

November



Headteacher

Another month has flown by, and I cannot believe it is now less than three weeks until we break up for Christmas. This Friday, 3rd December, is our 'Christmas Shop Day'. Thank you for all your donations so far - please feel free to still send in items if you wish. I know this is a popular event and we always sell out!

The end of this month has been a little difficult in school and changes to Covid guidance has meant some of our Christmas plans have had to change too. We are all hoping that the guidance is only a temporary measure and that, come 2022, we will be able to invite parents into school again to see the great work that takes place. Again, thank you for your continued support.

EYFS In Reception this month, we have been learning about traditional tales from our culture and from other countries and cultures. We started November by learning the story of Rama and Sita and finding out about how this story is celebrated in the Hindu celebration of Diwali. We also created some beautiful artwork linked to the Bonfire Night and Remembrance. During Anti-Bullying Week, we shared stories about being a kind friend and discussed who we can talk to if we are worried. We have continued to read familiar traditional stories such as 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. This week, we made some gingerbread men of our own and we were surprised to discover that one of the gingerbread men had disappeared! The children are designing 'WANTED' posters to help locate the missing gingerbreadman.



Year 1

We have had an exciting November in Year 1. The month began with a virtual visit from Alex T. Smith. We listened with such interest and fascination and we are now reading his amazing book—'How Winston Delivered Christmas' and also using the text to support with our fantastic writing in English. We also enjoyed a visit, in person, from the amazing poet Matt Goodfellow and we will be sharing one of his poetry books after Christmas. In anti-bullying week, we learning about kindness and how using 'one kind word' can change someone's day. We also had the opportunity to review our school's anti bullying policy. Linked to our anti-bullying learning, was our odd sock day – celebrating differences and, through a non-uniform day, we were able to raise vital money to support children less fortunate than ourselves.

In history, we have been learning about the fascinating life of local businessman and philanthropist – Sir Henry Tate. In science, we have been using our senses to explore our surroundings whilst in music, we have been learning very special songs for our Nativity performance.

We are very much looking forward with excitement to December, sharing Christmas stories and finding out what our Christmas elf will get up to!

Year 2

Wow - November has flown by! We started the month with a brilliant Anti-Bullying week, we had lots of discussions about what bullying is and the children had really intelligent ideas about how to stop a bully. We had the privilege of meeting the author Alex T. Smith virtually and loved listening to him talk about his great novel 'How Winston Delivered Christmas'. This has been our class novel for a few weeks now and the children are hooked and cannot wait to see how Winston will eventually get to the North Pole! An assembly with the poet Matt Goodfellow really inspired us to read poems and we wrote wonderful 'kennings' poems all about Sir Henry Tate. In maths, our focus has been measures and this has allowed us to use the wonderful school grounds to learn outdoors, completing various problem-solving lessons using outdoor materials and using metre sticks to accurately measure the jumps and throwing we have been learning in PE. A highlight this half term has definitely been having Ms Jones teach singing. With her support, we have written and composed our own song all about Chorley and the local community, it's so meaningful to us as it is all about how we feel about our hometown and the pride we feel in living here – it is fantastic and we can't wait for you to hear it!



Year 3

Over the last few months, Year 3 have produced some amazing work across the curriculum. We started our fraction topic with great enthusiasm using all the equipment from our maths boxes. In our writing, we have started our new book 'Vlad and the Florence Nightingale Adventures' by Kate Cunningham— an author that the children met via Zoom whilst in Year 2. In history, we have started our Victorian topic, learning about schools, inventions and Queen Victoria. We have also researched the concept of 'afternoon tea' in DT have tasted biscuits and different flavourings to help us create a design for our own biscuits— we are really excited to create our very own afternoon tea.

Year 4

Year 4 have been working really hard over the past few months and have really amazed me with their effort and the work they have produced.

In English, we have been continuing with our live lessons with Pie Corbett. We have been writing our own version of the novel 'Podkin One Ear' by creating our own characters and settings. We have all really enjoyed this and have produced fantastic writing.

In our topic, we have been looking at the Victorians and we have thoroughly enjoyed researching about different aspects including Christmas cards, transport, Queen Victoria and schools. We have really enjoyed looking at the differences between school in the Victorian era compared to the present day. From our research, we have now designed our own Christmas card which we are going to create in our DT using our sewing skills.

Year 5

We launched into our Victorian Age topic with a day in the life of a Victorian school child. We learned about the curriculum through experiencing a typical Victorian lesson. We built upon this knowledge in history by learning about Victorian inventions and inventors. In PE, we are midway through our own Victorian laundry dance and in DT we are busy creating Victorian style cam toys. In maths, we have started learning about area and perimeter and applying it to real life situations. We have also started creating our own stories following Pie Corbett's 'Live Teach' and using our class novel 'Cogheart' for inspiration. We look forward to creating some festive work now in the countdown to Christmas .

Year 6

November has come and gone in a flash! In Year 6, we have been working so hard in all our lessons the days have gone by in a blur! We had the amazing opportunity to meet Matt Goodfellow— a published author!. Matt came into school and held a poetry workshop in our class and talked to us about 'rebel writing' and how poetry is for everyone and not to be worried about writing it, just write what you think and inspires you. In maths, we have started to look at fractions and are moving on to multiplying and dividing fractions, which sounds hard and a bit scary...but it isn't! During our history lessons, we have been learning about Victorian life and how the changing role of steam power affected the Victorian way of life. During our DT sessions, we are focusing on creating a light up house using our science skills and knowledge of electricity.

