



WINHILLS

Year 5 and Year 6

Fortnightly Newsletter

Year 5

In English, Year 5 have been working on extending their vocabulary and range of sentence structures by using some great video clips as stimuli. The children loved both 'Dream Giver' and the high diving giraffes! This week, they wrote some powerful poems describing hummingbirds and the Aurora Borealis.

In Maths, the focus has been on securing written calculation methods for all four operations. so, if your child is still finding any difficult, please do talk to us for advice about how to help them. This week, they have practiced solving one-step, two-step and even multi-step word problems using these methods.

The new Science topic is a Biology one looking at the growth and life-cycles of both plants and animals. The children have planted seeds and potato tubers as well as taking leaf and stem cuttings. They plan to track the progress of these while learning about mammals.

Year 6

Congratulations to all the children in Year 6 who this week have completed their SATs assessments in SPAG, reading and maths. All the children worked extremely hard and gave their all, and we are very proud of each and everyone of them. We were delighted to see so many children attend our breakfast club, and want to say a huge thank you to Mrs Lee for all of her hard work in the kitchen.

Over the past few days, we have started our new topic on British Explorers, with a focus on Ernest Shackleton's expedition across Antarctica. The children have already started researching about Antarctica and will spend the next few weeks looking at the famous voyage on The Endurance, including taking on roles as members of Shackleton's crew. They will then write fact files on Antarctica, letters of application to join the crew, and diaries in the role of key characters.

In Science, we will be looking at evolution and inheritance, exploring the theories of Charles Darwin and the history of Neanderthals.

Foundation Subjects

The new topic in Year 5 is to learn all about the life of the ancient Maya civilisation of Central America. With Miss McKenzie, the children have learnt about the historical and geographical context, and have already designed and begun to make colourful Maya inspired masks. On Tuesdays, Miss Murden has been furthering the children's computing knowledge of algorithms.

As part of our topic, Year 6 will use Antarctica as a stimulus for our art work, including creating images based on the work of Nerys Levy, who used the wax-resist technique. The children will also be using ICT as a large part of the topic work, before looking at programming using scratch.

Reminders

Y5 Homework: It is important that children consolidate their learning in class by completing their homework each week. Written English homework (usually including spelling) is set on a Wednesday and needs to be returned on time—the following **Monday**. Math Whizz is counted from Monday-Sunday and children must complete 60 minutes each week or attend Maths Whizz club. If your child does not attend Maths Whizz club one week, they must still complete the 60 minutes. Children need to read for at least 20 minutes per night.

Equipment: There are still children coming to school without PE kits, water bottles and sun hats. Please can you ensure your child is equipped for the summer term with the necessary items everyday.

Nurture

Inspire

Flourish