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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

7th October 2022 – Issue 313

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful, celebrating National Poetry Week this week. Mrs Rogers organised for a local professional poet, A F Harrold to come in and lead workshops for the children on Monday and he was inspirational. Throughout the rest of the week, the children wrote their own poems and also learnt some off by heart, before performing them in their Key Stage Assemblies this afternoon.

Reception

We've enjoyed another busy and fun packed week! We had our first assembly with KS1 on Monday and found the poet, Ashely Harrold really funny. We also joined another author, Lu Fraser, for a virtual session about her book, *The Witchling's Wish*, later in the week. We worked extra hard on our phonics, blending and segmenting with the phonemes we've learnt so far because we know it's going to help us be able to read and write fabulous stories and poems all by ourselves in the future. We loved our Autumn walk on Wednesday, around the playing fields and saw so many seasonal changes. We then started to learn the story of the Little Red Hen, using actions to help us remember the sequence of events as well as some Autumn songs.

Year 1

Following the workshop with Ashley, we tasted fruit, using our 5 senses, described the experience and then started to create sensory poems based on our descriptions. In Maths we've been challenging ourselves to count backwards and to be able to count 1 more and 1 less than any given number. In Science we've been identifying and learning the names of some common trees and learning the differences between evergreen and deciduous trees. We have also been able to notice the seasonal changes of deciduous trees. We spent time learning about the United Kingdom and thinking about a national initiative called 'Kids against plastic' which was started by sisters Amy and Ella Meek when they were only 10 and 12 years old!

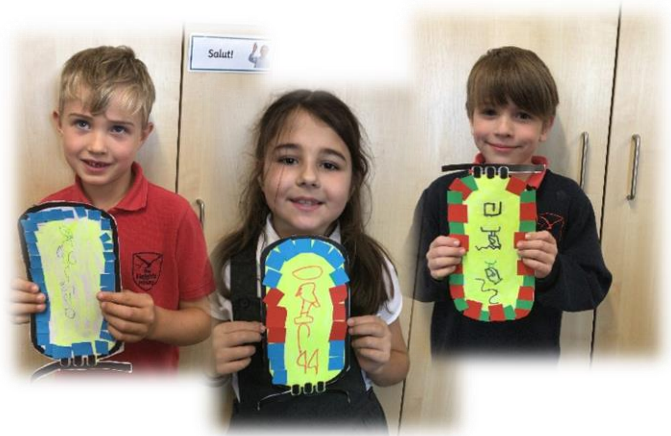
Year 2

We've really been enjoying our retelling of Zog's story and this week thought about what Sir Gaddabout might have learned at Knight School. We then used the same structure as Zog, to plan and write our own version in which we described what he learnt in each year of Knight School. Mrs E came to talk to us about her visit to Stonor Park last weekend, where she and her children saw some Knights and real jousting. We can't wait to see something like that when we go to Warwick Castle next Friday! In Maths we've been focusing on counting in 3s and 5s and exploring different ways of partitioning a 2-digit number into tens and ones and in Science, we've been researching different habitats and discussing how animals adapt to their environment. In Topic, we've been learning to identify and describe the four different countries of the UK, as well as trying to learn the names of their capital cities.



Year 3

Like everyone else, we loved Ashley Harrold's session on Monday and we also enjoyed the virtual session we had with Joshua Siegal about his poetry book titled 'Yapping away'. We all learnt 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright and thoroughly enjoyed performing it in our KS2 Assembly this afternoon. In our topic work, we've been learning about hieroglyphs and their importance in Ancient Egyptian times. We also learnt what the symbols mean used this to try to write our own hieroglyphs on our own Egyptian cartouche.



