



# Pirbright's Learning Week

Thursday 22nd October

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 the Reception children joined in with whole school science week and learnt about Charles Darwin and in particular, his discoveries about earthworms. We spent several afternoons digging for and discovering worms in our woodlands and garden area. The children enjoyed observing the worms and looking closely at the segments of their bodies. We thought carefully about what we wanted to know about worms and asked some amazing questions. Our learning included finding out about how and what worms eat. We sorted foods that were suitable and discovered that worms have a gizzard that helps them to eat their food! During our carpet sessions, we listened to the story of Superworm and joined in with repeated refrains with actions. The children have also enjoyed exploring repeating patterns by making printed worm patterns, threading bead worms and using peg boards. We even made some amazing body percussion patterns! A fabulous week full of active learning in Reception!**



## Year 1

Year 1 have had a very exciting science week. We have been learning about Linda Buck and learned that she researched the sense of smell. We thought it would be fun to use our senses throughout the week. On Monday, we went on a listening walk around school and thought about all the different things we could hear. On Tuesday, we learned about the bones and constructed our own human skeleton! We created a class skeleton too using toilet rolls! On Wednesday, we looked at what foods are good and bad for our teeth and spoke about it during PSHE. We learned about different body parts and had a lot of fun drawing around one another and labelling our drawings. We did an experiment using our sense of smell and it was so much fun! We had to guess the smell and then see if we were right. The garlic and the vinegar made our faces scrunch up! On Thursday, we looked at how people change over time and compared ourselves from when we were a baby, to now, to what we might look like when we are old! We have had a fun packed week of science!



## Year 2

What a week of scientific discovery! Year 2 have spent the week getting stuck in and finding out all about Marie Curie and her amazing work. We broadened our scientific knowledge by looking at radiation and how it can be both helpful and dangerous. We even got to see heat radiation taking place in a toaster! We designed our own protective equipment to keep ourselves safe from the radium, something that Marie Curie would have needed herself! Being scientists, it wouldn't be Science Week without an experiment! Unfortunately, radioactive materials were too dangerous to have in school, so instead we experimented using heat to make water rise in a jar. The children used their prediction and describing skills and really impressed us with their scientific prowess this week! Well done Year 2, we hope you have a well-earned rest this half term!



## Year 3

What an exciting week Year 3 have had learning about Katherine Johnson!

We have been researching the main events of her life and ordering them chronologically on a timeline while also finding out why she was nicknamed the 'Human Computer'.

Year 3 have been calculating trajectories using geometry skills just like Johnson did to launch and land Apollo 11 successfully and rescue the crew of Apollo 13. We have also conducted experiments to identify the effects of altitude on the size and depth of impact craters to help understand how challenging landing a space capsule safely is and have created some wonderful space art using a range of different media. Finally, we created a whizz, pop and bang discovering the different methods of combustion and propulsion before designing, testing and launching our very own space rockets! Well done Pirbright Class of 2020 Space Cadets!



## Year 4

During Science Week, Year 4 have been focusing on the "Australian Leonardo" David Unaipon, a great Aboriginal inventor, writer, and political activist. He is most famous for inventing a machine that allowed a sheep's wool to be sheared by hand and also for featuring on the Australian \$50 note. The children researched his life and career, including the prejudice that he faced during his life and the way his legacy has been reassessed since his death. We also had great fun creating and testing some of his most significant inventions such as multi-radial wheels, ballistic propulsion devices and boomerangs (which Unaipon used as the inspiration to develop an early prototype for a helicopter!). We also used his Aboriginal heritage as the basis to learn about the 'Dreamtime' creation stories and to have a go at replicating Aboriginal art too; what a busy week!



## Year 5

Only 7 years ago, a 15 year old student, Ann Makosinski invented the hollow flashlight. It works by the temperature differential between a person's hand and the environment around them. The children found this fascinating! Based on this, we have had a week dedicated at looking at electricity and which materials create more luminous flux through a scientific investigation, which they insured was also a fair test. Circuits have been made, torches designed and created and alternative forms of energy investigated. Makosinski was inspired to create the torch as her mother (as a child) didn't have enough light to work at home, so wanted to help others. It was amazing to see how many renewable energies are available and how they work. On a side note, we also all visited the farm this week (maybe we could create biomass energy from The Nurture Farm?).



## Year 6

We've had a lot of fun in Science week! Our focus Scientist has been Alan Turing, and the work he and his team carried out at Bletchley Park. Year 6 have turned into a crack team of code-breakers, finding out about different codes: ciphers (wheel, book, numerical), pig-pen and scytale, to name but a few. We investigated the question "What is the best code for a spy to use?" We collected data, drew graphs and wrote conclusions based on our findings. In Art, we have produced some really effective collaborative portraits of Alan Turing, and some excellent sketches of Bletchley Park. Our final mission for the week was to design and make a model of a coding machine, based on the Enigma machine. Have a well-deserved rest next week Year 6!

