

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** What a wonderful start to school for both Class 1 & 2 this week. We are so proud of how well they have settled into our school routines and their enthusiasm in the classroom. Next week we will be starting our full time sessions, please look out for a letter on Friday to tell you more about timings, our first PE lesson and useful information.

**Year 1** We have had a great week in Year 1! We are very proud of how the children have adapted to their new routines. They have thoroughly enjoyed their Storytime Phonics lessons. In Maths we have been focusing on formation and numbers to 10. We were impressed with their knowledge of animals during our Science lessons this week and they had lots of fun grouping them into mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles. Next week we will be introducing our 'Under the Sea' theme and we will be reading the book 'Commotion in the Ocean' by Giles Andreae and David Wojtowycze.

**Year 2** This week in English, our focus text has been 'Here We are' by Oliver Jeffers. We have been talking and writing about our class community, where our school is and what is special about our school. We have looked at our school on Google Earth. In Maths we have been counting and representing numbers to 20 and counting one more and one less. We have also been understanding tens and ones and representing numbers between 11 and 20 using Dienes apparatus, part whole models and Numicon. In Topic, we have continued to look at our school surroundings by creating story-sticks. Why not ask us about them? We have also added to our Gratitude tree. Next week in English, our focus text is 'I'm Really Ever So Not Well' by Lauren Child and we will be writing a story about poor Lola, who doesn't feel very well. In Phonics, our sound is 'ar'. In Reading, we will be sharing the story of 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl. In Maths we will be adding and subtracting one and two digit numbers to 20, including zero. In History we shall be starting our topic 'Emergency!' while in Science we will be naming and labelling some of the parts of the human body we can see.

**Year 3** This week in Year 3, we have been looking at what makes us a good learner and how we can use these skills during our time in school. We have also been using our addition and subtraction knowledge in Maths to complete colour coded pictures. We have watched Michael Rosen and looked at his poem *Don't* that we have written to practise our handwriting. As well as that, we have been thinking about what we are grateful for in school and at home and have put them into bubbles. On Tuesday we had our first PE session with Mr Puckey; he showed us how to work as part of a team and to solve different problems. With Mrs Barker, we have created Mindful Rainbows and we had Music with Mrs Merson where we learned about different rhythms and beats. Finally, we have created a poster about what we are excited to learn about in Year 3 and this is going to go into our books to show where our learning has started in our new classrooms.

**Year 4** It has been a busy week in Year 4, as the children have been working hard to complete the start of term assessments. We are very proud of the children as they have been making a brilliant effort with their work. We had our first games session with Mr Puckey in the rather hot sunshine. The children played some games that focused on team work and communication. We are looking forward to more next week! This week we have also enjoyed some science activities, including an investigation into how many drops of water will fit onto different coins. The children made predictions and we discussed how to test fairly. Next week, we will be starting place value in maths and starting our new class text, where something very strange happens on a Tuesday evening.

**Year 5** What a busy but FUN week we had in Year 5! Lindy Hop has got us moving our feet with twists and turns, jumps and hops – or Lindy Hop! We enjoyed dancing to the old tunes from World War 2. In English, 'Rose Blanche' is our text and the story is set during World War 2. The story is about a little girl who helped the Jewish children imprisoned in the concentration camp. We have started to understand her character and write about her personality. Linked with this in History, we have looked at the allies and axis power countries. We have begun learning about Judaism in RE and identifying meanings of the words that are used by all religions. Our cross curricular link with Judaism and World War 2 is a little girl called 'Ann Frank'. If you can, please share the story of Ann Frank with your children to help them understand how the World War 2 has affected lives of millions of innocent people. In Maths, we are on a journey to become Maths Masters. This means we ask questions like: 'What do you notice? What is same? What is different?', proving our reasoning through Mathematical thinking, recognising 4-digit numbers and counting negative numbers in different contexts – we have been really impressed! Our Computing lesson this week was great because we get to use google classroom! Keep up your positive attitude Year 5 – you are AWESOME!

**Year 6** Year 6 have continued to impress with their effort and concentration. This week, we have continued our lessons on Philosophy and even had our budding Buddhas outside meditating on the field! The wonderful Mrs Hartop came in and gave an awe-inspiring talk on Buddhism (during which I was very pleased as I hadn't taught the Year 6's anything incorrect and I learned a lot more)! We also completed some super science work by investigating the effects of placing your fingers in iced water and attempting to build towers of (very small) cubes. Much fun was had during this!

**Music** The Word of the Week is Pulse. We have been learning about how pulse is steady like our heartbeat whereas rhythm is a combination of long and short notes which create a pattern. There are useful and fun videos explaining this at BBC Bitesize. In Year 6 we went a step further and explored how pulse can change tempo. We used an online metronome to explore beats per minutes; this involved a bit of maths too! The children have been given the task of finding out the etymology (word origin) of 'metronome'. We also tried putting the beat in one hand and a rhythm in the other... this needs more practise!! In Year 3 we are learning about how composers create music to describe animals. We are focusing on 'The Carnival of the Animals' by Camille Saint-Saëns. This week we listened to 'The Tortoise' and noticed how the music was slow to describe the way the tortoise moved. It was also based on a joke as the music was the Can-Can slowed right down! In Year 4 we are learning about Mozart and in particular his woodwind concertos. We have found out about where he lived and how he started writing and playing music at a very young age. We have watched extracts from his flute and oboe concertos and have noticed the different timbres of the instruments. We are also practising our rhythm skills which help with learning in all our subjects. In Year 5 we are learning about Programme Music and focusing on 'Pictures at an Exhibition' by the Russian composer, Mussorgsky. We listened to 'Gnomus' and 'Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks' to find out how Mussorgsky used inter-related dimensions to paint a picture in sound. We are also learning how to read standard musical notation.