

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** Everyone in EYFS is fabulous –unique and different. We have been talking about how we are all different and have different skills, talents, likes and interests. It is ok that they are not the same as our friends. We have continued to learn about Diwali and talk about how it is celebrated in different ways. It was so wonderful to see some of the children learning about, celebrating and enjoying another religion. This week we have introduced 3 more sounds – ck, e and u. We had lots of fun using the typewriter to click clack, thinking of ideas of how to get an egg to fly and exploring Space with aliens who keep pinching our underpants! Lots of fun and so many exciting opportunities to play and practise new things. We also introduced numberblock six and had lots of fun representing six in different ways and creating our own six dice games.

**Year 1** Although Year 1 lessons are becoming more structured, we still managed to fit in an afternoon of busy learning with our brand new STEM resources! These activities generate interesting conversation, encourage team work and require problem solving skills. Children have been working really hard on adding two numbers together in Maths this week. During Science, we carried out a taste experiment. They were identifying sour, sweet, salty and bitter tastes. The facial reactions to the lime juice were extremely amusing! Cuckoo Bridge Nursery and Farm shop very kindly donated a large amount of tulip and daffodil bulbs to Year 1. Children became gardeners and planted them on the school field. We look forward to seeing the beautiful flowers bloom in the Spring term!

**Year 2 This week** in English, we followed our story plans and wrote our own dragon and princess stories – there were some interesting story heroes! In our phonics, spelling and reading, we have been creating compound words. **In Maths** we have been adding and subtracting in 1s and 10s using a 100-square and apparatus. We have then identified the inverse calculation with number sentences to 20. **In Science** we explored the suitability of materials around us and found many examples of recycling in our school garden. **History** was looking at why castles were built and **DT** saw us making and improving paper whirligigs, based around sycamore seeds we've found around school. **Next week** in English we are beginning to read and retell a new fairy story – Rapunzel, by Sarah Gibb. In all our writing, we will help the children to remember their core skills for sentences – full stops, capital letters and making sure sentences make sense. In our spellings, we will be learning to add 's' and 'es' to words and make plurals. **In Maths** we will be exploring number bonds to 100, counting in 10s. We will add a 1-digit number to a multiple of 10 and then perform the inverse calculation. We will continue to investigate 10 more and 10 less. **In science** we'll be studying the suitability of the building materials used to build castles and **history** sees us planning how to attack a castle. In **DT** we'll be celebrating St Andrew's Day by making moving fish out of paper.

**Year 3** In Year 3 this week we have been counting in 1s, 10s and 100s from numbers that are over 100. The children have enjoyed learning how to make 3-digit numbers and representing them in part whole models, the numbers written form and adding the 3 numbers up together. In English this week, the children have been looking at the different types of contractions and how to make the two words become one. They have also been using conjunctions to make their sentences longer and more interesting. We have also been focusing on the presentation of the children's books as sometimes it can look messy and we really want their work to look amazing so it can go up on the learning walls. The children have also been looking at the digestive system in Science this week and they have loved learning where poo comes from! We have had classroom discussions about what looks friendly and unfriendly when out on the playground. This is part of our PSHE work linked to Anti-bullying - the children have created some amazing odd socks too.

**Year 4** Now our newspaper reports have been completed we have begun to study a new text. The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy. It is the story of a young girl who has the very important job of making sure all children have happy endings for their stories. Before we read the book, we made predictions about what we thought the story would be about looking for clues in the illustrations. Then we looked more closely at the main character and key events in the plot. We are already collecting ideas for our own writing and are working towards writing a character description next week. In maths we have been comparing and ordering 4-digit numbers and plotting them on number lines. We also enjoyed being part of Monday's Maths Week Assembly and seeing the photos of everyone with their multiplication mazes on the playground. In science we have been investigating gases and whether they weigh anything? It has involved weighing different fizzy drinks and then leaving them for a period of time to allow them to go flat. Then re-weighing them to see if there is a difference. We'll know more by next week! In art we have been exploring colour mixing with oil pastels decorating lily pads whilst in games we played an exciting new game trying to knock footballs off cones.

**Year 5** This week in Year 5 we have been consolidating our understanding! In English, we have reached the end of Part One – it's left us on a quite a cliff hanger! The children have enjoyed creating a storyboard of their favourite parts so far. In Maths, we are continuing to look at Fractions, this week we looked at mixed fractions using different linear number systems. We have also focussed our energies on Diving Deeper! In Science, it's every teacher's worst nightmare... a cold cuppa! Next week, the children will be planning an investigation to find the best material to keep that cuppa hot during break time.

**Year 6** Year Six have been comparing rich and poor households in Victorian times and have written beautiful extended pieces about it. However, this is only a FRACTION of the week as they have started comparing Scrooge's home with the Cratchit's in 'A Christmas Carol.' As you may have guessed, they have also started work on their Fractions topic in maths, as well as continuing with their tag rugby in P.E. Last, but certainly not least, Year Six have begun looking at Andy Warhol in Art and finishing more of their sketches.

**Music** The Word of the Week is 'Time Signature'. We have been investigating groups of 2, 3 and 4 beats in a bar. In Y6 we have started learning about Victorian music and found out about some musical inventions. Most of them involved people pretending to play the piano! The Victorians loved their gadgets! In Y5 we practised performing rhythms in different time signatures. We listened to 'We'll Meet Again' by Dame Vera Lynn. We noticed the chromatic melody and the Ternary structure of the song (ABA). In Y4 and Y3 we started learning about 'The Nutcracker Suite' by the Russian composer Tchaikovsky. This week we investigated The Russian Dance. You might like to find youtube clips of the ballet at home!