

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** This week the children have been fabulous at settling back into tier routines. We have been sharing our half term news and learnt new sounds ck and e. We also had a visit from folk singers Megson on Tuesday which we all thoroughly enjoyed singing and dancing along to. In Forest School we used knives and peelers to create our own Autumn wands. Next week we will be focusing on the story 'Handa's Surprise'. We will be using props to retell and sequence the story and thinking about Africa, making comparisons to where we live. We will be using the fruits in the story to create simple addition calculations. Just a reminder for morning drop off - if we have shut the brown gate and our classroom doors you must go round to the office to sign in. Please do not knock on the classroom doors as it can distract learning and it is a legal requirement to sign in via the office if you are late. Thank you :)

**Year 1** This week in Year 1 the children have been to the library and looked at the difference between non-fiction book and fiction books in English and they are beginning to look at the features of a non-chronological report. In Maths this week the children have been coming to the end of their addition unit by trying to find a part in a part whole model. The children in science this week have been learning about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and looking at the different animals that eat meat, plants or both. Next week the children will be looking at questions getting ready for their visit from the Raptor Foundation. In Maths the children will be moving on to subtraction. The children in art next week will be learning different pencil skills. We have had a very nice week back from the half term.

**Year 2** This week, in English, we have been reading *The Dragon Machine* by Helen Ward. We have been describing the character of George and using some amazing adjectives. Next week, we will be reading about another George and a different dragon, in another text and we will be using this to write a narrative (story). In our topic, we have been finding out why castles were built in England. Next week, we will be finding out about motte and bailey castles. In Maths we have been looking at counting in steps of 2 from zero and in steps of 10 from any number. Next week we will be counting in steps of 5 from zero and then we will be starting to look at adding two different numbers together. We also have our trip to MountFitchet on Friday. Please send your child to school in uniform, with a suitable coat and sensible shoes to walk in.

**Year 3** The children have settled very well into school after the break and on the first day back they wrote a recount about what they did during the holiday. Lots of children have told us about spending time last week on their homework projects and we have been very impressed with what has arrived in school so far. In English we have introduced non-fiction texts and identified the features and in maths we are continuing our work on adding and subtracting numbers.

**Year 4** This week, we have been using the story of Hansel and Gretel to practice writing speech and using conjunctions to compare characters. We will be writing an alternative ending to the story next week. In maths, we have been developing our knowledge of the written method for addition and solving problems including missing numbers and word problems. In science, we have investigated how to change the pitch of a noise. We have started our geography work, recapping the continents of the world and looking specifically at Europe. Next week, we are looking forward to making musical instruments to further investigate sound, pitch and volume. Please make sure any donations of boxes and materials are in for Monday. We will also be writing instructions for the instruments. We will be continuing with addition in maths and starting subtraction.

**Year 5** This week in Year 5 we have been looking at looking at mathematical relationships. Specifically, Year 5 have been investigating new vocabulary: Additive and Multiplicative. By using Cuisenaire rods, children have been exploring structures. In English, we have been looking at emotive language and have been drawing our story boards; ready to write our newspaper reports next week. We are also wrapping up our tennis topic in PE having looked at backhands this week and we are now moving on to playing Netball next week.

**Year 6** This week, year six have been busy studying 'a Christmas Carol,' particularly looking at the character of Scrooge. In maths, they have been multiplying and dividing using formal methods and in topic they have started work on *The Victorians*. Miss Elliott and I were massively impressed with their home learning, which included: models (of their own *Lost Thing*); story board animations; posters (about the Industrial Revolution) and also new versions of the story based on *The Lost Thing*. Overall a wonderful array of different project work which blew our socks off!

**Music** Our musical highlight this week was a visit to KS1 from the Folk Duo 'Megson' who brought their Family Folk Show to entertain us. We loved seeing the instruments they brought along and enjoyed joining in with the actions and songs. In Year 3 we improved our recorder skills and are beginning to learn new notes. We enjoyed playing a rhythm grid game and are getting pretty good at recognising patterns with crotchets and quavers. In Year 4 we started working on *Mamma Mia* by Abba and even played our recorders in the chorus. We finished off our WW2 topic in Year 5 by investigating the music of Ivy Benson whose band was *Band in Residence* at the BBC during the war years. She had to battle against discrimination and inequality during that time but went on to have a long and successful career. We also played *Run Rabbit Run* on the glockenspiels. In Year 6 we played *Rock Around the Clock* (another 12 Bar Blues song) on the ukulele and started to compose our own 12 Bar Blues Christmas carol.