

Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

Reception This week we have been exploring the tale of Stick Man by Julia Donaldson. The children have been thinking about the repetitive language in the story and also focusing in on Stick Man and his family. The children have created their own representations of their family tree which was really lovely to observe and hear all about the people who are special to them. Within forest school the children have also been learning how to climb trees, talking about the importance of safety and taking some risks. As you can see, we have all been having great fun and we are going to be continuing our story exploration next week. If you have a copy of the tale at home, why not read it together before bed and see if they can help you retell some of the main events.

Year 1 This week in Year 1, children have been writing reports about nocturnal animals. They have gathered lots of information about foxes, bats and hedgehogs to include in their writing. Overall, we have seen an improvement in their ability to write sentences independently. Children are using their phonic knowledge to sound out each word. In Maths, we have introduced subtraction. We have been using a variety of methods to work out the answers to number sentences. In RE, we are looking at 'The Christmas Story'. Children are enjoying learning about the Christian religion. We look forward to receiving photos of your child's home learning creations via the class email. We will be printing these photos as the children really enjoy sharing their work with the rest of the class!

Year 2 **This week** in English, we have been learning to retell the story of Rapunzel. We have been finding out about the features of a traditional tale. We have been learning the spelling rule to create plurals, by adding -s and -es. **In Maths** we have been looking at how if we know the answers to simple calculations we use that knowledge to solve more difficult ones. We've also been looking at how to prove our answers are correct using the bar method. **In History** we found out the different ways a castle could be attacked and used this understanding to investigate what castles were made from, **in Science**. **In DT** we celebrated St Andrew's Day a tad early by making wiggling fish out of paper. **Next week** in English we are going to be reading more traditional fairy tales and then we will start to create our own. In our spellings, we will be learning to add the suffixes '-ed' and '-ing' to words. **In Maths** we will be continuing to investigate addition and subtraction. **In Topic** we'll be having our Castle Day on Friday as well as a Christmas decorations afternoon!

Year 3 In Year 3 this week, the children have been preparing their own non-chronological report using all of the information that they have found when learning about the Digestive System. They have looked at the features of a non-chronological report and they have picked their own sub-headings. All of this work is going to help them next week when they write their own report. In Science this week, the children made their own digestive system using a plastic bottle, macaroni cheese, banana, chocolate pudding, Pepsi, toast, beans and bread. They really enjoyed seeing what the stomach does to the food. In Maths the children have been counting in 50s, adding in multiples of 100. We have also planned a very exciting thing for the parents on Friday and the children really enjoyed dressing up. Mr Puckey has also been teaching the children how to shoot in football and we really enjoyed being able to play on the field.

Year 4 Another busy week in Year 4. We have been thinking about the different language features in our class text, The Lost Happy Endings and been comparing the characters of Jub and the witch ready to write our own character descriptions of the witch. The witch is certainly not a very attractive character in the book as she has face like the bark of a tree, horrible claw like hands and red eyes like poisonous berries! In maths we have been looking at negative numbers and have been practising our written calculations with 4-digit numbers. We are also working hard to become more fluent with our multiplication tables. In art we have made collage pictures of flying frogs and pigs for our Tuesday display and in games we all scored lots of goals when we practised shooting. Although there are still 5 weeks until Christmas, we have been thinking about what we will be doing for our Christmas performances which we will be filming for everyone to watch. HO, HO, HO!

Year 5 Year 5 started the week off with a science investigation! We looked at which material would keep the liquid warm for the longest time. Next week we are comparing our results between the 2 classes and drawing a scatter graph to compare the materials! In English, we have written a letter in role as Prince Otto (from our book Clockwork) about what he did to save his son – Prince Florian. In maths, we have been looking at variation and viewing mixed fractions in different ways. Next week we are looking fractions again and writing a balanced argument. Sadly, we will also be finishing our book Clockwork, it has been a wonderful read this term!

Year 6 This week Year Six have been writing powerful descriptions of settings and planning their chapter on 'The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come in A Christmas Carol.' In maths they have started work on fractions (finding equivalent / simplifying / ordering). Finally they have compared rich and poor households in Victorian times and found out some extremely eye-opening facts and some equally disturbing ones!

Music The Word of the Week is 'Timbre' which is the sound quality of music. It's how we can recognise different voices and instruments. Watch the 'Timbre' video on Charanga by finding Toolkit in the Assignments tab. If you've forgotten your login details email music@wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk for a reminder. There are extra house points for children who engage in an activity on Charanga! Our Y3 and Y4 children have continued to get to know 'The Nutcracker Suite' from the ballet by Tchaikovsky this week. We investigated rhythm patterns in the Russian dance and noticed how many beats in the bar are in 'Waltz of the Flowers'. In Y5 we have learnt about 'Fanfare for the Common Man' by Aaron Copland. It was written in 1942 and was inspired in part by a speech made earlier that year by then American Vice President Henry A. Wallace, in which Wallace proclaimed the dawning of the "Century of the Common Man". You might like to listen to the Emerson, Lake and Palmer version at home as a comparison of styles. In Y6 we learnt about Victorian street cries and used our listening skills to match notated cries to audio clips. We also started to teach ourselves how to play 'Jingle Bells' on the glockenspiels. For a bit of a singsong at home, visit www.youngvoices.co.uk. In the Menu choose 'For Children' and then the Music Room. The code is YV2021. Have fun!