

Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 2

Friday 25 September 2020

This week we were delighted to welcome all of our Foundation Stage pupils to Girton Glebe full-time, meaning that all classes have now returned to a normal school curriculum.

The work that our children have been producing has been incredibly inspiring, and staff and pupils alike have returned with exceptionally high expectations across the school.

School Development

The last fortnight's staff meetings have focussed on a number of key areas. Teachers and senior leaders continue to identify gaps in knowledge and patterns in wellbeing across the school so that provision can be tailored to support all pupils on their return to full-time education.

We have also spent a considerable amount of time redesigning our curriculum content now that we are able to plan ahead for a single year-group structure. This structure allows us to organise the content of the curriculum and tailor it specifically to Girton Glebe. The long-term planning that staff have been putting in place is incredibly exciting and the resourcing has been supported by use of Cornerstones, which FOGG has generously funded for 12-months

Inset Reminder – October 5

A reminder that the school will be closed on Monday 5 October for staff training and development.

Oak Class

A note from Mr Austin on the work produced in Oak Class:

It remains a pleasure coming to school and having a class that is full of children once again. The children have adapted superbly to their new routines, after so long away, and they continue to work hard and immerse themselves in their learning.

In maths, we have been continuing to ensure that we are on top of the formal methods for the four operations, focusing thus far primarily on addition and subtraction. In English, we are powering through War Horse, which we are using as a trigger text for a range of different writing; the children seem

very much to be enjoying the book. This week they will be sharing the results of their World War One homework with me, and with each other. I am very much looking forward to that: a huge amount of hard work and dedication has been put into their projects!

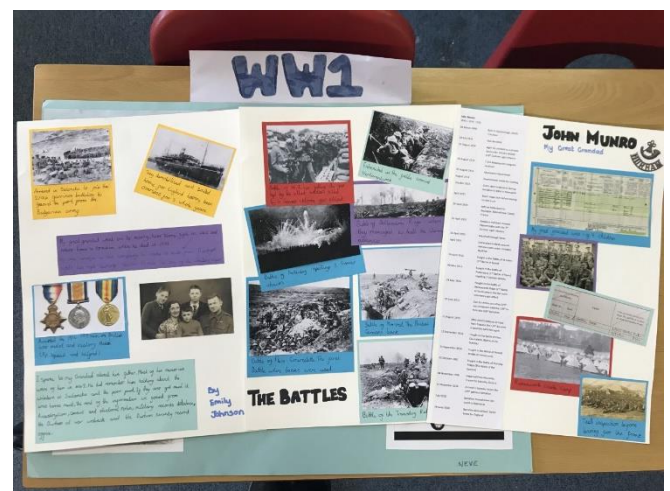
I ought also to mention that we have already had sight of a genuine pre-1914 rifle, which we were all very excited about. Those of us who were lucky enough to handle it could not believe quite how heavy it was!

Willow Class

A note from Miss Jolly on the work produced in Willow Class:

This week in Willow Class, we have been focusing on improving our vocabulary. The children have shown "impeccable" learning behaviour in the classroom, written some "remarkable" postcards based on our class text, Warhorse, and overcome their "apprehension" about being in a new year group.

We have mastered the written methods for addition and subtraction in maths and are beginning to look at what life was really like during WW1 in our history lessons. I have been incredibly impressed by the children's enthusiasm for our topic so far this half-term. They have produced some wonderful home research projects on their family histories, and we are really looking forward to finding out more about The Great War. Take a look at some of their super homework below:



Lime Class

An update on Lime Class, courtesy of Mrs Knowler and Ms Barber:

In Lime recently we have had lots of fun in the great outdoors. The children used found resources to come up with creative ideas to show a number line to 100 and then worked with their own allotted number to locate it on the number line. Mr Smart even managed an aerial shot from the roof, of the children with their amazing line! We have also been enjoying working with Emma Clifton, our visiting PE specialist, on developing tennis and key sports skills (Agility, Co-ordination, Speed and Balance).

In English, we have done some amazing descriptive writing based around the Firework Maker's daughter and strewn it liberally with similes and noun phrases.

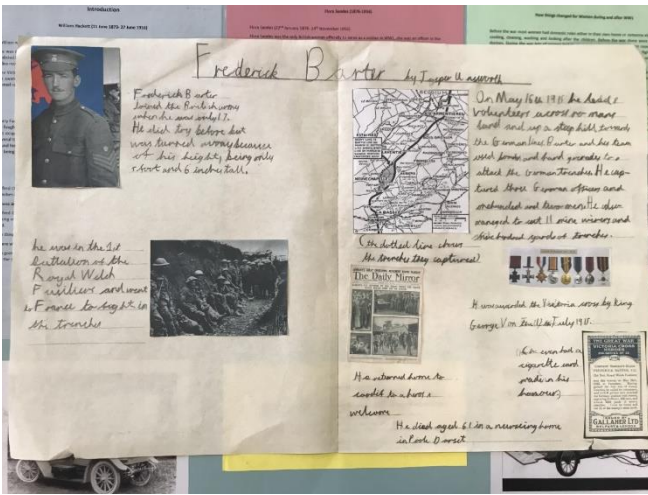
Ammonites, Fossils and other geology-related matters continues to fascinate. Show & Tell is very busy with artefacts to share and some of the art work and topic work is really impressive and shows our pupils' keen interest. Well done Lime!

