

Year Two Autumn Term  
December 2023

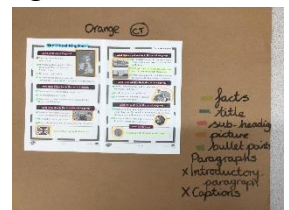


Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to begin by praising all of the children for their resilience that they have demonstrated throughout the term. It has been a busy term that has seen our pupils leap back into school with admirable enthusiasm. Subsequently, they've produced a range of fantastic work from across the curriculum. We have had a fun-filled, packed autumn term.

Every class within our school is named after a famous historian and Year 2 are all named after famous nurses. We found out about our chosen nurse and why she is remembered. We researched her life and found out about the work she did with helping lots of soldiers.

In Literacy, we explored stories with familiar settings. We used the Paddington Bear stories for inspiration for our writing. We wrote letters and postcards as Paddington Bear. We enjoyed using our own teddy as inspiration and writing an adventure they might go on. We used the text Journey to write character and setting descriptions and explore different journeys characters go on. We wrote our own fact files about London towards the end of the term. We used the story Vlad and The Great Fire of London as a stimulus for our writing in the second term. We explored the features of diary entries and wrote as if we were Vlad. We also used the story Toby and The Great Fire of London to write diary entries. We enjoyed creating shape poems linked to our work on Bonfire night. To develop our writing, we focused on applying the Year 2 non-negotiables, capital letters, finger spaces and full stops within character and setting descriptions as well as within letter writing.

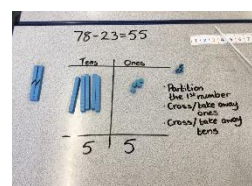


Year 2 had a very exciting day with an interactive experience from Trunk Theatre. During the day, the children learnt all about the timeline of events on the days leading up to The Great Fire of London. This allowed the children to experience what it would have been like on the streets of London and to be one of the characters involved. The children got to redesign London how they think it should have been rebuilt after the fire.

In Numeracy, we learnt about the place value of numbers up to 100, we looked at tens and ones, compared and ordered numbers and counted in 2s, 5s and 10s. We learnt how to add and subtract two 2-digit numbers together using practical resources and moving onto a pictorial written method. We also named and discussed the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We recognised coins and notes



and learnt how to find a total amount of money and calculate change. We recapped multiplication and division work from year 1 by making



equal groups, adding equal groups and making arrays. We enjoyed practically exploring measures and reading scales. We explored data and created our own tally charts, pictograms and block graphs on the iPads and chrome books using J2Data.

Our topic for Science within the first term was 'animals including humans'. We began our learning by researching and identifying how animals and humans change as they grow. We looked at the changes that occur as humans grow and learnt about what humans need to survive. We then looked at the same concepts for animals and researched the stages of lifecycles for amphibians, mammals and insects. We enjoyed planning and building a suitable habitat for a ladybird on the school grounds. Our Science learning was based around materials in the second term. We identified a variety of everyday materials and distinguished between an object and its materials. We carried out a range of different investigations to explore which material would be the most suitable for a different use. Through our investigations, we have developed our prediction, pattern-seeking and evaluation skills. We have applied these skills when questioning the absorbency, transparency and strength of materials. We have learnt to classify and group materials based on their properties and suitability for a range of purposes.



In Geography, we learnt about the countries that make up the United Kingdom. We identified the capital cities of each country, researched the physical features and landscape of different regions and planned a journey from our school to London. We used this knowledge to describe a journey around the UK in the form of a diary entry at the end of the first term.



In Art, we enjoyed creating self-portraits. We discussed key vocabulary such as line, shade, sketch and explore making marks with different sketching pencils. We sketched our teddy and explored different ways to make it look soft and fluffy. As part of our fire, fire topic, we explored colour mixing and revised primary and secondary colours. We understood what collage means. We created wonderful silhouettes inspired by The Great Fire of London.

During DT, we began by discussing what a product is for and reasons for use of materials and design aspects. We used our knowledge of existing products to design our own fire engine. We were able to mark out and shape materials and used techniques from art and design i.e. cutting, sticking, patterns, colouring. We thoughtfully evaluated our final product and discussed our likes and dislikes.

During our PSHE lessons, we have looked at three topics; tying shoe laces, washing hands and friendship. During our first topic, the children learnt how to tie their shoelaces and created a 'step by step' poster explaining the process. Our washing hands topic allowed us to understand how germs can be transferred from person to person or surface to surface and the importance of good hygiene and washing our hands. Our friendships unit discussed

what makes a good friend and how to solve issues such as falling out. We also completed work related to Anti-Bullying week where we identified the different types of bullying and how we can resolve issues relating to this.

In RE, we learnt about how a Sikh family celebrates their faith. We discussed what the 5 K's are. We learnt about the Gurdwara and Guru Granth Sahib. We learnt about Guru Nanak and were introduced to some Sikh stories with the idea of respect and equality. Toward the end of the second term, the children learned about why Christmas is important to Christians within both R.E lessons and through partaking in our nativity production Bethlehem B&B. We were extremely proud of all the children during our rehearsals for our Christmas performance. They produced a wonderful performance! What wonderful singers, actors/actresses and dancers we have in Year 2!



In PE, we enjoyed developing our fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping. We explored and developed basic gymnastic actions on the floor and using apparatus. We developed our gymnastic skills of jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling individually and in combination to create short sequences and movement phrases. During outdoor PE, we developed our fundamental ball skills such as throwing and catching, rolling, hitting a target, dribbling with both hands and feet and kicking a ball. We have had the opportunity to work independently, in pairs and small groups. We developed our understanding of attacking and defending and what being 'in possession' means.

The children and staff loved going to The New Theatre to see a live orchestra accompany the film of Mimi and the Lost Dragon. We were wowed by the variety of instruments and lots of fun singing along to some of the songs. The children have thoroughly enjoyed our weekly music sessions in school with Mrs Firth.

We would like to thank the children for working hard throughout the term as well as all of the parents and carers for their continued support.

Enjoy a well-deserved rest and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the new year.

The Year 2 team.