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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a beautiful week, both in terms of the lovely crisp, late autumnal weather and the different things we've been doing with the children in school. We were thrilled that the Upper Key Stage 2 Choir could join with other Reading school choirs to perform 'Changes are Coming' (about Climate Change) at the Hexagon on Wednesday evening. The children were such a credit to the school and we are really proud of them. It's not easy performing to no live audience. Huge thanks to Sarah Bentley for leading the choir up to and during the performance and to Candy Thomas and Hannah Smith for supporting throughout the event and evening.

Pantomime

Reception and Key Stage 1 watched M & M's production of Cinderella this afternoon. The children absolutely loved the music and the acting and enjoyed joining in - oh yes they did!

Reception

As well as learning our Phase 2 Phonics (with b, ff) we've been focusing on our tricky words 'the', 'go', 'no', 'I', as well as blending sounds together to make short CVC words. We've been practising the story of the Gingerbread Man with actions and by drawing story maps. In Maths, we've been exploring and sharing patterns and using Christmas stockings and sacks to help us. We've continued our carousel of activities with Music, Makaton, Spanish, Dance and Woodland Adventure as well as our Funky Feet Friday. What a week!

Year 1

This week, we've been looking at animal poetry and reading and rehearsing poems. We've also performed poems to each other in groups and created our own rhyming work banks which will help us when we write our own animal poems. In Maths, we've been looking at money. We understand that, as a result of Covid, many children may not have had many opportunities to use 'real money'. It would be tremendously beneficial therefore, if you could collect some lost change and have a play with this at home with your child - what are the coins worth? - how many ways can you make 10p? Thank you so much for the cardboard boxes you have kindly collected. We are using these to make Stuart/Tudor style houses using our DT and sewing skills.

Year 2

This week, as part of our Paper Bag Princess unit this week, we've been designing and building our own shields out of recycled materials. We investigated different materials, their uses and properties and used this to help us with our creations. It was really interesting to learn how to write up the instructions for how we made them. What do you think? With all the work we've been doing on our topic, we can't wait to celebrate it during our Knights and Castles Day on 8th December



Year 3

This week, we've continued to write our explanation text about mummification. We've worked hard to edit and improve our writing with subordinating and time conjunctions and look forward to sharing them with you. Our Fantastic Pharaohs topic this term has been really interesting and lots of fun and we're looking forward to our Ancient Egypt Day next Monday 29th November. In Maths, we've been adding fractions of the same denominator and learning to recognise tenths and count in tenths as decimals and in Science we've had fun learning the scientific names for different bones on a skeleton and then labelling a human skeleton.

Year 4

We have been really enjoying our Rainforest topic and looked at the effects of Palm Oil and how it plays a part in deforestation. We are really concerned to learn the threat Rainforests are under and as a result, we've decided to write persuasive letters to our local MP and councillors to do more to preserve them. We've started to look at the features of persuasive writing and been learning how to start rhetorical questions and the power of three to help persuade. We've been delving deeper into our study on measures in Maths, by looking at the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and have been coding in Computing using the online platform 'Scratch'.

Year 5

This week, we watched the animated version of the medieval tale, 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'. We then write the story in our own words, trying to use the vocabulary that was typical of myths set in this era. We used the Chromebooks to research an aspect of Viking life, choosing from areas such as houses, food and weapons. We've started a measurement unit in Maths, and began this by revising perimeter and have been learning about the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah in RE.

Year 6

In English, we've been writing and editing narrative stories, inspired by the short animation file 'The Piano' which incorporates subjects relating to World War 1 and elements of reminiscing and flashbacks. We've looked at the contributions of animals to the War effort, exploring the role played by pigeons, dogs, horses and even one baboon! In Art, we've been looking at War Artists, such as the Nash brothers, and have created paintings inspired by some photos from World War 1. We've been learning to convert between metric units in Maths and assessing the results of our mould experiments from last week in Science.

Christmas Fayre

I'm really looking forward to joining many of you at the Christmas Fayre tomorrow afternoon. Thank you SO much to everyone who has helped to make this happen, especially Kathy Brown, Karen Roach, Hilary Brailey, Nicola Jones, all the stall holders and of course Father Christmas who is giving up precious time at his busiest!

Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow [**@AtHeadteacher**](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Fayre	Saturday 27 th November 3:00-5:30pm
Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Day	Monday 29 th November
Year 5 Bayeux Tapestry Workshop with Reading Museum	Wednesday 8 th December
Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch	Friday 10 th December
Panto - Key Stage 2 to the Hexagon	Tuesday 14 th December

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards