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Achieving Success Promoting Individual Responsibility and Excellence 29th April 2022 – Issue 297



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. We hope you managed to enjoy some wonderful family time together. We were excited to welcome the children back to their first Summer term on our wonderful new site. We have so many exciting things planned over the coming weeks, many of which are linked to each Year Group's termly topics and we are looking forward to sharing many of these experiences and events with you!

New Staff Welcome

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Ms Bartley who is teaching Year 1 Beech on Mondays and Tuesdays, for this Summer term, and also to Mrs Dabbs, who is our new Finance Assistant.

Farewell

We would like to say a very fond farewell and 'Bon Voyage' to the Reiker family who are relocating to Taiwan tomorrow. We will miss you all very much so please stay in touch!

Reception

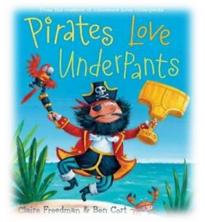
Our topics this term are 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'Healthy Me'. We've enjoyed learning the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' this week and comparing it with other traditional tales. We've been ordering magic beans to 20 in Maths and also making patterns with them. We really enjoyed painting some lovely green leaves. We had the most amazing time at Legoland on Monday and thank you so much to all our teachers, staff and parent volunteers who led it and made it so much fun!

Year 1

We are sooo excited about our topic this term, which is 'Amazing Animals'. This week, we started to think about which common animals we might already know and be able to identify and have started to understand how Scientists classify animals into different groups. In Maths, we've been exploring measurement in terms of length and height. We compared the lengths and heights of various objects in the classroom and used conventional tools to measure them. We also learnt how to record these measurements. In our English lessons, we've been focussing on sentence construction and have been trying to use exciting verbs, adverbs and adjectives to describe animals and the way they move.

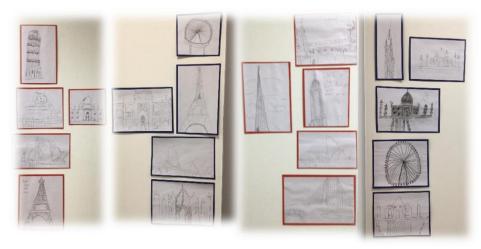
Year 2

Our Summer topic is 'Ocean Explorers'. We launched the topic by reading the book 'Pirates Love Underpants' and in our Art lesson, started to design our own pair of pirate underpants. We've also been developing our written comprehension skills through learning more about skimming and scanning to find answers in a text. In Maths, we've been revisiting addition of 2-digit numbers and revising different methods we could use for this. We've also looked at calculations that 'cross boundaries' (where the 1's go over 10) and moved onto doing the same for subtraction.



Year 3

Our theme this term is Superstructures and we are sooo excited about our planned Superstructure Lego Workshop! This week, we've started to read a new text 'Iggy Peck, Architect' and completed a 'tell me' grid to capture our thoughts about our likes, dislikes, puzzles and what the text reminds us of. In Maths, we've been exploring division following completion of our



multiplication unit at the end of last term. In Science, we've been investigating whether different types of rock are waterproof or not and developed our scientific vocabulary to understand what permeability is. In IT and Art, we've been researching and practising our sketching skills to draw different Superstructures. We used pencils to create shade, lines and patterns in our sketches.

Year 4

This term, our topic is 'Celebrating Caversham'. We enjoyed exploring various newspaper articles about Caversham this week and have started to develop our understanding about the different features of it. It's our local election next week and we have found it really interesting to learn about the demographic of our local area, Mapledurham, as well as access to services, economy, education, health, housing, community and safety. Thank you so much to Isobel Ballsdon, for coming in to speak to us about her role as a local councillor, it was really interesting! In Maths, we've been exploring money and developing our understanding of pounds and pence. We also learnt about converting and ordering money.

Year 5

Our new topic this term is 'Meet the Greeks' and this week, we've been learning about Aesop's fables. By the end of next week, we're hoping to have created and written our own fable. Our Art lesson also links to our topic as we have started to plan our design for Greek vases and have created Greek inspired sketches. In Maths, we continued our work on position and direction, translating and reflecting shapes and in Science, we've started a unit called 'Animals Including Humans'. We're going to be recording the mass and height of babies and creating line graphs from our data.

Year 6

Our final topic of Year 6 is 'Digital Revolution'. This week, we've started to explore how the vast technological advancements of the last 100 years, have shaped the modern world, as well as cutting edge innovations that have the potential to change our future. In IT, we're focusing on multimedia and will be developing our skills by using a range of different software to present information and data. In Science, we've started to plan our own burglar alarms, using our knowledge gained from our electricity topic to date, to solve the problem of keeping younger siblings out of our rooms. In English, we've had fun



beginning to explore the world of persuasive adverts, creating or own brand of biscuits. We're trying to create a product that we feel will sell. In Art, we have been exploring architectural structures and juxtaposing them with shapes using contour lines.

Bikeability

Year 5 have really enjoyed Bikeability sessions and training this week. Thank you SO much to Dawn Rosser, Sean Hayden and Michelle Ayres for leading them.

Easter Trail

Thank you again to Sian Dowd, Helen Ashmore, Carley Hutchins and their team for organising the Easter Trail in the playing fields at the end of last term. It was a really lovely way to finish the term and begin the Easter holidays.

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

May Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 2 nd May
Young Voices at the O2 (Choir)	Friday 6 th May
Scarecrow Trail	Saturday 7 th - Sunday 15 th May
Bikeability - Year 4	Tuesday 10 th – Friday 13 th May
Bikeability Learn to Ride Session	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
Jubilee Celebration Day	Wednesday 25 th May (To be confirmed)
May Half Term	Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June
Additional INSET Day - School Closed	Monday 6 th June
(Queen's Platinum Jubilee)	
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
Year 5 Greek Day	Thursday 23rd June
Sports Day - KS2	Wednesday 29 th June (morning)
Summer Fayre	Saturday 2 nd July
Year 2 to Lepe Country Park	Wednesday 6 th July (details to follow)
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 22 nd July (1.30pm finish)

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards