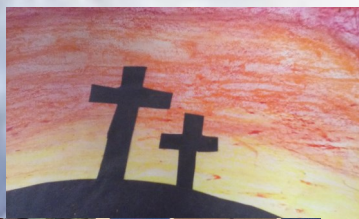


Castle Community Term 2 Newsletter 2024

What a great Autumn Term! The children have all settled back into the school routine and Zog Class have made so many new friends across the whole of our Castle Community. It is great to see our older children taking time to play with and show our youngest pupils how toys work or where things are tidied away. We are a respectful team.

The past 16 weeks have been filled with learning and laughter! Let's take a look back at some of the amazing things we have all been up to so far this academic year.

Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year, from Mrs Barnett



Year 6

In term 1, our Discovery learning was about how and when WW2 started and ended; the significant events during WW2 (e.g. the Battle of Britain and the Blitz); what Hitler's agenda was; the impact this had on Britain and why rationing was introduced. In DT, we made a common rationed recipe: rock buns! In art, we created Remembrance pictures using pastels and sugar paper.

Ivy - I really enjoyed making rock buns as part of our Discovery DT. We were learning about rationing and how families had limited ingredients.



Myley - During Discovery art, we designed our own piece of WW2 artwork using pastels. This was a fun lesson, and I learnt to use different techniques. I really liked the colours and am proud of my final piece.

Head Pupils

Our new Head Pupils have been chosen! They will take on the responsibility of ensuring Health and Safety concerns are reported and will represent the school at our Trust Parliament meetings, making sure the voices of the children from Bobbing Village School are heard on hot topics such as curriculum development and improvements to the learning environments.



Restorative Justice Ambassadors

The children completed their training with Mr Harwood and are ready to help support Castle Community during break and lunch times. They will help sort out small friendship worries and suggest ways of moving the relationships forward.



Reading Ambassadors

The children will support during lunchtimes in our reading dome. They will share stories with the younger children or suggest books that the older children might enjoy reading by themselves.



Charity Events

Remembrance day raised £202.94

Children in need raised £352.13

Year R

Zog Class didn't disappoint us this year with their Nativity play. The story centred on a little Christmas Angel who decides she needs to tell children about the real meaning behind why we celebrate Christmas Day.

The children delivered their lines beautifully and were so confident as they acted out their roles.

We think there maybe a few future choir members ready to represent our school as they continue to grow.

Freddie- I enjoyed every single bit. I liked the Little Donkey song and when Mrs Barnett helps us to be brave.



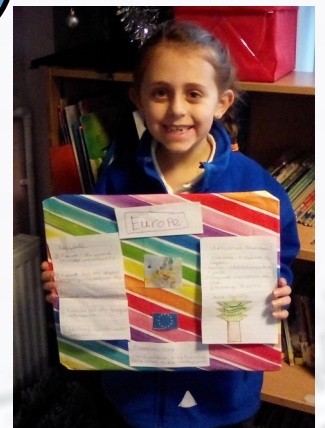
Year 3

Year 3's topic has been a 'Window into Europe'. We have used the iPads to research landmarks and rivers in Europe, explored mountain ranges and plotted them on our maps and our home learning was to research a country. Some of us created wonderful posters which had amazing facts about our chosen country as well as a clay model of The Great Wall of China!

Milla-The homework was really cool because we learnt facts .


Evie-Did you know, 84 million people live in Germany!

Emmanuel- The populations if you combine them all is 750 million people in Europe.



Year 4

Our Discovery topic so far this year in Year 4, has been rainforests. In term 1, we focused on gorillas and the layers of the rainforest, and in term 2, we learnt about the Mayans and the impact that their lifestyle has on us today. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about these fascinating things and have created some amazing pieces of work that they are very proud of.



Oscar—I have really enjoyed the art, as I love drawing.

Honey—I really like how gorillas communicate and how they look. I enjoyed the sketches that we made.

Annie—I learnt that the Mayans had maize as their main source of diet and that gorillas have no tails!

