



Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 4

Friday 23 October 2020

It has been such a busy half-term at Girton Glebe and our pupils have worked so hard over the last 8 weeks, producing some amazing learning. They have now completed their first topic since returning to school and, along with class teachers, deserve a well-earned rest after what has been the most extraordinary return to school we have ever had.

School Development

This week's staff meeting focussed on planning interventions to support our pupils in closing the gap and teachers spent time tailoring provision following our reflections and observations of children on their return to school.

I have also been in planning meetings with our catering provider, Nourish, to review risk assessments for bringing back hot lunches to the school menu. Doing so will require pupils to visit the school hall for lunches instead of dining in classrooms and we hope to see these plans in place during the first few weeks of next half term. Further information will follow after the break.

Ash Class

An Ash Update from Ms Cansdale:

We have been learning all about our skeleton and how it supports our body and protects our internal organs. We saw x-rays of bones and talked about how a baby's bones are still soft. In Forest School, we made a giant skeleton by finding sticks that resembled parts of the human skeleton.



This week marks the end of our topic All About Me. To begin with, we looked at how tiny and vulnerable we were as babies. Then we compared this to how we have grown. Finally, we looked at what makes our body work.

We have read stories about 'Titch' and 'Alfie' who are very small. In maths we been comparing sizes and have looked at big, medium and small. We have been measuring things and even measured ourselves! We shall measure ourselves again at Christmas to see how much we have grown. Have a lovely half term. Our next topic will be Light & Dark.

Maple Class

A Maple update from Mrs Cawley and Mrs Daw:

What a SUPER first half-term Maple Class have had in Year 1! During the last couple of weeks, we have been retelling the 'Superworm' story focusing on our sentence structure and using full stops and capital letters. We are SUPER impressed with Maple Class's writing and how much effort they have put into it.

In Maths, we have been focusing on measurement, specifically length and height. We have been practising with using informal units of measure, such as paperclips or multi-link cubes and have progressed on to using rulers, focusing on centimetres.

On Thursday we celebrated the end of this topic with a Superhero day and our children all looked fabulous in their costumes! Many thanks to all parents and carers for supporting this! We are looking forward to our new topic when we come back – it's going to be ROARSOME!!!

Birch Class

A Birch Class update courtesy of Miss Evans:

Birch Class have come to the end of their 'Land Ahoy!' topic and have done some amazing pieces of work for it. This week, the children have finished writing their own biographies of Grace Darling - a lighthouse keeper's daughter from the Victorian times who saved many lives during a terrible storm.

The children drafted their biographies and then made their very own books using coloured card, scissors, glue, treasury

tags, felt tip pens and coloured crayons. They did a fantastic job and their writing books look amazing! Well done, Birch. The final excitement to end the topic was a Pirate Day hosted today. This featured a treasure hunt, the making of treasure maps and hearing some sea shanties played on the violin! The children looked amazing in their costumes and it was a fabulous celebration to end our topic. Well done, all!

Lime Class

A Lime Class update from Ms Barber and Mrs Knowler:

Since the last newsletter, we have had an explosive time in Lime class. We have immersed ourselves in volcano poetry and learned more about the different types and classes of volcano around the world. The amazing language that the children have learned has been then used to great effect in their own shape poems, which you may have seen on Seesaw.

In maths, we have got to grips with column addition and understood how accurate and neat work really does make a difference. Muddy Maths has continued whatever the weather, and really helped to consolidate the children's learning.

One highlight was the visit of Mike Mullen, using bikes and clever tricks to put over his core Growth Mindset and resilience messages in a way that could not have been more fun! The children have also worked hard on doing some of their own volcano research about an aspect of their choice. We think they have earned a good break over half term for all of their efforts!

Cherry Class

A Cherry Class update from Miss Pyle:

Cherry Class have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Iroquois tribe this half term and have, this week, finished some fantastically informative non-chronological reports on them. It has been wonderful to see them challenge themselves to use a range of sentence openers and to organise their paragraphs effectively with an opening sentence, factual information and a concluding sentence. They should all be very proud of themselves!

Meanwhile, in project, they have recently visited The Everglades, Florida, which they created posters about on PicCollege. For our final visit to the USA, we chose our own state to visit; Hawaii was the most popular, where they have only 12 letters in their native language alphabet!

Willow Class

Willow Class news from Miss Jolly:

I am incredibly proud of all of the children in Willow Class for their continued hard work, resilience and positive attitudes this half-term. This week, we have celebrated some amazing progress in times tables - some children have reduced their times tables time from over 40 minutes to under 5! It is clear that all of the class are working exceptionally hard at home and it has been lovely to see their pride in their progress and their enthusiasm to keep improving.

In the classroom this week, we have written some very creative WW1 stories in English, mastered solving problems with decimals in Maths and created some eye-catching Dazzle Ships as part of our WW1 project.

Oak Class

Oak news from Mr Austin:

The children in Oak Class have worked very hard this half term across all areas of the curriculum. In History recently, they have been sensitively examining original letters from 1914 in order to discover why so many young boys lied about their ages in order to join the Great War. Some wonderful writing also resulted from these investigations in English this week. They have also been sensitive analysers of various aspects of Hinduism, through which they have recognised the true meaning of the swastika; they also produced some wonderfully insightful personal symbols of their own.

An amazing array of trench model homework was also shared with the class last week: each and every one of them demonstrated ingenuity, attention to detail and a deep understanding of what was being built, in equal measure. Your children's creations are truly amazing!

Congratulations to Ms Cansdale

Congratulations to Ms Cansdale who is getting married tomorrow, after previous attempts were thwarted by lockdown. We extend our best wishes to the happy couple and hope they have a lovely day surrounded by their closest family.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Spencer

Headteacher