



Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 5

Friday 13 November 2020

The children have returned from a restful half-term break and are all engaged in their new topic work with renewed enthusiasm! It has been lovely to see some of the work that the children have been completing around school and below is a summary of the learning that has been taking place in each classroom...

School Development

This week's staff meeting focussed on further provision for remote learning whilst last week, teachers were given training on developing orienteering skills.

You may have seen little red and white cards appearing around the school site and these are just some of the way markers that were installed last week. These way markers represent activities for the children to complete, and the tasks that support this work enable staff to supplement cross-curricular learning alongside the development of orienteering skills.

Children in Need

Many thanks to all who supported the Children in Need appeal today by sending donations and coming in to school dressed in your pyjamas!

Oak Class

An Oak Class update from Mr Austin:

As ever, the children in Oak Class are continuing to work very hard and are a delight to teach. This week, we have been thinking about those who sacrificed so much for us during World War One. Our discussions have been all the more poignant because of the knowledge that many of the children now have of their own ancestors' involvement in the conflict. They have produced some wonderful poetry this week, focusing on the emotions that would have been felt by the men in the trenches. They have also been working hard on writing powerful, descriptive diary entries, written from the points of view of the soldiers; I can't wait to read them.

In addition, they have created some wonderful commemorative watercolour pictures. In maths, we have been working hard on developing our reasoning skills.



Willow Class

An update from Miss Jolly:

Willow class have been working incredibly hard on their writing since coming back from half term. I am so proud of the progress all of the children have made in the accuracy and presentation of their work, and many are now beginning to use mature grammatical structures such as relative clauses and the passive voice in their independent writing, too! I was very impressed with both the quality and quantity of their most recent homework project - the story of WW1 hero, Sergeant Stubby. Well done!

In Maths, we have mastered converting fractions to decimals and percentages and are now beginning to solve problems involving fractions. The class have been trying to work out whether it is better to eat $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{3}{6}$ of a cake and whether they should complete $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{7}{8}$ of their homework! This week was also a very important week in our history topic, as we covered the significance of Remembrance and celebrated this special day by beginning a beautiful collaborative poppy collage. Two of the Year 6 children also visited the local war memorial to lay Girton Glebe's wreath to mark the occasion.



Cherry Class

Cherry news from Miss Pyle:

Cherry Class have had a wonderful two weeks! We have started our new project on 'Gods and Mortals'. This has seen us learning about the Ancient Greeks, and we are thoroughly enjoying the myth of 'Theseus and the Minotaur'. Our descriptive writing based on this so far has been fantastic. Well done all! In Project, we have enjoyed learning about Zeus and writing our own names in Greek.

Lime Class

A Lime update from Mrs Knowler and Mrs Barber:

Lime class have come back happily after a restful half term and continue to enjoy their learning. On Monday we had a fantastic visit from Dr Morag Hunter, a geologist from Cambridge University, who came to talk about all things volcano and rock related. The children asked lots of very good questions and learned so much more. Dr Hunter was very impressed with their knowledge and enthusiasm. We have enjoyed seeing the quality of homework that children are doing and the ingenuity with which they have pursued the tasks. Where a task is more open-ended it is great to see children follow their own interests.

Firework night passed without much excitement outside school but Lime class painted their own displays and, by the end of this week, will have followed instructions to make their own volcanoes. Muddy maths is always a highlight of the children's week enjoyed by all except the cleaners and the washing machines!

Birch Class

Birch news from Miss Evans:

Since returning from the half term holiday, Birch class have been thoroughly engaged in their new topic, Magnificent Monarchs. They have started learning about different kings and queens throughout history and have discussed some

very impressive vocabulary such as power, parliament, monarch and government. They have had a go at sketching some parts of the Bayeux Tapestry, while learning about William the Conqueror and also made a great start on understanding timelines.

In maths, Birch class have been developing their adding and subtracting skills and, in English, have been learning about punctuation and subordinating conjunctions, ready to start a very exciting piece of writing next week...

Maple Class

Maple news from Mrs Cawley and Mrs Daw:

The children in Maple Class have begun their new dinosaur topic with much enthusiasm! The children already knew lots about dinosaurs and were very excited to share their knowledge of the topic so far. In English, we have been reading non-fiction texts about dinosaurs and discussing the difference between non-fiction and fiction books. In maths, we have been working on part-whole models with addition number sentences. The children have been really great at understanding that the total is the whole and that the parts are what make up the total.

The most popular area of Maple Class this half term is our dinosaur museum, where children can dig for fossils. All the children love pretending they are palaeontologists, like the famous fossil finder Mary Anning. We can't wait to learn more about Mary Anning in the coming weeks.

Ash Class

Ash news from Ms Cansdale:

Ash Class have been having fun with numbers. We have been learning to recognise 4 and 5. We took a big box of objects and put all the things that had four holes, four wheels, four sides, four legs into a basket to make a group. Then we did it all over again using the number five! This will help us to familiarise ourselves with how the numbers work and what being a number 4 or 5 means. We all found shapes hidden in the class and wrote chalk numbers on the paving stones outside.

The children have been practising their letter sounds and using these to say the initial sounds in words. Our story of Can't You Sleep Little Bear contained a mixture of maths and reading. We then put lanterns into size order for little bear.

We know which animals like the dark and the difference between nocturnal and diurnal animals. Next week we will travel into space like astronauts!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Spencer

Headteacher