

Autumn Term Newsletter

26th October 2012



Hazel



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What a fantastic start to the year! The children have settled well into their new class and have worked incredibly hard. They have shown themselves to be great performers in our class assembly and confident to use a wide range of talents in front of an audience. These talents will be demonstrated again after half term as we turn our thoughts to Christmas!

We look forward to seeing you all back and ready to go on Monday 5th November 2012. Have a lovely holiday!

Mrs Seymour and Mrs Daniels ☺

Literacy

Our literacy this half term focussed on poetry and narrative stories. We looked particularly closely at traditional stories from our own and other cultures. We compared in detail the 'We're going on ...' style of story. We took the pattern of the language and created our own versions of the story very successfully.



We will be reading a variety of stories from other cultures as we travel around the world collecting stories with the Blogg family. If you know a traditional story from your childhood we would love to share it with the children.



Numeracy

Our numeracy work this half term has focussed on the children's understanding of place value and numbers 0-10, 20 and 100. We have introduced the children to a wide variety of mental maths warm up games which begin lessons in a fun, interactive way. We have encouraged children to see maths all around them, eg, when they go to the shops and spend money, when they recognise the shapes of things they might see around them, telling the time etc

The children enjoyed a recent unit of work looking at gathering information using tally charts and then transferring this to pictograms and bar charts.

Well done to all the Year 2 children who have risen to the challenge of learning their number bonds and times tables ready for their Thursday tests with Debbie!

RE - Our Church Visit

The children really enjoyed the opportunity to walk to the church earlier this term as part of our Harvest celebrations. They were taught about the many different ways that our food is harvested.

They visited stations around the church that explained what can be harvested from the earth, grain, ocean, flock and the garden.



The activities at each station made it possible for the children to touch and ask questions about the different objects such as the size of different seeds, what the grain feels like and how wool can be made. It gave the children a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the message of harvest and to think of all the many gifts given by the earth.



Enrichment Curriculum



Who would have thought Mrs Davidson's missing luggage would have become such an exciting mystery!

It all started when her suitcases were returned to school after the holiday - only to find that they were not hers! The children did some great detective work trying to predict who such cases could belong to and what they might contain. Their expressions when they found out who the cases belonged to was one of surprise and curiosity.

More photos to add!

Since then the class have emailed the owner of the case after an address was found in a notebook. It turns out that the Blogg family are travelling around the world collecting traditional stories along the way. We know from their diary they have already travelled to France Spain, and Italy after they left Southwold. We last had contact when they were in Kenya where they have been looking at the wild animals on safari. We heard about a problem they had rescuing a young giraffe. We did lots of research about animal welfare to help advise the family about how to protect the giraffe.

We are hoping to send the Blogg family a video of our class assembly so they can see what we have found out about Kenya too.

We will be setting up a travel agency in the classroom in our role play area so if you have any travel brochures at home or visit a travel agent during the holidays we would be very grateful of any brochures to add to our collection. Thank you!

Phonics and Spelling

The children have worked very hard with their spelling tests this term and are now ready to tackle more challenging words next half term.

Here is a good website link to help your child learn their spellings each week:

<http://www.iboard.co.uk/activity/Planet-Word-Puzzle-Make-Your-Own-Template-210>

Notices

As the weather has started to change it will be essential that children have coats in school every day. They will not be allowed out to play if they do not have a suitable coat.

There is no homework, spellings or times tables set over the half term break, so everyone can have a rest and enjoy their holiday!

'Bourn to Run' - Congratulations!



Class Hazel were the lucky winners of a £50 voucher for collecting the highest class total of sponsorship money from 'Bourn to Run.' We have decided to spend this money on some new Audio CD stories for the children to use in our class reading time. Thank you to the organising committee for this.

Have a lovely half term!