

Year Two Summer term

July 2024

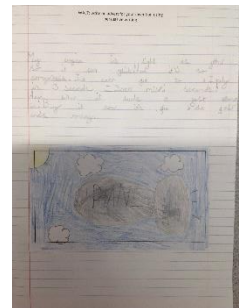
Dear Parents/Carers,

What an amazing summer term and end to Year 2! The children have worked extremely hard and we are so proud of all of them.

Our summer term topics were Memory Box and sensational Safari.

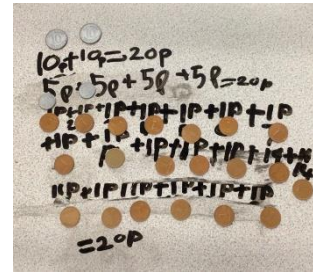
In Literacy, we have been exploring fantasy stories. We read the M. P. Robertson trilogy, starting with the book 'The Egg'. We started by looking at settings and wrote detailed descriptions of the dragon's cave. We then used this to help us write our own fantasy stories and diary entries, writing in the voice of the protagonist, George. We used fronted adverbials of time and apostrophes to write our diary entries. Linked with our DT writing, we looked at writing a set of instructions to create our felt memory bags.

During the second part of our term, we have been looking at adventure stories. We started our learning by reading the story 'Tiger Walk' by Dianne Hofmeyr. We wrote our own adventure stories after planning our characters and settings. We then looked at another book by Dianne Hofmeyr, 'Zeraffa Giraffa'. In these lessons, we wrote a persuasive letter to The Great Pasha convincing him to not send Zeraffa to France. We used our persuasive writing skills again when we sketched our own invention and wrote a persuasive advert for it. We have revisited using punctuation and similes to in our letters and persuasive writing. Later in the term, we explored Diamonte and Haiku poems. We looked at the structure of these poems and identified their main features. This helped us to write our own poems, which were based on Safari and Summer.



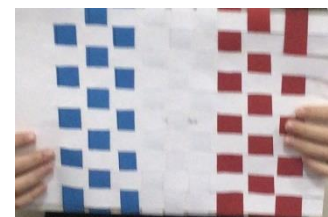
In Numeracy, we started the term by revising and consolidating our understanding of addition and subtraction strategies and learnt how to choose a method to calculate the answer effectively. We then applied our mathematical skills to one or two step real life problems. We recapped our work on position and direction and money, particularly finding change.

During the second part of the term, we learnt how to find fractions of amounts, including amounts of money. We recapped telling the time to 5-minute intervals. We revised our learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We enjoyed solving puzzles involving numbers and shapes. We explored place value in 3-digit numbers and how to partition them.



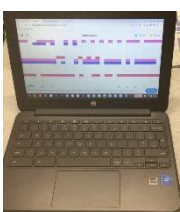
In Science, we have been looking at the lifecycle of plants. We looked at the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to help our learning. We planted our own beans in different conditions to see how well they would grow. Our experiments looked at variables such as sunlight and water. Most recently, we have been learning all about living things and their habitats. During our lessons, we looked at things which we could classify as living, non-living and never lived. We had some interesting discussion about items such as paper and wool. During this topic, we went on bug hunts to explore which animals prefer different environments to live in. We found our insects enjoy living in our forest school most.

In Art, the children learnt about the history and technique of weaving. They looked at how weaving had been used to create clothing and blankets in the past and what that skill looks like today. With learning all about the Paris Olympics this year, the children weaved the French flag from coloured paper. They did a fantastic job!



The children have also enjoyed learning about African geometric patterns and prints. They designed their own patterns, considering the colours and patterns that are typically used in motifs across African countries, like Ghana and Zimbabwe. They then enjoyed using clay to replicate the design on a tile.

In Computing, we have learnt about digital photography and the ways in which we can improve our photography skills. We explored how to change the lighting and the effect this has on a photograph. The children enjoyed using equipment to edit their own photographs and apply filters.



During the second half of term, we explored how music makes us think and feel. We made patterns and used them to make music with both percussion instruments and digital tools. We created different rhythms and tunes, using the movement of animals for inspiration.

Toward the end of our computing in this term we shared our creations and compared creating music digitally and non-digitally.

In History, we have explored events in modern history and have looked at how our world has changed since the early twentieth century. During our lessons, we have learnt about changes in transport and space travel as well as comparing the British diet during the period of wartime rationing to our food culture today. We have listened to the real- life experiences of people who grew up in the 1930s and 1980s which gave us an insight into how technology and entertainment have changed in recent times.

Within our Geography lessons this term, we began looked at our new and exciting topic of Sensational Safari where we have learnt lots about Kenya. During our lessons, we built on our knowledge of human and physical features as well as comparing day to day life in the different countries. We have learnt some great facts about Kenya and how the life of a Kenyan child is very different to their life here in the UK.



During Design Technology, we enjoyed designing, making and evaluating our own felt bag. We explored joining techniques and learnt how to use a running stitch to attach two materials together.

In PSHE, we have covered a lot this term. To begin with, we looked at what body language is and how this can be an important way of communicating with others. The children played a fun game guessing what they person was feeling based on their body language and facial expressions. We then looked at hazards within our day-to-day life. During these lessons, we looked at petty arson and the dangers of playing with fire, the importance of being safe and sensible in a car and ensuring passengers are not a distraction to the driver as well as dealing with hazards within the classroom.



As part of our learning in RE, we explored Hinduism. We looked at Hindu beliefs, read a Hindu story and explored how Hindu's celebrate weddings.

We have also explored the importance of community and how we identify

communities within our own lives. The children discussed their sense of community in their families, school and within the city of Peterborough.

In athletics, we developed skills such as running at different speeds, jumping and throwing. We evaluated and measured our skills and performances, competing to improve on our own score and against others. During our target games lessons, we practised sending an object towards a target. We developed the skills of throwing, rolling and striking. We looked at how good communication and problem-solving skills are useful and how each member of the team has strengths. We developed our defending (fielding) and attacking (batting) for striking and fielding games such as rounders and cricket.

During Music, we looked at how a piece of music is structured and composed and how music can have different layers within it. We created our own music and enjoyed performing our finished pieces. As part of our topic 'Sensational Safari', we used different sounds and instruments to replicate the noises of the land including animals and traditional African music. We learnt a range of songs using call and response rhythms.

We had a fantastic day at Woburn Safari Park as part of our Sensational Safari topic. The day was so much fun! We enjoyed our tour of the animals, learning lots about them and what they spend their days doing. We also had a great science workshop where the children learnt more about how the animals live and survive in the wild looking at food chains and habitats. None of us wanted to come home!



We have had an amazing summer term! The children have been amazing and have wowed us with their determination and perseverance.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support this year and hope you all have a fantastic summer!

The Year 2 Team.