

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** What a great first week back. The children have been fully immersed into our new topic, 'People who help us'. They have built their own fire engines, role played becoming their own firefighters, saving their friends from dangerous fires and even the odd pet from a forest tree. We have also been practising recognising and reading aloud our tricky troll words; he, be, we me, she. Why not have a hunt for these in books at home, signs around town or even make your own cards to hide around your home. In Maths we have been practising adding practically and will be developing a new skills of counting on in our lessons next week. You could practise this at home with your families using dice to select numbers to add or perhaps numbers you see on the way to school. Don't forget to add photos and videos for us to see on Tapestry; we are eager to give out lots of house points for exciting learning happening at home :) Lastly, a little plea to see if any of our families know of a tree surgeon who may be willing to donate any sitting log cut offs, log slices or wood chip to our environment, please speak to Mrs Baker. Alternatively if you happen to know of a carpenter who may be willing to build us a few items free of charge please do let us know.

**Year 1** This week in Year 1 the children have been looking at different everyday materials that they might see at school or at home in Science. The children have enjoyed matching the materials to what they are made out of and going on material hunts around the school. In English this week the children have explored a message in a bottle that instructed them about their new book, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*. They have created actions to help them remember the story and even learned the tricky words that they have found in the book such as scavenging and devoured. They have also created some questions that they are going to be asking Mr Grinling. This week in Maths, the children have been looking at numbers to 20. They have been creating teen numbers with the maths resources to see what the numbers look and how they are different to numbers from 0-10. The children have also been writing the numbers in both their numeral form and the word. In PE this week the children have started learning different skills that they will use in hockey. Next week, the children will be sequencing the story of *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* in English. In Phonics the children will be recapping their split vowel digraphs. In Maths the children will be continuing their learning of place value for numbers to 20.

**Year 2** In Maths this week, we have been identifying equal groups, using stem sentences to describe the groups and repeated addition. Some children have also been creating multiplication sentences eg there are 3 equal groups with 2 in each group which is the same as  $2+2+2$  or  $2 \times 3$ . Next week, we will be grouping objects in arrays and continuing to record arrays as repeated addition sentences or multiplication sentences. It would be really helpful if the children could recite their  $2x$  and  $10x$  table – TimesTable RockStars will be great to support this learning so please use it regularly. In English we have been learning about non-chronological reports: thinking about what information we would find in them and how they are laid out. We have read our new book 'Ice Bear' by Nicola Davies and watched lots of documentary clips about polar bears and filled our English working walls with lots of facts. Next week, we will be writing effective sentences to go in our non-chronological reports about polar bears. To help our writing next week. In our topic, we have been finding out about the weather in the Arctic and Antarctic and thinking about what life might be like if we lived there. Next week, we will be looking at maps and finding out about different animals who live there. For our outdoor PE sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, children will need warm tracksuit bottoms and ideally a sports jumper to change into.

**Year 3** Happy New Year! This week we have started our English topic about myths and legends. The children have been talking about the differences between them and have read and listened to lots of different stories and decided whether they are myths or legends. In P.E we have started to learn how to play hockey. The children are learning about how to hold the hockey stick correctly and dribble the ball around and control the ball at the same time.

**Year 4** Year 4 have had a great start back to school and have shown fantastic attitudes to their learning. This week, we have enjoyed lots of science! We have been learning about states of matter and have investigated what happens to water when it is heated and cooled. We have used some new words including condensation, evaporation and precipitation in our writing about the water cycle. We have started our new topic about the Vikings and have begun reading our class text 'Viking Boy'. In PE, we have enjoyed our first dance session where we are learning a Viking dance. Next week, we will begin working on writing Viking themed historical stories.

**Year 5** What a brilliant start to the New Year. The year group is buzzing with excitement around our new topic: The Rainforest. The children have expressed their concerns and worries regarding the environment which is driving their enthusiasm for the subject. In maths we have been balancing equations by doubling and halving factors for the product to stay the same! In PE we have started learning about the skills of hockey, with lots of children enjoying netball and football, it is a good opportunity to apply their knowledge of invasion games to a game using different skills (whilst trying to not hurt their backs!). We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Curiosity Cafe next Friday where we will be sharing a lesson with you about maths.

**Year 6** Our incredible Universe is the new topic for Year Six this term and it has been an inspirational starting point for both classes. We have focused on the Earth and the remaining seven planets with the pupils selecting one of these to create a visual report about it. So far, their research has seen them marvel at the number of moons and the vast differences in temperatures of these amazing places. On a less far away note, in maths we have been plotting coordinates of shapes along with their reflections and translations. Finally in English our new text is *The Watertower*, which has immediately grabbed everyone's attention and fascination. A great start to the term!

**Music** Our new topics for this term are: Y3 – Reggae Music focusing on Three Little Birds by Bob Marley. We have already learnt how to sing most of the song and have started to learn a riff on the recorder. Y4 – keyboard skills including learning the C major scale. Our focus composer is Chopin who was a prolific writer for the piano. Y5 – African songs and drumming. We are learning how to play the djembe and have already learnt the 2 main drum positions. Y6 – to link with are class topic we are learning about the Planet Suite by Gustav Holst. This week we learnt the 5 beat ostinato for Mars, *The Bringer of War* and played the main theme on the recorder (new note C#). Well done to the Singing Starz for remembering so many of your words despite the Christmas break! Please look at the dance videos this week at [www.youngvoices.co.uk](http://www.youngvoices.co.uk) code:YV2020 and brush up on any words you are still unsure of.