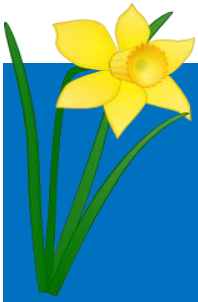




Learning News



**February
2023**

HEAD TEACHERS SPRING MESSAGE

We are really proud of our school, our curriculum and our pupils. Every day they bring curiosity, enthusiasm and energy to their learning. I am equally proud of my staff for their commitment to enabling all of our children to shine.

Have a super half term - I am hoping the weather is kind to us all.

Mrs Ward

Class 4 have been working on being active readers: visualizing what they see in their heads as they read. This way we become better readers with a stronger understanding of the text.

We have read a book called 'Everest with AJ': an adventure story set at Everest Base Camp. We have used this as inspiration for our own adventure stories with a mountainous setting.

Our unit of work on fractions has come to an end and we are now focusing on area, perimeter and volume in Maths lessons.

Our big question in RE has been, 'Why do some people believe in God and some not?' We rounded off this challenging unit of work by interviewing Simon Chandler from Barton Chapel.

Geography lessons have focused on mountains: where they are, how they were formed and what they are like. We used lots of the skills we developed in our topic on maps to help us with this.

In art, we are looking at food packaging and the work of the artist and designer Claire Harrup. This will continue after half term when we will investigate nets and create our own, original food packages. Look out for photos of these in the next newsletter!

Light has been the focus of our Science lessons and we have enjoyed making periscopes and investigating refraction.

PSHCE lessons have been all about our planet and how we can better look after it. We have learnt all about Global Warming and what we can do – even as children – to stop this getting worse.

What a fantastic start to 2023 we have had in **Class 3**! From becoming rock detectives to times-table rockstars, we have been very busy this term.

In English, we became reporters, looking into earthquakes and the mass destruction they cause so that we could write a Non-Chronological report. Class 3 loved learning all about the Earth's structure and how tectonic plates and their movements cause earthquakes to occur.

In Maths, we have been acing our times-tables! Our unit this term has focused on multiplication and division. We have learned new strategies when multiplying numbers together and got to grips with division. This was a great opportunity for us all to really get to know our times-tables especially the year 4s with their times-table check just around the corner.

We were very lucky to have a visit from Leicestershire museum services, where we became 'Rock Detectives' as our topic in Science is rocks! We investigated the different types of rocks, mainly ones local to the area and used clues to help us identify which rock it was.

In Science, we have been learning all about the 3 different types of rocks; igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic and recently carried out an investigation testing the properties of rocks, looking for whether they are durable, impermeable, hard or soft as well as their density.

Finally, in History, we have been recalling our knowledge on the Romans and using that to understand why the Romans had such a vast empire. What an amazing term we have had and luckily for us, we have so much more amazing things to look forward too!

Back to School: Monday 27th February 2023

Easter Break: Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April





Well done to all who took part in the Key Steps 1 Gymnastics competition!

Safeguarding
Please see the information on the website about how we work together to keep our children safe.

SEND

If you are worried about your child please speak to me or your child's teacher so we can put in any support that is needed.

Thank you to:

Jane Tolton,
Wendy Penlington and
Mitzi Moran for helping in school.

Evelyn Storer,
for her help with swimming.

Tanya Thompson and
Cathy Oakley for helping with young voices.

Tracey Spencer for helping with transport for our School Council.



Over the past half term **Class 2** have been very busy doing all sorts of learning. We have had a very busy half term but have worked very hard!

In English we have learned all about instruction writing. We were sent CCTV footage of the gingerbread man cheekily running through school so decided to write a set of instructions on how to trap the gingerbread man. We have also linked our learning in History about the great fire of London to diary writing.

In Maths this term we have learned how to use the formal column method to add and subtract two 2-digit numbers. We have learned all about 2D and 3D shape, including vertices, sides, edges, faces and lines of symmetry. Our class have also learned about money: counting amounts in pence, pounds and notes. We have learned how to count the pounds first and then the pence; and how to give change from £1.

In History this term we have learned all about the great fire of London. We have thought about the following questions:

- How did the fire start?
- Why did it spread so quickly?
- How did people manage to live through the great fire?
- Could more have been done to prevent the fire?

In Geography our unit was called 'Magical Mapping'. We have learned all about different types of maps, including atlases, which we have used to find places around the UK and world. We also had a go at making our own simple maps using a key.

In Science we have been learning all about materials and their properties. We have learned about the suitability of materials for certain uses and also which materials can be recycled and why recycling is important for the environment.

In Art this term we have learned all about simple printmaking. We have know to make relief prints in two different ways and have explored layering and using pattern, colour and texture to make our prints more interesting. We have looked at the pop artist Andy Warhol and how he used print in his work.

In **Class 1** this half term our topic theme is Space. We have learnt about our solar system, gravity and life on the ISS (International Space Station). The children were very excited to make a moon-spinner and take it home so they could track the phases of the moon themselves.

As part of our History unit we have also learnt about the explorer Neil Armstrong and the famous Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969 and the significance of this expedition. We have explored time lines and will be learning about Emilia Earhart and Mae C. Jemison next half term as we continue with our theme of flight. The children are really looking forward to their trip to the National Space centre in Leicester too.

In science we have also begun to learn about materials and their properties and light sources. In RE, the children learnt about Christianity and we explored 'what do Christians think God is like?' through parables and stories. Their understanding of this has been shown through some beautiful art work.

Our English focus was on writing a good instruction text and learning to use and write imperative verbs. The Year 1 will write their final instruction text about how to make a model rocket after half term.

The children have shown their understanding an learning about Space through singing songs and writing fact about it. In their independent learning they have put together and performed mini assemblies to the class which we are going to combine and invite our Class 1 parents to watch in March.

As always, we foster the love of reading in our class and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support in all areas of our reading curriculum.