In phonics, we have learnt the sounds 'v', 'w', 'x' and 'y' and are doing a super job at blending sounds to read a CVC word. On Wednesday, we wore Odd Socks to remember that everyone is unique and to celebrate our differences and ensure we use kind hands and words towards everyone. In Forest School on Thursday, our theme was Super Worm where we made spider webs, made leaf Superhero capes, went bug hunting for worms and a went on a senses hunt! In music, we have started practising the songs for our Christmas Play which is super exciting! Some of our Continuous Provision activities this week have included making fireworks with pipe cleaners, making Diwali cards, making Rangoli patterns and making leaf masks!



## Year 1

We have transformed into designers and builders this week in Year One. Using the boxes and junk modelling resources kindly donated by you all, we have been busy designing and making our own houses. We listened carefully to the design criteria and completed designs, drawing and labelling these. We made sure that it had a point of entry, shelter from the different weathers and a space in which people could move. Some children realised that windows were important to ensure light could come into their house. We then got busy learning how to turn the cardboard boxes inside out to create a blank canvas, how to join different materials effectively and how to cut the cardboard safely to create features, such as doors and windows. The children showed so many of our Super Six skills, by demonstrating creativity, collaboration and most importantly, perseverance. We were very proud of them all! In English, we continued or learning on adjectives to write super sentences about different settings. We worked together to collect some creative vocabulary before using this within our descriptions. In Maths, we began exploring the part-part whole model. We used coloured counters to explore the different parts, before putting them together to find the whole. Excitingly, we started learning a new song ready for our Christmas performance! We really enjoyed learning the words and actions to 'We Three Kings.'



## Year 2

This week we boarded our flight to Australia for the very last time and began by learning about Australian animals. We revisited the five main animal groups and sorted lots of animals in different ways. Some of us decided to sort them into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We also learnt about the history behind aboriginal dot art and created impressive paintings using cotton buds and bright colours. In English we have spent the week learning more about conjunctions and looking at the features of an advert. We then used this information to create our own persuasive adverts to sell Mothball the Wombat. We included expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and even rhetorical questions! Our addition and subtraction journey has continued this week in Maths, by learning to add using the column method. We have worked hard to write the numbers in the correct columns and worked carefully to 'exchange'. This week we have also had a lovely time celebrating Diwali! We spent time learning facts, creating Rangoli patterns, dancing and also making lanterns. This week also saw us squeeze in a visit to Brazil, where we had great fun learning a dance routine to perform at our carnival during next week's Brazil day! 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.





# Pirbright's Learning Week

## Year 3

This week, we had our first school trip of the year, which saw us visit Butser Ancient Farm, where we made iron age warrior faces from clay, weaved wattle fences, explored real life artefacts and twisted our own cordage. All staff onsite, all parents that joined the trip and all our teaching team agreed that the children's behaviour fully reflected our Pirbright Values. Great job! Back in school, the children have planned and written a recount of our trip for the Year 2 children as well as investigating rocks. We started by categorising rocks into their visual properties, then looked closer at categorising them into igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. Later in the week, we learnt our new song in music, Bob Marley's 3 Little Birds. We introduced playing our glockenspiels and keyboards as an accompaniment to our singing.



## Year 4

Our week began with another fabulous swimming lesson on Monday! Again, the children showed their Pirbright Values and a wonderful time was had by all. In Maths this week, the children have been extending their understanding of column subtraction, by solving calculations with multiple exchanges, as well as finding more efficient ways to find the answer. In English, inspired by 'Razvani the Fire-Fiend', the children wrote some brilliant setting descriptions of the grotto, using powerful vocabulary and varied sentence structures. Following on from last week, the children had their third attempt at creating a piece of artwork using one-point perspective. This time, they created a mountain scene; they have done a fabulous job! On Thursday, the children were very excited to watch 'The Grinch' and are buzzing with anticipation to find out what their role will be in the Christmas play. In Science, we wrapped up our learning on sound through a series of quizzes. We are blown away with how much knowledge the children have learnt about how the ear hears sound; they are true sound experts! As it is anti-bullying week this week, the children enjoyed showing off their odd socks and displayed their empathy and kindness in our PSHE lesson about the impacts of bullying. What a lovely bunch they are!



## Year 5

This week in year 5, we continued with our Harry Potter learning as part of our 'In Your Imagination' topic. We have enjoyed reading each chapter, and this week, our focus was Professor Snape's potions room. We began our English lessons by generating descriptive sentences about the setting, and then working on up-levering them using the many SPaG features we have been learning to use over the past couple of weeks. Having made such efforts to perfect their writing, the children were proud to write up the finished piece in their WOW writing books! In Maths, we looked at multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, making sure we could explain how the digits changed value and place holders are added. In computing, we began to look at computerised animation, using Pivot Animator, which required patient manipulation of a stick figure. Our main event this week has of course been in Science! Potions Day was a fantastic success—everybody dressed up to play the part of a scientist, witch, wizard, or other Harry Potter character. We learnt so much Science whilst creating magical potions: reversible changes and how to achieve them; irreversible changes; chemical reactions and much, much more. The children were really in their element during this exciting day! Of course, Christmas preparations have suddenly come around, and year 5 have enjoyed watching *The Grinch* in preparation. What a busy week...



## Year 6

With the rehearsals for *The Grinch* beginning this week, things are already starting to feel a little bit festive in Year 6. After watching the film together on Thursday afternoon, the children are certainly full of excitement about performing their own version - with a unique Pirbright twist of course! Back in the classroom, the children have been building on the introductory work that they did on fractions last week by converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions, placing fractions on a numbers line and also comparing the relative size of fractions with different denominators. In English, as we approach the concluding chapters of *Letters From The Lighthouse*, we have spent our lessons this week thinking about whether or not the villagers of Budmouth Point should help an injured Luftwaffe pilot. We began by holding a debate, weighing up the relative value of the opposing points of view before learning how to structure them in a written balanced argument, which is a new genre for Year 6 children. A particular treat this week was on Wednesday afternoon, when we welcomed two visitors who brought some genuine WWII artefacts into school, including an air-raid siren and a jeep! This hand-on learning certainly helped to make our current topic even more engaging and exciting for the children.

