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HECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence for Bears

13th November 2020 – Issue 240



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, and Fellow Bears,

Thank you for your generous donations to Children in Need this week. The children and staff enjoyed their dress-down day and raised a whopping £1,152 - 242% of our £475 target! Incredible!

It's been Reading Climate Week this week and our Eco Councillors met yesterday morning to carry out a Litter Pick on Westfield Park - look how much litter we collected!



Reception

We've continued to learn about Winter Festivals this week, including Diwali, the Festival of Light. We also discussed Remembrance Day and Mrs Loveday has been working with us on Climate Day activities linked to Nature, Oceans and Water in particular. We've also continued to learn Phase 2 Phonics.

Year 1

We've had great fun writing alternative endings to the story *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and making models of the characters using Plasticine. We loved starting to make our Tudor houses and learning how to saw wood safely to build the house bases. We've also enjoyed learning about Climate Change and what we can do to prevent it happening as well as learning about, and supporting Children in Need. We made some fabulous Pudsey Ears - did you see us wearing them at the end of the day yesterday?

Year 2

It's been such a busy week again and are so pleased to have fitted so much into it! Following our class story *The Paperbag Princess*, we've been rewriting the story ourselves and using our inference skills to investigate the characters of the dragon and Elizabeth even more deeply. We've loved learning about Motte and Bailey Castles as part of our topic work and it's been really special, researching and discussing who may have been involved in, or affected by War. We marked Armistice Day with one minute's silence yesterday.

Year 3

This week has been 'Pyramid' heaven! We've been learning about how the Ancient Egyptians built the Pyramids and we compared their building techniques with contemporary building techniques. We loved the Pyramid Quiz and our Big Write where we described a Pyramid setting using a video prompt. Have a look at our Poppy artwork!



Year 4

We completed a Digestive System investigation and have been learning about the role of the Glandular System and the organs in the Digestive System. It's been really interesting! We've been learning to write more persuasively in our English lessons and focussed on column subtraction in Maths. We're enjoying studying the Ancient Mayan Civilisation using primary and secondary sources to learn about their Gods, beliefs, systems and rituals.

Year 5

We've started to investigate the most effective ways to separate mixtures and solutions in Science and have begun a unit on Decimals in Maths. We've enjoyed investigating the archaeological findings at Stretton Ho, using the evidence to determine who the burial mound and its contents belonged to. In RE we've been retelling the story of Rama and Sita from the Hindu Festival Diwali which will be celebrated tomorrow. We would like to wish everyone who is celebrating this Festival of Light a Happy Diwali.

Year 6

This week we started to write flashback stories, mirroring the style used in our class text, *Private Peaceful*. It's been really powerful and moving, imagining ourselves in the shoes of a WWI Veteran. We also found it thought provoking when we walked to the Cenotaph for Armistice Day yesterday at Caversham Bridge, and paid our respects at 11am.

Eddy read an extract from his Great Great Grandfather's memoirs whilst Jenna played *Benedictus*

from 'The Armed Man' on her violin. We also learned about how women played a key role in the war effort including exploring the contrast between the lives and rights of women before and after the war.



Thank you to Year 6

Mrs Edwards received this email yesterday from a member of the public, following the Year 6 visit to the Cenotaph and wants to share it with you. Thank you Year 6 and the Year 6 team, WE ARE VERY PROUD of our pupils and whole school community.

"Whilst cycling through Caversham today I stopped at the cenotaph near Caversham Bridge for the 11am memorial. It was pleasant to see your staff and pupils in attendance to pay their respects. To your credit, the children were well behaved and acted in a responsible manner. The reading by one child accompanied by another playing the violin was amazing and moving. You have every right to feel proud of your school, well done."



Parent Consultations

Thank you to those parents who joined teaching staff this week for Parent Consultations over Zoom. The remaining appointments will take place next Wednesday and we hope you found the sessions informative and useful.

Travel Plan Working Party

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18th November at 9.15am. Zoom details to follow.

Parent Class Rep Meeting

The next meeting for Parent Class Reps will take place on Thursday 19th November at 1.45pm, I hope you can join Mrs Edwards.

Dates for the Diary

Travel Plan Working Party - Next Meeting	Wednesday 18 th November 9.15am
Parent Consultations - All Classes	Wednesday 18 th November 3.40pm - 6.00pm
Parent Class Rep Meeting	Thursday 19 th November - 1.45pm
Flu Immunisations	Thursday 3 rd December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Thursday 10 th December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Friday 11 th December
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th December

Lots of bearhugs,
Hector