Year 4

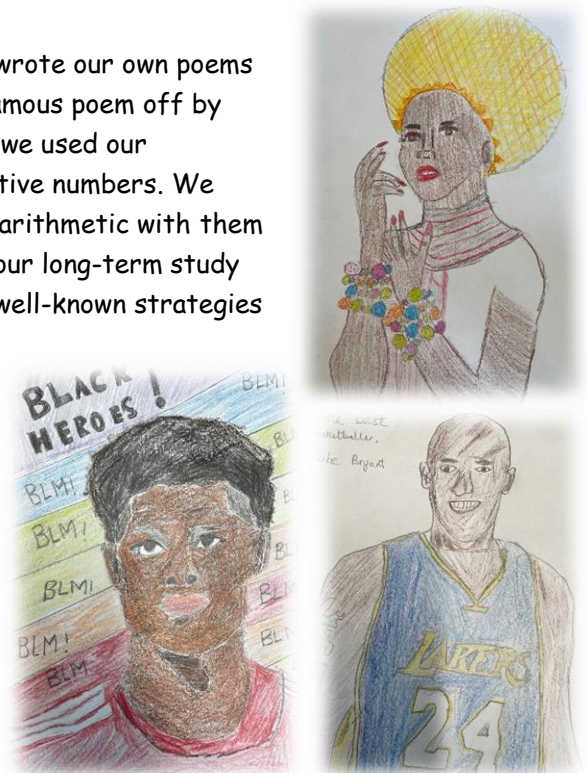
This week, we took a break from our Moral Stories Unit to explore some poetry. We explored and performed a range of poems, including 'Jabberwocky', by Lewis Carroll and then wrote and performed our own version of it to the rest of the class. In topic we learned about some of the people who live in the rainforest and about their lifestyles, as well as what their houses looked like and how they were built. In Science we've been recapping about the seven life processes that all living things follow and exploring the importance of detailed and labelled scientific diagrams and how they were used to support Darwin's theory of evolution.

Year 5

We really enjoyed the workshop with A F Harrold and learning about another poet, Benjamin Zephaniah. We learnt one of his poems, 'Library Ology', off by heart and enjoyed reciting it in the KS2 assembly this afternoon. In Maths, we continued our learning journey in addition and subtraction and by the end of this week, learnt more about solving multi-step addition and subtraction problems. In topic, we've used the chrome books to research Anglo Saxon pagan beliefs and develop an understanding of how, over time, people converted to Christianity.

Year 6

Following the fabulous workshop with A F Harrold on Monday, we wrote our own poems about things that inspired or interested us and we also learnt a famous poem off by heart which we then loved reciting in today's assembly. In Maths, we used our knowledge of place value and the basic operations to explore negative numbers. We learnt how to place them on a number line, how to perform simple arithmetic with them and their properties in relation to real life scenarios. As part of our long-term study on WW1, we've been looking at Trench Warfare, one of the most well-known strategies used in it. We've been learning about the structure of a WW1 Trench and the harsh conditions and ailments that men had to endure when stationed in one. To demonstrate our empathy skills, we were tasked with writing a diary from the perspective of a person experiencing life in the trenches. In Computing, we've been developing our knowledge of online safety and digital citizenship, focussing on social media and peer interaction online and in Science we've been exploring the concept of natural selection and looking into how various environmental factors impact on a species ability to survive within its habitat. We're off to Skern Lodge in Devon, for our week long Residential next Monday. We can't wait! Apparently, neither can our parents.



X-Country

Many thanks and congratulations to all the children who represented the school in the MECE X Country competition last Saturday. Philippa, Sailee & James (Yr 1), Ethan G, Percy & Charlie (Yr 3), Zara (Yr 4) and Margo, Cara, Charlotte & Reece (Yr 5), all ran incredibly well and we are very proud of them all.



The Heights Golf Day

Thank you so much to everyone who took part in The Heights Golf Day at Caversham Heath Golf Club yesterday. It was incredibly well supported and a phenomenal amount of money was raised for the school - nearly £8k! HUGE thanks to Chris Ellison, Matt Leach, Pete Rosser and Jon Carter for all their amazing efforts organising this great event!

Twitter

Please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge	Monday 10 th October to Friday 14 th October
Welcome to Reception - Meeting for Parents	Wednesday 12 th October 6.30pm
Year 2 Trip to Warwick Castle	Friday 14 th October
PTFA AGM	Monday 17 th October 7.45pm
Year 6 Heights & Weights	Tuesday 18 th October (pm)
Year 4 Tag Festival at MPF (details to be confirmed)	Tuesday 18 th October (am)
Year 5 Tag Festival at MPF (details to be confirmed)	Thursday 20 th October (am)
Flu Immunisations Catch Up Clinic	Friday 21 st October (am)
Year 6 Trip to London - Imperial War Museum	Friday 4 th November
Cross Country at Chiltern Edge	Saturday 5 th November
School Photos (Individual/Siblings)	Monday 7 th November Tuesday 8 th November
Junior Music Festival - Choir Performance at the Hexagon	Thursday 10 th November
Children in Need / Mindfulness Day (details to be confirmed)	Thursday 17 th November
INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	Friday 18th November
Cross Country at Chiltern Edge	Saturday 3 rd December

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Edwards'.

Mrs Edwards