

Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

Reception Even though the spring term has been short, the EYFS pupils have worked hard learning many different skills. We started off focusing on life in space and supported our learning with the books 'Aliens Love Underpants' and 'Whatever Next!'. The children were very surprised when the aliens visited our outdoor learning area and deposited their underwear. By singing various songs related to the topic of space the children were able to name all the planets in order and discuss similarities and differences between life in space and life on earth. The pupils have also had the opportunity to share their learning with Year 6 pupils, conducting the 'Rocket Mouse' experiment and applying their scientific skills. In February we transformed the EYFS area into a Chinese restaurant for Chinese New Year, which enabled the children to become familiar with celebrations of a different culture. Even though we had an extended winter, we have been looking at seasonal changes in the environment. The children have been very excited to spot the first signs of Spring in our outdoor area and around the school during our learning walk. We wish you all a pleasant Easter holiday and look forward to a lot more hard work in the Summer term.

Year 1 What a busy term Year 1 have had, learning so many new skills and 'polishing' some others! We have been using our addition and subtraction skills to work with larger numbers and in contexts such as money and measure. Telling time has been tricky for some, so keep practising over the holidays Year 1! We have enjoyed learning about herbivores and carnivores in Science, especially when we played a chase game acting out food chains. We had a 'smashing' time investigating the best landing platform for Plop, the owl who was afraid of the dark. Instead of an owl, we used eggs and found out that fabric was a good choice, whereas metal and plastic was not! Our favourite carnivore has definitely been Winnie, the bear who inspired AA Milne to write Winnie-the-Pooh. The story has fascinated us, and we loved finishing our work with a visit to Linton Zoo to help us understand a little bit about what life in London Zoo might have been like for Winnie. The children had a great day out, and were super representatives of Wheatfields with excellent behaviour and manners. What a lovely way to end the Spring Term.

Year 2 Year 2 have had a very busy spring term. We loved our frozen planet topic and enjoyed finding out about all the different animals and food chains. We have also enjoyed watch our beans and cress grown in our secret garden topic. The children have worked really hard to improve their writing and are now very confident in using the Year 2 writing skills. In Maths the children have been practising the 4 operations and fractions ready for SATS. They have also been doing lots of problem solving and putting their skills into practise. The children have also greatly improved their reading detective skills and are now really good at looking for clues in the text in order to answer the questions. We were very impressed with the effort the children put into their 50 word spelling challenge, thank you for helping them practise. We have not set any additional homework or spellings over the Easter holidays, but please remember to continue to practice your high frequency words and keep reading!

Year 3 What a busy and exciting term we have had in Year 3. We have enjoyed learning lots about myths and legends. We've even tried writing our own! As part of this we have learnt about how to use inverted commas to punctuate speech and how to use adverbs and adjectives to add detail to our sentences. In Maths our ongoing work on times tables has carried on. Lots of us are much more confident now and getting quicker. We have also learnt written methods for adding and subtracting bigger numbers. We have also worked on fractions, telling the time and units of measure. Any extra practise of these at home is always helpful. In our topic work we have learnt about light. We have also found out about children over time and more recently the United Kingdom. The children thoroughly enjoyed our mini project on the artist Ali Coulter. Her work was the inspiration for our Mother's Day cards this year. Our topic for the term has ended with an RE topic about the meaning of Easter. We would like to wish you all a happy Easter and thank you for your continued support in Year 3.

Year 4 Year 4 have had a very busy spring term filled with our Viking topic. We have explored lots of historical information and have written a Viking story as well as an informative report. We thoroughly enjoyed becoming Vikings on Viking Day and had an exciting time raiding Year 3! In addition, we have been lucky to have football coaching sessions in P.E. and are looking forward to better weather in the summer term for track activities. We hope that everyone a wonderful Easter break and we will see you in the summer term, ready for our new Iron Man topic and Forces and Magnets.

Year 5 Year 5 had so much fun investigating in Science, building a 3D model of a rainforest in D&T and composing poems in Literacy. We investigated the perfect conditions to grow mould that then can be used for making medicines to cure diseases. It was hard to recognise how mould can help with anything but our research has shown that it can be very useful and Scientists have used it to cure diseases. We build 3D models of rainforests and tried to use different materials and methods to make them strong and sturdy. All in all, it has been an amazing Spring term with 'Rainforest' topic. Well done Year 5s and have a relaxing Easter break.

Year 6

How is it Easter already? It was only January yesterday! I think it's safe to say that we have had a VERY busy few months. We have really enjoyed our Science and Geography topic about the Earth and Space and have brushed up on our investigative skills. Hopefully you enjoyed our class assemblies as Dr Tape and Miss Elliott enjoyed letting the children take the reins to share their learning with you. A lot of our writing has been based around the mysterious science fiction picture books, *The Watertower* and its sequel, *Beneath the Surface*. They have really got us all thinking and our writing has been engaging and of a high quality as a result. Also, we have been wrestling with some quite complicated maths this term, some of which we may need to revisit! The children's problem solving skills are improving and we are looking forward to more hard work next term. We hope you all have a lovely Easter and come back rested and ready for a fun-filled final term at Wheatfields. It will fly by!

Music

We have been learning a lot of new musical skills this term. Year 3 learnt about Reggae Music in the first half term and then improved their rhythm skills with the help of STOMP. At the same time they have been learning the recorder. Year 4 now know all about the Polish composer, Chopin, and also improved their keyboard skills. In the second half term we learnt about the features of Indian music and played our own arrangement of an Indian song using Tabla drums, a drone and additional percussion instruments. Year 5 have made great progress throughout their African drumming topic. They can now play a variety of rhythms using different hand strokes, can improvise their own patterns and can play one pattern while someone else plays something different. We learnt African songs, some of which split into parts. We added our own accompaniments and dance moves. Year 6 have analysed the Planet Suite by Gustav Holst and this week put the finishing touches to their own compositions which have now been filmed. We look forward to watching them during our first lesson next term. One highlight of the term was our Spring Concert. Several of our musicians performed for the first time in front of a large audience. They were encouraged by our more experienced performers in the Wednesday Boys, Biscuit Band and Mr Milgate's clarinet and saxophone group. We also enjoyed a performance from The Grand Union Orchestra and some of our musicians took part in a follow up workshop. The Orchestra were impressed that Wheatfields were the only school they have visited who sang their song in 3 part harmony and they commented on the high standard of musicianship, engagement and manners in the school. We have welcomed Paul Richards to our team of visiting music teachers this term. He already has 12 drummers and will need to operate a waiting list! Our other visiting music teachers are: Mr Milgate (clarinet and saxophone), Mrs Brien (violin), Mrs Magill (recorder, flute, piano) and John McCulley (guitar, ukulele). If your child is interested in learning an instrument please see the clubs letter or speak to Miss Keane at the office. The summer concert will be Thursday 21st June and will feature more advanced soloists, Singing Starz, Biscuit Band, Wednesday Boys and Y6 composition groups.