

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** What a half term it's been! The children have enjoyed taking part in their first set of phonics lessons, hooking into different stories to learn more about our new sounds. Over half term, why not hide the sounds we have learnt around your house or garden to find and practise together? We have also been exploring our numbers to 5; how we read, write and count with all of these numerals as well as problem solving different ways to make each number such as 2 and another 2 making 4. Using the changing season of autumn the children have shown their understanding by counting conkers, leaves, sticks and more. I wonder if you can find any other things to count and discover on any autumn walks you take next week. As well as our learning inside the classroom, the children have embarked on adventures into the woods for our first forest school sessions. We hope you have enjoyed the Tapestry updates to show the risks and exciting challenges they have been enjoying during their sessions. During parents evening it has been wonderful to hear how much the children have enjoyed their first half term settling in to new friendship and a new environment. We can't wait to continue to the fun after half term, see you soon :)

**Year 1** In Year 1 this week, we have been writing our stories about 'Arthur the Turtle' and 'Flipper the Dolphin' to end their learning about The Rainbow Fish. Children have been editing their stories to make them better, perhaps by adding an adjective or to make sure they used the correct punctuation. In Maths this week the children have been Number Bond detectives and trying to find the number bonds to 10. The children have used a range of resources to help them with their addition number sentences. They have also enjoyed learning about Diwali and other celebrations that happen throughout the year. In PE the children have been focusing on tennis and working on their forehand shot. After half term we will be moving on to non-fiction writing all about nocturnal animals. In maths the children will be looking at addition and subtraction. They will also be learning the songs to the Christmas nativity!

**Year 2** This week in Year 2, we have been reading and sharing the story 'How Rabbit Stole the Fire'. We have discussed similarities and differences between this text and 'Tiger Child' - both have repeated phrases, both have animals who want fire but for different reasons. In the half term break, perhaps your child could write their own story about an animal trying to steal fire. Send them in - we'd love to share them. We have written letters to the Sky People from Rabbit, saying sorry for stealing the fire. In our Topic, we have all been reporters, writing for the London Gazette and reporting the Great Fire of London. The children have all learned some amazing new facts in our Topic! In Maths we have been looking at comparing two-digit numbers using the greater than, less than and equals signs. Talking about and drawing numbers in tens and ones has helped us to clearly see the difference between numbers. After the half term break, we will be starting our new topic 'A Long Time Ago' and our focus will be on Castles and Knights. In the half term break, can your child find out about castles? Maybe they could read a book that is set in a castle? We hope that you have restful half term.

**Year 3** The Year 3 teachers have been so impressed with how hard the children have worked this week. The children have written amazing stories based on the book Stone Age Boy. Their vocabulary choices have been ambitious and lots of the children have started trying to use inverted commas to punctuate speech. This is the start of some fantastic Key Stage 2 writing. We are looking forward to seeing how the children continue to develop this skill over the year. In Maths we have been adding and taking away multiples of ten and one hundred. The children are getting much better at explaining their reasoning as well as giving their answers. We have a lot of budding dentists in the year group! This week we have done our topic about teeth. We have found out about types of teeth and their functions. This has included learning why different animals have different types of teeth and how we should look after our own teeth.

**Year 4** This week, Year 4 have written character descriptions of the witch from the story 'The Lost Happy Endings'. We have used noun phrases, fronted adverbials and similes to develop detailed descriptions. In Maths, we have been using the column method for addition and will continue to practice this after half term. We have enjoyed learning about Judaism in our RE. In Science, we carried out an investigation to find out which material was the best at absorbing sound. We made predictions then all had a go at using the sound meter. After half term, we will be writing an alternative ending to a traditional story. We will be using junk materials to make instruments to investigate changes in pitch. Please bring in any suitable junk materials for the children to use for this e.g. plastic bottles, tissue boxes, cereal boxes, tubes.

**Year 5** Yet another amazing week with Newspaper Reports writing. We have started using who, what, where and how to write 'introductions' of newspaper reports. After half term, we will be writing the Newspaper Reports about 'Rose finding the concentration camp'. This text 'Rose Blanche' and the topic 'World War 2' allows children to explore history learning through a context. Year 5s have been thoroughly enjoying all the research that we have been doing and we are

now looking forward to WW2 day. In Maths, we are mastering the skills of column addition and subtraction with decimal numbers. After half term, we will continue with this unit. In RE, we will be looking at Judaism and explore that in relation to our new text 'Way Home', which discusses the topic of 'homelessness'. Have a lovely and restful half term everyone!

**Year 6** It has been fabulous to watch our year six this week as they have been extremely busy doing ALL of the following: experimenting and exploring how light travels; mixing different coloured light together; making their own models of a 'Lost Thing' and also explaining how their model was made (including the electric circuits inside them)! They have certainly lit up our week and have had some great ideas (in fact you could almost see the light bulbs going off above their heads).

**Music** We had fun in Y3 this week composing our own Aquarium music in the style of Camille Saint-Seans. We chose the timbre, tempo, pitch and dynamics to create our underwater scenes. In Y4 we listened to part of Beethoven's Symphony no.7 and noticed that it had 3 beats in a bar. We composed our own melodies on the keyboard which were 3 beats in a bar. In Y5 we continued exploring Glenn Miller's music and listened to Little Brown Jug. It is a traditional American folk tune but we noticed how Glenn Miller changed some of the musical dimensions to create variations. We had a go at playing the main tune on the glockenspiel. In Y6 we got into groups to make our own arrangement of one of the 12 Bar Blues songs we've been learning. We used keyboards, ukuleles, recorders, voice and some of us added percussion. We nailed the structure and our arrangements were very impressive! A reminder that all children can access the Young Voices materials by visiting [www.youngvoices.co.uk](http://www.youngvoices.co.uk) and using the code: YV2020