



Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 6th March 2017

Dear Parents

Reverend Patrick led assembly in Pre Prep this week and talked about Lent and the importance of determination and not giving up. Bird family meetings focused on making mistakes and how this is a natural part of the learning process and nothing to worry about. Larch Class led a very interesting assembly about their favourite school subjects and all that they have been learning about London.

Literacy Lessons

- We have been spotting 'bossy verbs' which appear at the beginning of a sentence when we give an instruction (for example 'Walk slowly down the stairs'). We practised using these verbs (and some corresponding adverbs) as we wrote lists of tips for 'How to have a safe and happy trip to Blickling Hall'.
- We have been learning the spelling rule 'take off the e when you add 'ing'.
- You might like to ask your child about the text which they have explored in more depth during 'group guided reading' sessions. The children all seem to enjoy these opportunities to explore different characters, settings, layout and genres of their guided reading texts. We have been focusing on showing an increasing awareness of different punctuation when reading aloud. We are also supporting the children to infer meaning which is not immediately obvious but which becomes apparent through the characters' actions.

Maths lessons

- Time has certainly been of the essence this week as all children have been learning to read, write and draw times which are 'quarter past, half past and quarter to' the hour. Realising that '6.45 = quarter to seven' can seem confusing at first. Plenty of practice telling the time at home (using analogue and digital clocks) would certainly help your child securely to grasp this challenging concept.
- We have also been learning 'units of time facts' such as how many hours are in a day; how many weeks in a month; how many months in a year and how many weeks in a year.

Other lessons and activities

This week began with great excitement as we marvelled at the 'Great Fire of Town Close'. We recreated the closely packed rows of houses on the playground (using reproductions of our own Tudor collages) and then observed (from a safe distance) how they became engulfed in flames.

The week culminated in our fascinating trip to Blickling Hall. We explored the beautiful house and grounds to learn more about life three hundred years ago.

We worked in pairs (using books and iPads) to research other significant people with links to Norfolk (past and present) including Admiral Horatio Nelson, James Dyson, Delia Smith and Anna Sewell. We developed our skills at researching online as well as locating relevant information in a range of non-fiction texts.

Spring has certainly arrived in our classrooms as we are surrounded by beautiful daffodils, hyacinths, primroses and tulips. The children have created some stunning observational drawings and are trying hard to develop their watercolour painting technique as they add colour to them.

Over the weekend:

- Keep reading and discussing your child's home reading book with them. Please keep taking turns to read with your child so that you can model appropriate intonation and show awareness of different punctuation. You might also ask them to point out some verbs as we have been working on this.
- Play 'marching madness' which has been added to your child's Active Learn account. This is a fun way to practise telling the time but keep on talking about real clocks and watches that you have at home.
- Ask your child to tell you all about our visit to Blickling Hall.

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries