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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed another really positive week at school, with the children enjoying their new termly topics, extra curricular clubs and Bikeability for our Year 5 pupils and the Choir performing at the O2 and Young Voices. We have SO many exciting experiences planned for this Summer term and know it's going to pass so quickly.

Reception

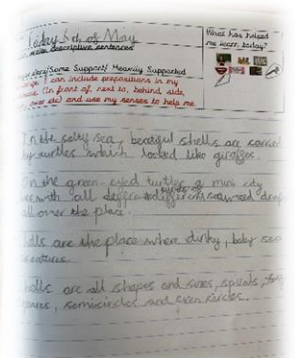
In Phonics this week, our teachers have been checking out understanding and knowledge of graphemes and vowel digraphs. We've continued to explore the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' by drawing story maps and planting beans. (Thank you so much for all the cut tin cans and yoghurt pots you brought in as they helped us with our planting). We also used beans to create patterns in Maths.

Year 1

This week, we've been creating our own narrative and trying out our acting skills for Aesop's Fable 'The Lion and The Mouse'. We worked collaboratively to create a story map and used this to help sequence the story and write captions. In Maths, we've been revisiting addition and subtraction, particularly adding and subtracting 10 from a given number. We then used our understanding of place value to position a 2-digit number and use this to solve addition problems. In Science, we've been delving into our new topic 'Animals Including Humans', looking at different habitats and talking about the types of animals you might find there. We're loving our Athletics sessions in PE and our Music lessons, based on the reggae song 'Zoo Time'.

Year 2

As part of our Oceans Explorers topic, we've been looking at the beautiful picture book 'Flotsam'. We explored and discussed the various settings in the book, generating adjectives and sharing ideas. We then selected our favourite setting to write a description of, thinking about what a successful setting description might look like. In Maths, we've been investigating how to use part whole models to help us solve open number sentences and 2-step work problems where more than one calculation is used. In Topic, we've been looking at our pirate plant designs from last week and have chosen one to complete a larger version of.

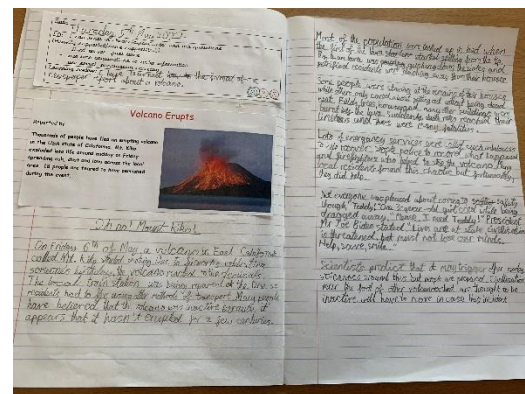


Year 3

Our topic this term is 'Superstructures' and in our English lessons, we've been working with the text 'Iggy Peck, Architect!'. We've also been reading different newspapers and identifying their features and learning about quotations and how to use punctuation appropriately for them. In Maths, we've learnt a new method to develop our division skills - the bus stop method and in Science, as part of our 'Rocks, Soil and Fossils' unit, we created a branching key to sort our rocks by their different properties.

Year 4

Our topic this term is 'Celebrating Caversham' and we have really enjoyed looking at and investigating different local newspaper reports and we wrote articles about an erupting volcano. We used this to plan our own newspaper article. In Maths, we've been exploring money, developing our understanding of how to subtract using money and moving on to estimating money. We've also been learning about the cities and counties of the UK using maps/atlasses and analysing the physical features of the landscape. We really enjoyed labelling cities and countries and creating fact sheets. In Art, we've been learning about great artists, architects and designers in history, like Michelangelo and used this to inspire our own designs and creations.



