



Pirbright's Learning Week

Friday 29th September 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 Reception have enjoyed the wonderful story of Elmer by David Mckee. We have learnt the vocabulary 'unique' and discussed what makes us all unique. During our circle times we have explored the similarities and differences between our friends. In maths, we learnt how to sort objects to a type, create sorting rules and compare amounts. We sorted buttons and sorted items into groups to represent more and fewer. On Wednesday, we had our first music lesson with Mrs Peers where we did some singing which was lots of fun. In phonics, we learnt some new sounds and recapped the ones from last week. On Friday we used whiteboards and pens to practise our drawing skills! First, we learnt how to make different lines, such as straight and wavy and thought carefully about how to hold a pen. We also had a lovely visit to the school library where we looked through books with our friends and listened to stories told by our teachers. In our afternoons, we began using our Scrapbooks where we learnt to how to safely use scissors and had a go at cutting out pictures.



Year 1 Year 1 had a brilliant 'Theme Week' this week, where we focussed our attention on learning all about the Welsh village of Harlech. Our first topic lesson consisted of locating the different countries in the United Kingdom, before exploring Wales specifically. We used Google Earth and Street View to 'walk' through the streets of Harlech, spotting the physical and human features, including the famous castle! It was amazing to see the castle up close and initiated our investigation, "Where is the best place to build a castle?", where we considered the position in relation to hills, seas and woodland. We then used the information we had learnt from looking at maps to make our own in lots of different ways; some using playdough, some using wooden blocks and others using the traditional pen and paper. We used our creativity to design and draw our own map symbols for all the different places located in Harlech, including the train station, school, restaurants and most importantly, the ice-cream shop! In English, we used what we learnt about Harlech to write postcards, as if we had visited, remembering finger spaces and full stops. We followed our interest in Castles further, using junk modelling materials to design and make a 3D model and in Maths, using 2D shapes to make a castle picture. After a busy week, we ended our Friday with Potted Sports, where we thrived on the opportunity to win points for our house teams.



Year 2

This week each year group has been learning about a different place in the United Kingdom. In Year 2, we have been focusing on the Lake District! We began our week by piecing together jigsaws of the UK and working out where the Lake District is. After, we went on a fact hunt around the school to learn more information. We've used our Geography skills when looking at a variety of maps of the Lake District and learnt what different symbols mean. We also produced beautiful drawings of Lake Windermere and red squirrels. Using the facts we learnt earlier in the week, 2HJ wrote postcards home and 2BT wrote letters to ask questions to people that live there. We can't wait for the responses! Later in the week, we discussed how important it is to look after the National Park and created informative posters to help visitors. The Lake District was such a special place to Beatrix Potter and it inspired her to write her tales. We spent time thinking about our special places and explained why they were important through drawings and sentences. We ended the week taking part in the wonderful Potted Sports where we showed resilience and had great fun taking part in a variety of sports activities!



Pirbright's Learning Week

Year 3

Theme week this year has made Mrs Davies a little homesick, as Year 3 have been learning about the island of Guernsey, as part of a whole school focus on the United Kingdom. The children have had great fun 'zooming in' on the island to identify the planet, continent, country and specific location of the island, before then learning about its varying geographical features, including looking at coastline uses. We have then studied a variety of landmarks and visitor attractions on the island which your child can share facts about at home with you. The children completed a clue hunt around the school to gather facts and some children have even used these and their own research to create holiday brochures and pamphlets. Finally, we have then produced some lovely art pieces, focusing on the Guernsey coastlines, using paint to complete images of beaches and bays, or using card to create 3D dioramas of rockpools to showcase some of the wildlife found at low tide. We topped the week off with our annual Potted Sports, which was fantastic! What a week! Time for a lie down (or a holiday to Guernsey), we think!



Year 4

What a fantastic theme week we have had here in Year 4! The topic of geographical locations has fit in well with our adventure topic and our focus on Ben Nevis has allowed us to apply our learning from the past few weeks. We started the week by comparing the height of Ben Nevis to other well-known mountains in the UK and across the world, displaying our results in a bar graph. We looked at human and physical features of the surrounding area of Fort William and Lochaber using maps of the local area before writing persuasive travel leaflets to persuade visitors to come and explore! We moved on to look at the average temperature of Ben Nevis and plotted these results on a line graph before delving deeper into the myth of how Ben Nevis came to be and the Winter Goddess. Using story maps, we excitedly rewrote the story of Ben Nevis! Using our creative super 6 skills this week, we were able to use watercolours to create seasonal paintings of Ben Nevis before combining our new knowledge and computer skills to create informative posters. Phew—what a week! It was also great to see the children demonstrate all of their Pirbright values at our annual Potted Sports event!



Year 5

Theme week has been exciting in Year 5, as we explored Birmingham and The Black Country for our Geography based theme. Looking at a variety of different features, both human and physical, we used maps to locate the area within the UK. Then, using Digimap, the children located features around the city of Birmingham and labelled them using the drawing tools to annotate the digital Ordnance Survey map. As part of our regional study, we looked at the 'Brumhaus' Art of Alexander Edwards, using collage to produce our own artwork in his style. In English, we looked at the poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah, in particular 'The British', and considered what would go into a poem about our school. The theme enabled the children to consider broader subjects such as Diversity and British Values, which really came through in their poetry writing. We look forward to being able to show you the display of our Theme Week's learning.



Year 6

This week, we have stepped away from our regular curriculum to join the rest of the school in learning more about the place where we all live, as part of our *British Isles* Theme Week. Year 6 have been focusing Northern Ireland and, in particular, the coastline of County Antrim. We began the week by learning how the Giant's Causeway was formed (according to both the legend of Finn MacCool and also the actual geographical processes involved!). The children had great fun acting out a drama that involved Irish and Scottish giants hurling basalt columns into the sea between them before completing a variety of related writing activities. Later in the week, they worked together as a year group to produce a 'Big Art' version of the causeway (which will form the centrepiece of our new entrance hall display from next week). They also had a go at re-creating the Carrick-A-Rede rope bridge, completed an in-depth study of Rathlin Island, learnt how various coastal formations are created and researched a range of Antrim castles. The week concluded with that great Pirbright institution that is Potted Sports! As ever, it was amazing to see the Year 6s being such wonderful role models for the younger children.