Birch Class

Birch Class news from Mrs Evans:

This week in Birch Class, we have been developing our knowledge of nouns, adjectives and verbs to write our best sentences. We have also been reading a fantastic book called 'Pirate Stew', which we will be doing some writing about next week.

In maths, we have been getting better at understanding 2-digit numbers and in art, we have been preparing some drawings ready for a display. Here is a photo of some of our fantastic drawings of characters from 'Pirate Stew'.



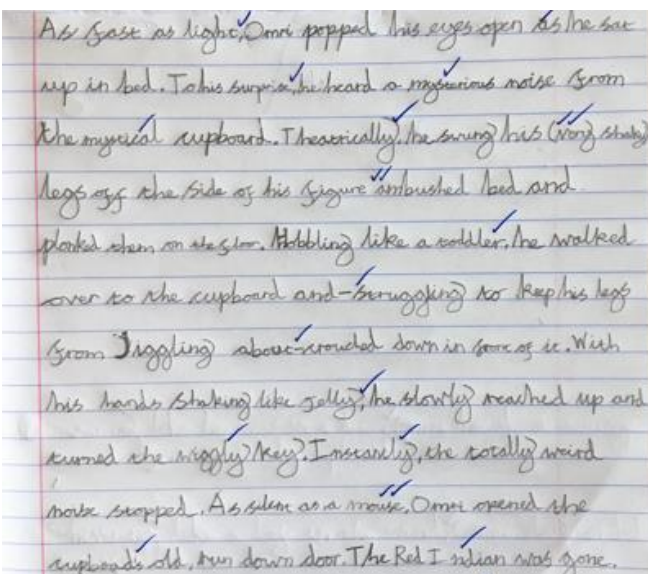
Cherry Class

An update on Cherry Class, courtesy of Miss Pyle:

Cherry Class have had a wonderful couple of weeks! Since the beginning of the school year, it has been not only wonderful to see their enthusiasm and engagement with all of their work, but great to see what a fabulous team they are: they work exceptionally well together and are always there to support each other.

We are thoroughly enjoying our class text, 'The Indian in the Cupboard' and have used it to inspire lots of our written work, which has been a pleasure to read. We have used fronted adverbials to show emotion and created our very own cupboards to fuel our ideas.

In project, the class have really enjoyed learning about New York and have created their own itinerary for a trip to this bustling city. Some of our must-see places include The Statue of Liberty and Central Park.



Maple Class

Maple news courtesy of Mrs Cawley and Mrs Daw:

Maple Class have been having a fantastic few weeks in school. We have been so impressed with the continued behaviour of all the children in the classroom and their respect for each other both during carpet time and when collaborating together during lessons.

The children are loving the Superhero topic this half term. In English, we have been reading, "Superworm" by Julia Donaldson. We have acted out the story and have written questions to ask Superworm, Evil Crow and Evil Lizard. All the children used the correct punctuation at the end of their questions. In addition, we have been reading "Malala's Magic Pencil" in topic lessons and discussing what makes Malala a real-life Superhero. We asked the children if they had a magic pencil what they would draw to help someone. The answers they came up with were so thoughtful and inspiring. It showed that they have a huge amount of compassion for others and for the world around them.

Ash Class

An update from Ash Class:

The children in Foundation Stage are having a great time exploring their new surroundings. They love being outside in the fresh air and are enjoying being with new friends. Our topic this first few weeks is 'Myself and Healthy Eating' and we have had some interesting discussions about who we are and what we like to eat and whether it is healthy or not.

The summer scrapbooks went down a storm – it was lovely to see all the activities you got up to over the summer.

The whole class took part in their first Forest School session this morning alongside Mr Smart.

Paper Helicopters!

In science this week, Oak and Willow have been learning about the different ways seeds can be dispersed. They enjoyed making paper helicopters, going outside and investigating how the wind affects the movement. They made sure that they dropped the helicopters each time from the same height in order to ensure that it was a fair test.

Some of the children extended their learning by investigating if the way they were facing when they dropped the helicopter affected how far it travelled. The children then used their results to work out the mean (average) distance their helicopter travelled.

Miss Evans Gets Her Trainers On!

Miss Evans has recently taken up running and is currently in the middle of raising money for Shelter. As a novice runner, she is attempting to clock up as many miles as possible during September and has written the following appeal for the newsletter:

This September, I have been taking part in a fundraising challenge to raise money for Shelter, a charity who are fighting for everyone in the UK to have a safe home – not just a roof over your head, but somewhere safe, secure and affordable. I have set myself the challenge to run at least 30 miles during the whole of September. As a *very* beginner runner, it has been fantastic to give this challenge a go and get better at running. I have so far run just over 20 miles and have been thoroughly enjoying it!

I believe Shelter are a fantastic charity as they help so many people each year. In the UK, as many as 6 million households are denied their right to a safe home or are threatened with losing it. 4,750 people sleep on the streets on any given night, and 90,000 households are stuck in unsuitable temporary accommodation, with a rise of 38% in the last 5 years.

If you would like to support me in this challenge by sponsoring me, you can follow this secure link and click 'give now' to donate any amount that you might like to give. Any donations or words of encouragement will be very much appreciated and gratefully received.

<https://homerun2020.everydayhero.com/uk/rachael-5>

Many thanks,

Miss Evans

Good luck, Rachael! This is an amazing idea for an excellent cause!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Spencer

Headteacher