



WHIPTON BARTON FEDERATION

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. Louise Moretta

Spring 1 Newsletter

Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we have seen the children work hard and make excellent progress in their learning. As the early signs of Spring are emerging, we are also beginning to run educational trips and visits to further enrich the curriculum.

We have welcomed a number of external visitors to our school in recent weeks, including Sir David Carter who previously held the role of National Schools Commissioner and Regional Schools Commissioner in the South West – he was very impressed by the work our children demonstrated, as well as their great manners and the excellent behaviour he observed in every year group. As always, we were very proud of how the children conducted themselves.

This week, every year groups has 'virtually' linked with another of our Primary Schools in the Trust to share their learning. We have enjoyed meeting the children and staff at Marine Academy Primary in Plymouth, Exwick Heights Primary School and Cranbrook Education Campus. The staff already work closely so it was fabulous to involve the children in this positive collaboration too.

We would like to wish you a lovely half term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 20th February.

Mrs. Louise Moretta
Headteacher

Attendance

Did you know that if your child is regularly late arriving at school, this will significantly impact their learning and attainment?

If you are struggling and would like extra support, please do get in touch with a member of the Senior Leadership Team or our Attendance Officer (Natasha Begam).



Reading Volunteers

Are you able to spare a couple of hours a week to hear children read in school? If so then please email admin@whiptonbarton.org and we will let you have more information about the role including the DBS process and the simple training that you will receive.

SEND Corner

What is SEN Support?

All children with special educational needs receive support to help them manage in school and make progress. This is called SEN Support (or SEN provision).

SEN support is the core support that all children and young people with SEND get, whether they have an EHC plan or not. If your child does have an EHC plan, then they will have core SEN support as well as the specialised extra support that's listed in their plan.

SEN support in nurseries, schools and colleges is based around the specific needs of each child or young person. It's support that your child gets that is different from, or extra to, what other children their age normally get.

Children who require SEN Support are listed on our school's SEND register to ensure that they are getting the support they require.

How SEN support is planned and given?

Support for all children and young people with SEN is planned and given using something called the graduated response.

The graduated response helps professionals to come up with a clear plan of support for your child. At Whipton Barton we document each child's SEN support on a provision matrix. This is regularly reviewed and changed when needed, as your child's needs change. We are currently in the process of reviewing how these are written and teachers will begin sharing these with parents of children having SEN support within the next term.

Online Safety

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Under 13



13+



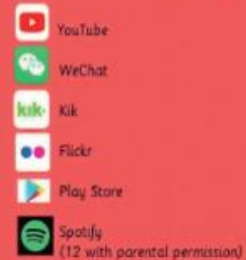
16+



17+



18+ or 13 with parent's permission



Reception



This term, our topic has been 'Twisted Tales'. We have read a variety of books, such as 'Pigs Might Fly', 'A Chair For Baby Bear' and 'The Enormous Turnip'. These books have inspired some great learning, for example, designing and building chairs for Baby Bear, sorting materials and growing cress.

In Maths, we have been finding the total by adding the parts together, using a 'part-whole model', as well as comparing the length, height and weight of objects.

We continue to learn new sounds and recap previously taught sounds in phonics and then we have been using this sound knowledge to write words and sentences. We are also learning to read and write red words, e.g. 'the' and 'said'.

Reception also had an exciting visit from some local farmers and enjoyed asking them questions about life on their farms!

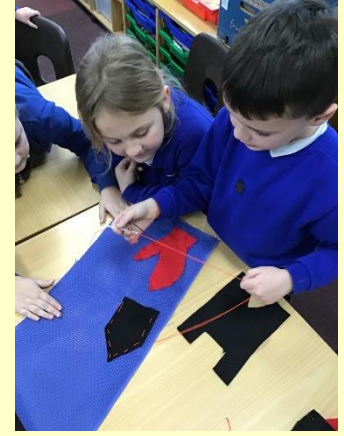
Year 1

To spark awe and wonder for our new topic Ancient Egypt, the children had the opportunity to explore a tomb and look at a variety of pictures relating to the Egyptians. This starting point supported children into thinking about questions they would like to ask about the new topic. The children have learnt lots of information about Ancient Egypt including why they lived close to the River Nile and also how they wrote using hieroglyphics.

In Computing, we have been learning about algorithms and how to give precise directions. We have all loved programming the Beebots around a variety of maps as well as writing algorithms for Beebot to find the treasure on a map.