Year 5

We were inspired by the ancient Greek writer Aesop and have been writing our own fables as a result, this week. In Maths, we started our new unit on Decimals and Percentages and enjoyed identifying the component parts of a decimal number and making links to our prior learning on Fractions. In Science, we've been researching and using evidence to describe the gestation periods of various animals. It's been really interesting considering why there might be such a huge variation in the length of gestation periods and how some animals adapt the care given to their new born baby accordingly. In Music, we've been using glockenspiels to play sections of the song 'Look Into the Night' and have been composing some short sections of music to fit with the theme of the song.

Year 6

We've been working on our adverts this week, trying to create detailed, persuasive texts to sell the biscuits we designed last week. We used graphics to enhance the impact of our adverts whilst remembering the key technical aspects required. In our topic of 'The Digital Revolution', we've been learning about the key invention that started the rapid development in modern technology - the transistor. We've learned about how machines and technology were powered in the pre-digital age and how this compares to transistors in their infancy and in the modern day. In preparation for the Platinum Jubilee Year, we have been painting portraits of the Queen - here are some of our portraits!



Young Voices at The O2

Thank you so much to Mrs Bentley for organising and leading the exciting experience at The O2 and to Mrs Jones and Mrs Smith for supporting. Here's a photo of the children en-route to London!

Scarecrow Trail

Thank you SO much to all of you who have made Scarecrows for our Scarecrow Trail this year. I'm really looking forward to seeing them all this weekend!

Bikeability

Thanks again to Dawn Rosser and her colleagues for leading further Bikeability sessions for our Year 5 pupils this week. The children have gained so much from it and Year 4 are looking forward to their training next week.

I'm a Teacher, Get Me Out of Here!

We, as staff, are really (not) looking forward to the challenges we are going to face in 2 weeks time during 'I'm a Teacher, Get Me Out of Here!' It will be Mrs Fallon and I pitted against the rest of the staff - it's going to be very funny and VERY messy! I do hope you'll be able to come and watch - it's taking place on our MUGA from 2pm on Friday 20th May.

Gardening Tools

If you have any spare gardening tools, such as hand forks/forks, trowels, rakes or spades, we would be very grateful if these could be donated to school. Thank you!

Heights Appeal

Thank you once again for all your generous donations to-date for the Heights Appeal, which we launched recently- we've now raised 61% of our target and there is still time to donate if you can support us - the link is here: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/heights2022 Please feel free to share this link with family and friends.

Twitter

Please follow @AtHeadteacher for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Scarecrow Trail	Saturday 7 th - Sunday 15 th May
Bikeability - Year 4	Tuesday 10 th - Friday 13 th May
Bikeability Learn to Ride Sessions (KS2)	Tuesday 10 th - Friday 13 th May
Dental Examinations (Reception & Year 1)	Monday 16 th May
Lily Jo Project - Mental Health Assemblies	Tuesday 17 th May
I'm a Teacher Get Me Out of Here Fundraising Event	Friday 20 th May 2pm
Jubilee Celebration Day	Wednesday 25 th May (To be confirmed)
May Half Term	Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June
Additional INSET Day - School Closed (Queen's Platinum Jubilee)	Monday 6th June
Year 3 Superstructures Lego Workshop	Friday 10 th June (details to follow)
Bags2School	Wednesday 15 th June
Year 5 Enterprise Day	Thursday 16 th June
INSET Day	Friday 17 th June
Year 5 Greek Day	Thursday 23 rd June
Sports Day - KS2	Wednesday 29 th June (morning)
Summer Fayre	Saturday 2 nd July
Early Move Up Afternoon	Tuesday 5 th July (afternoon)
Year 2 to Lepe Country Park	Wednesday 6 th July (details to follow)
Early Move Up Afternoon	Thursday 7 th July
Bikeability Cycle Training (Year 6)	27 th June - 8 th July
Sports Day - Reception & KS1	Friday 8 th July (morning)
Year 6 Leavers Party	Friday 15 th July
Last Day of Term	Friday 22nd July (1.30pm finish)

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.



Mrs Edwards