



Year 2 Curriculum information

Week Beginning: 7th May 2018

Dear Parents

Year 2 classes were invited to watch 4W's assembly about Aboriginal Australian People on Wednesday this week. 4W acted out a variety of traditional Aboriginal tales and performed a spectacular Aboriginal dance to the sound of a didgeridoo! On Friday morning, we welcomed Open Morning visitors into our classrooms and school.

Literacy Lessons

In our literacy lessons this week we have been:

- Learning to spell words with double consonants such as 'letter, bottle, bubble, middle and written'. The children have enjoyed seeing how quickly they can recite the traditional tongue twister 'Betty Botter bought some butter.'
- Many highly imaginative excuses were given during an activity to complete sentences using the conjunctions 'because' and 'so' including: 'I was late for school this morning because when I woke up I discovered a kiwi in my bedroom, so I had to return it to New Zealand!'
- We have revisited Aesop's Fables, this time focusing on *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*. The children will be writing their own variations of this story in the coming fortnight.
- The children applied their grammar and punctuation skills knowledge when they undertook a SPAG quiz.

Maths lessons

This week the children have been learning about measurement. They have carried out a range of measuring investigations including:

- Creating canapés by weighing out a selection of ingredients, in order to ensure that they are all exactly the same weight (in grams).
- Creating a measuring bottle by emptying 250ml bottles into a 2 litre bottle and marking the calibrations each time (so 250ml = $\frac{1}{4}$ litre, 500ml = $\frac{1}{2}$ litre etc.)
- Sharing out pasta shapes onto pizzas that were cut up into thirds. This enabled them to calculate one third and two thirds of various amounts.
- Using balance scales to weigh various wild animal toys.

We are now moving onto calculating various fractions of numbers (for example, three quarters of 12 = 9).

In other lessons

- In science, (building on last week's barn owl investigations) we have been learning about food chains. The children worked in groups to sort and organise a selection of pictures into several food chains. They learnt terminology such as 'producer, consumer, predator and prey'.
- In topic, we continued to create African animal fact files by carrying out independent research using books and iPads.
- In RE, we continued to discuss the story of Noah's Ark and considered different ways in which we can protect the world's habitats.
- In art, we have continued to work on our Rousseau-inspired jungle paintings.
- We have now posted the children's letters to Crownhill School Zambia and are eagerly awaiting their response.

To support your child's learning, you might like to:

- Investigate and compare different measuring equipment that you have at home (for example; kitchen and bathroom scales, measuring jugs, tape measures, thermometers, rain gauges, speedometers/petrol gauges etc.).
- Talk about how many millilitres are in quarter, half and three quarters of a litre.
- Continue to practise doubling and halving numbers – perhaps extending to finding a quarter or three quarters of a given number. You could represent this using pieces of fruit or other countable objects around the house.
- When reading with your child, you could ask them to spot the various parts of speech in a sentence (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, conjunction) and discuss the punctuation which has been used. This will help considerably with the assessments after the half-term break.
- Look at the Pensthorpe website in preparation for next Thursday's visit.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 17th May – 9.30 am - 3.00pm: Year 2 trip to Pensthorpe Natural Park

Thursday 24th May: End of the first half of term

Friday 25th May: School closed – INSET staff training day

Monday 18th June – 2.15 pm: Year 2 Sports Day on the front lawn

Wednesday 27th June: School closed – Norfolk Show day

Tuesday 3rd July – 8.30am - 9.30am: Year 2 Concert in the Read Hall with coffee available in the Read Hall from 8.00am (***please note this has been moved from Thursday 28th June to avoid a clash with the Royal Norfolk Show***)

Wednesday 11th July – 9.30am - 2.00pm: Year 2 trip to Winterton Beach

With best wishes for a relaxing weekend with your children

Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry, Miss Shepherd and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries