

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 we have had a reflective week learning about Remembrance and why it is so important to wear our poppies to remember to say 'thank you' and think about all the soldiers who have been and still are working so hard to keep our country and us safe. We have painted poppies in art and showed our respect on Friday by being silent when we walked to the cemetery. In phonics this week, we have focused on the sounds 'ff', 'll', 'ss' and 'j' and recapped what a digraph means (2 letters that make 1 sound). In Drawing Club, we read 'Room on the Broom' and we had a go at drawing the dragon! We also used our imaginations to draw a special potion that would make the broomstick fly and labelled the weird and wonderful ingredients we would add to our potions! In maths, we have learnt about how to find 1 less than a number to 5 as well as the composition of 1, 2 and 3. We learnt some songs to help us remember and told a story to find one less. We had a fantastic time at Forest School this week with our focus being Room on the Broom, we loved exploring the different areas and getting messy! In our Practise Reading sessions this week, we have worked so hard and can really see that all our reading at home is making such a difference! Have a good weekend!



Year 1

This week, we have been busy using our learning from our village walk to create our own maps. The children spent a long time carefully considering the pictorial symbols they could use to represent key places in Pirbright. Within provision, children reflected on the fireworks they saw over the weekend and enjoyed activities related to this – creating firework repeating patterns, making artwork using paint and oil pastels and representing their movement in a fireworks dance. In English, we continued to master character descriptions, focussing on improving our adjective choices and remembering our full stops and capital letters. In Maths, we have come to the end of our Place value topic, exploring number lines and using these to recap our key vocabulary of 'greater than' and 'less than'. In Music, we learnt about our Musician of the Month, Dame Evelyn Glennie, a Scottish percussionist and listened to some of her music. We also explored pulse and practised clapping rhythms before learning the lyrics to a new song, 'Rhythm in the way we walk!'. With Remembrance day approaching, we discussed the importance of this special event and the meaning of the poppy. We ended the week by showing our respect at Brookwood Cemetery with the rest of the school and worked as part of a team to plant the donated bulbs at the front of the school. We look forward to seeing how beautiful they look in the spring!



Year 2

We've had another lovely week in Year 2 and have continued learning about Australia, making comparisons to the UK. We have studied the differences in weather and the different foods which Aboriginal people ate. We created a Michelin star 3 course menu for the Aborigines which included some very interesting food choices. In English we revisited our book 'Diary of a Wombat' and learnt about features of a comic strip so we were ready to create our own. We included caption boxes, speech bubbles and thought bubbles and great illustrations to retell Mothball the wombat's day. We also practised using conjunctions such as and, because, so and but and included these in sentences about Mothball's adventures. In Maths, we have been working on our fluency by continuing to learn different methods to add and subtract as well as learning ways to become efficient mathematicians including using number bonds and adding doubles to help us when adding three one digit numbers and adding by making 10 first. We also enjoyed a music lesson this week, where we learnt more about rhythm and played our recorders. We ended the week by making poppy art and having some great discussions about Remembrance Day. We were very impressed with the respect shown.





Pirbright's Learning Week

Year 3

This week Year 3 showed how respectful they can be when learning about our Remembrance time at the war memorial which the whole school participated in today. In learning about the reasons behind this commemoration, the children expressed their understanding through the form of poppy focused artwork. It was so lovely to see their creativity shine through and they have produced some beautiful pieces of work as a result. Well done Year 3! We have also had fun taking part in the 'Big Bulb Plant' at the front of the school. We are looking forward to seeing the results in Spring next year! In English, the children have been focusing on the different elements that are required for a set of instructions; Fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and conjunctions, applying them to our focus text 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' to improve it. We will soon be applying this to writing our own set of creative instructions. In Maths we are now creeping towards the end of our Unit on Addition and Subtraction, with a focus on column methods, exchanging, estimating and using the inverse to check our totals. What a week! Well done everyone!



Year 4 What a busy week we have had! The week began with much excitement, as we set off to the Guildford Spectrum for the children's first Year 4 swimming lesson! The children showed all their values and listened to the instructors; everyone had a lot of fun! In Maths this week, we have been learning how to use column subtraction. The children have been carefully laying out their calculations, exchanging and even been solving tricky word problems too. The Firework Maker's Daughter is starting to get very exciting! In English, the children have been learning how to extend their sentences, using fronted adverbials and subordinate clauses. As well as this, they have been using thesauruses to extend their vocabulary choices in descriptive writing. Utilizing the children's excellent understanding of how the ear hears sound, the children conducted their own Science experiment this week, where they looked at how sound travels through different materials: solids, liquids and gases. In art, the children have been developing their drawing skills to draw using one-point perspective. Although the children found this tricky on their first go, they showed great perseverance and we are so impressed with their second attempts! Phew! What a week. Remember it is swimming on Monday morning!



Year 5

Year 5 have been strolling down J.K Rowling's famous Diagon Alley this week as we have been using our imagination and senses to write setting descriptions of this magical place. We have been trying hard to use relative clauses, colons, semi-colons and subordinating conjunctions in our writing and edited and improved our 1st drafts before copying up in our amazing WOW books, which we loved. In Maths, we have been investigating prime, square and cube numbers and have enjoyed representing them in different ways. As we have continued our reading of Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone, we have been working on our comprehension skills and VIPERS understanding and have explored some of the animals from the book, thinking about how they reproduce. The week ended with planting beautiful bulbs ready for spring at the front of school and, of course, our walk to Brookwood cemetery for our remembrance service where some of us were lucky enough to become honorary Year 6s in order to help with our reception children.



Year 6

As the basis for our work in English this term, we have been reading 'Letters From The Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll and things are really building up to a climax now; the children have been on the edges of their seats, demanding more each time we reach a new cliff-hanger chapter ending! In fact, they were so impatient that we have spent much of this week planning, drafting and writing our own continuations instead of just reading what happens next! We have been learning about developing characterisation in stories and the children have used these skills and their existing knowledge of the characters (Cliff and Olive) to help emulate the writing style of the rest of the book. In Maths, we have moved on to a new topic: fractions. This week, the children have been refreshing their understanding of what fractions are, how to simplify fractions, recognising equivalence and also the difference between improper fractions and mixed numbers. The highlight of our week, of course, was our WW2 day. We spent the day codebreaking, cooking, dancing, singing and creating clay medals. The children had a fabulous time putting on a 1940s tea party for our visitors too!