Year 1

We kicked off our theme, 'Planet Earth', with a fun crash landing site on the school grounds. "The alien crash landing was so fun and exciting", lots of the children excitedly said. Throughout the term, we learned about our planet so we could share everything the aliens needed to know about where we live. The children enjoyed studying our local area, the United Kingdom, and the capital cities.

As we moved into Term 2, our theme switched to 'Three Queens', and the children have absolutely loved learning about Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria, and Queen Elizabeth I. We've been so impressed with their knowledge of each monarch. "Queen Elizabeth II was special and it was fun learning facts about her", enthusiastically said one child. The children also thoroughly enjoyed learning about London and its famous landmarks. "I love London and now I know lots about it for when I next visit", said another child. The children also loved designing and making their royal crowns and cucumber sandwiches as part of their Royal Tea Party learning. Very well done, Dover Class, for all your amazing learning. We are so pleased with all of you!



OPAL

We end this term with the fantastic news that we have now received our OPAL accreditation and we are extremely pleased to tell you we have a GOLD award! OPAL is a continuing project to provide our children with engaging and adventurous play opportunities which we will continue to develop and evolve.

We are very grateful to Jacksons, the contract workers developing the Grovehurst Road, for their donation of barriers, salt bins and sand. We have also been donated a dolls house with dolls and superheroes which we are very grateful for.

We will soon be opening our large sandpit for which we are currently collecting toys suitable for sand play e.g. buckets, spades and construction toys.

There are a number of things which we would still love to add to our provision, details will be coming home soon. If you can help with this please bring your donations in and leave at the drop off point to the right of the main reception door.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Price OPAL Lead



Lenny—I like to play on the bikes

Violet—I like the reading dome, it is a calm place.

Cash—I like seeing how much the sandpit is growing.

Gabby—I like the music, we can play different types of music and dance to them.



Year 5

Year 5 have had a great start to the academic year! Over the last two terms, they have been learning about Inspirational women or "Rebel Girls" and Ancient Greece. The children have had to get used to a new classroom, new adults and new learning but have coped extremely well with all the changes.

When learning about inspirational women, the children loved learning about Rosa Parks, and they recorded their own news reports in groups about when she refused to move from her seat on the bus. The engagement and discussions the class had were brilliant. Throughout the term, the children loved learning about a variety of inspirational women from all over the world who have all achieved amazing things.

In Term 2, our topic has been "Ancient Greece". The children were given the opportunity to research and present their findings about the geography of Greece and how it has changed over time. They loved getting the iPads out and sharing their findings with their classmates! When learning about the invention of democracy, Haver Class took part in a drama sketch where they completed a vote "Should girls have the same rights as boys"- as this was not the case in Greece at this time. The children were given characters and could only vote if they were a citizen of Athens (i.e a free male over the age of 18). They engaged in this thoroughly and they learnt a lot about the beginning of democracy. In the last week of term, the children have had a go at making a Greek salad. Some children tried their creations and we had some mixed responses! We hope the children have a wonderful Christmas break and return ready to learn about "Valhalla".

Humphrey - We learnt about Rose Parks and I thought that was important because it showed how important it is to treat everyone with respect and treat everyone the same, even if they're a different colour or believe different things.

Gabriel- I loved researching about Greece and being able to present it in a way I wanted to. I really enjoyed learning about Greece and what it was like in those times.





Year 2

Leeds class have had an exciting start to year 2. In term 1 we explored 500 years ago in the time of the Tudors. Leeds class loved learning and performing Henry and his six wives song and really enjoyed our drama of the Battle of Bosworth.

This term, we began studying The Stuarts era and in particular The Great Fire of London. We have continued with drama of acting out what a Stuart street looked like and how close the neighbours were! Leeds class loved learning that they could have passed a cup of tea through the windows to each other.

Leeds class have impressed me SO much with their fantastic historical recall and I cannot wait to experience our ICE topic with them in Term 3!

We have had a fantastic first two terms of the year in Castle Community! The children have thoroughly enjoyed their new Discovery topics and have been so proud to share both their learning achievements and "Shout Outs" for their peers in our Friday Celebration Assemblies. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and I am looking forward to hearing all about it from the children in January.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs Knight

Castle Community Assistant Head