

Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

Reception Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year! EYFS have started the new year with an astronomical **BANG!** This week we have started our new topic of 'Space'. The children have been introduced to the story of 'Alien's Love Underpants' and have really enjoyed designing and decorating their own underpants. There has also been a lot of excitement in our role play area which has turned into the 'International Space Station'. The children have been pretending to be astronauts in space as they fill out space mission logs. In Maths the focus has been on problem solving. The children have been learning to solve problems on sharing, doubling and sorting whilst explaining their reasoning when completing the linked maths activities.

Year 1 Our first full week back of 2018! What a week it has been! The children have been thrown into their Literacy, Maths, Phonics and foundation subjects work. In Literacy the children have been exploring their new focused text - "The Owl who was afraid of the Dark". They have been comparing, classifying and discussing similar books as well as practicing their capital letter formation. In Maths, both classes have been working hard focusing on number. The Year group have been finding 1 more / 1 less, 2 more / 2 less from any given number, 0-100, using number lines, 100 squares and cubes. Just a quick reminder to everyone that PE kit is expected in on a Tuesday (indoor) and a Thursday (outdoor). Roll on next week!

Year 2 In Maths we have been learning how to tell the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to and 5 minute intervals. This is a very important skill for the children to learn so keep asking them to tell you the time at home. In Literacy we have been getting stuck into our new book 'The Bear' by Raymond Briggs. We have been exploring how Tilly and the bear feel during the story and plotting their emotions onto a graph. The children really enjoyed their art lesson this week where they created some beautiful pictures based on the northern lights. In Topic we have been writing our own fact files about polar bears, the children loved researching and sharing their facts. The children really enjoyed having the large equipment out during PE and are focusing on their landings and balancing.

Year 3 Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the new term. They have come back enthusiastic and ready to learn. We have been enjoying the Science topic on light. Please talk to the children about sources of light and being safe in the sun. In Literacy we have started our topic on myths and legends. We have been focusing our work so far on the story of Johnny Gloke. We have also listened to some other more well known stories and discussed whether they are myths or legends. In Maths we have been learning about measures. Thank you to all of the children who brought in bottles and packets so that we could look at the quantities in them.

Year 4 This week, Year 4 have been having a wonderful week learning about the states of matter. We have been taking part in all sorts of practical investigations, drawing diagrams and writing about our observations. In Maths, we have been measuring weights of objects using grams and converting them in to kilograms. We are thoroughly enjoying our new text, Viking Boy, and will be in full swing of our Viking topic by next week.

Year 5 Welcome back Year 5! We are delighted to welcome Mrs Khan to our team and it is fantastic that we have hit the ground running! This week, we have started our new topic 'Rainforests'. In Literacy, we are reading 'The Great Kapok Tree'. We are having fun immersing ourselves in the text and getting to know the animals of the rainforest. In Maths, we have been exploring 6-digit numbers and using our reasoning skills to explain place value. We are learning about animals and their habitats in Science and learning about the importance of conservation and the devastation that deforestation is having on our planet. We are all very excited to see our progress over this term.

Year 6 Well... what a busy start to the term! Is it really only the first full week back? Year 6 have been getting straight into our new text for this term, The Watertower by Gary Crew. And we LOVE it - even if we are still not exactly sure what precisely is going on! Our place value knowledge has been tested in Maths with 6 and 7 digit numbers and decimals but Dr Tape and Miss E continue to be impressed with what we remember and how we can apply our knowledge. In Science, we have continued our journey in the Solar System, focusing this week on the Sun, Earth and Moon. We made a scale model of the Sun compared to our planet and couldn't believe the size difference. All the staff had an "interesting" time trying to teach us how to use compasses correctly to draw our own scale planet!

Music We have had a fantastic musical start to the term. Y6 have given some excellent listening responses to Mars from Holst's Planet Suite and did an excellent job of clapping the ostinato pattern which is 5 beats in a bar! Y5 have started leaning drum strokes on the African djembe drum; Y4 can play a C major scale on the keyboard and have started to learn about Chopin's piano music; Y3 are leaning about reggae music and have already learnt Three Little Birds by Bob Marley. The highlight of the week, however, has been the Singing Starz trip to the Young Voices concert at the Genting Arena in Birmingham. The children sang their hearts out, behaved brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for Wheatfields. Thank you to all the children and to all our parents and adults for supporting them.