Year 2

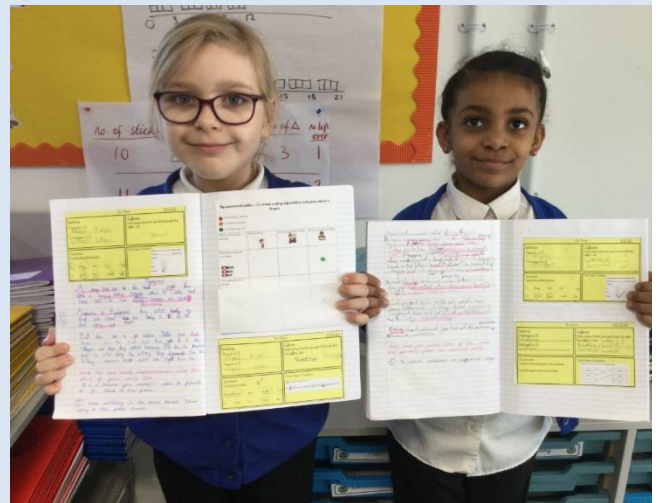


We've had a busy term in Year 2 as we've whizzed through January. The children have really enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London and have understood this subject really well. This significant event has inspired their art work including a collaborative sewing project which is coming together stitch by stitch. Earlier this term, the pupils wrote their own version of Little Red Riding Hood in our English lessons and some of these were very funny and also very long. Science this term has been all about exploring the suitability of different materials and the children have demonstrated a good understanding of the material world around them. Both classes have been making their material monsters this week and they're looking good. We've also had lots of children reading at home and completing AR quizzes which has been great to see so please keep this up as we move into a new term.

Year 3

We've had a great term in Year 3 and have been working really hard on our story writing skills this term. Not only are the children producing a great deal more writing, but it is of a super quality too. All of the pink highlighting that teachers use when marking demonstrates where children have used the Year 3 objectives of expanded noun phrases, adverbials and conjunctions.

We have also been fortunate enough to have coaching sessions with Exeter Chiefs as well as enjoying experimenting with the water colour paints in our Art unit of work.



Year 4

We have had such an exciting half term in Year 4. In English, we have been working hard to write an alternative traditional tale. The children have all put their own twist on some well-known stories, and have created some fantastic pieces. We hope to share some of them with you after half-term. In Maths we have also been working really hard, learning more about how to multiply 2 digits by 1 digit. Next half term, we will be continuing to develop our knowledge of Fractions and Area.

In Art, we have had great fun creating our wonderful Anglo-Saxon tie-dye cloaks! We made a very colourful and interesting bunch during our visit to Escot today. In Guided Reading we have had enormous fun, reading about the adventures of Omar and discovered a little about how exactly he attracts so much trouble! Through our text, we have learned more about the Islamic faith, which we have developed further in our RE lessons. Building on our prior knowledge of Islam, we have learnt more about what Muslims believe and how prayer is structured within the Islamic faith. The children have had insightful discussions about how Muslims bring harmony into their lives and how they might do the same.



Year 5

This term, year 5 have enjoyed learning all about medieval monarchs. In our lessons, a consistent theme has been discussing whether we judge these famous Kings and Queens to be good or bad,



exploring the children's reasoning behind this. Our unit culminated in a live video call with the Year 5 classes from the Marine Academy in Plymouth, with our children sharing both portraits and information on each of the 7 monarchs we studied, as well as a dramatic retelling of the Battle of Hastings! Besides from our topic work, the children have been working hard learning some classic Shakespeare plays and using this as inspiration to write their own versions of these playscripts, which will be acted out at the end of the term. We have also been testing our patience and creativity through learning the delicate skill of quilling in Art. To add to this, we have been problem-solving and developing our skills linked to fractions in Maths, as well as enjoying lots of opportunities to read and discuss 'Cogheart' in Guided Reading. It has also been excellent to see how many children in Year 5 are regularly updating their reading records online with Boom Reader.

Year 6

This half term in Year 6 we have been studying the classic fiction text, Kensuke's Kingdom. The children have used fantastic creative writing skills to describe their own character's dramatic events and how this made them feel. In Maths, we have been looking at ratio and proportion and applying these to reasoning problems. We have also been enjoying our Science unit in which we have been exploring how light moves and how it can be manipulated to our advantage – this was demonstrated in a lesson where we made our own periscopes!

