



March 2016

Charity Work

£422 Readathon

£375 Sport Relief

March Newsletter

What have we been up to?

Nursery

Nursery started the term reading some great Traditional Tales. They tasted porridge just like Goldilocks and then had a vote to see which was the most popular flavour. Squirrels decided that they preferred honey flavoured porridge and Badgers decided that actually porridge was not for them!!! They experimented with different ways of moving in PE and practiced how to change into their PE kits and back into their uniforms which is quite a challenge! They also celebrated Chinese New Year and Pancake Day and instead of eating pancakes they had races in their key worker groups. This was a most enjoyable event and one they will all remember.



The second half term was just as busy. They went on a Bear Hunt and although they did not find any real bears they had a lovely picnic with their favourite teddies from home. They looked at Traditional Tales from around the world and spent a day working with the children in Reception taking part in activities, which celebrated the cultures and beliefs of our family and friends. The last week of the term they have been celebrating the beginning of Springtime and will be Easter Egg hunting, making chocolate nests and modelling our home made bonnets.

Reception

The first half term, reception's topic has been Traditional Tales. They made and decorated gingerbread men. Mrs Rose and Miss Studt's Gingerbread men went missing so the children made missing posters. Unfortunately the left over crumbs were finally found in my

office, where Mrs Clarke and I were found guilty of eating them! I thought they were a gift, honestly!! They have also been busy making bread just like the Little Red Hen, although they all helped and worked together. They were inspired by the Enormous Turnip to make soup. They made vegetable soup at Forest School where they also learnt how to be safe around fire. They have been busy retelling and acting out lots of stories and have also had a visit from the NHS to talk to us about healthy eating. They have also been learning about Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday and made pancakes.



They continued with their topic Traditional Tales during the second half term. They enjoyed listening to and making up our own stories as well as writing character descriptions. They had a visit from Freshwater Theatre joining in with a story hunt.



Year 1

This half term Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed their topic of Superheroes. They have been reading different superhero stories and adapted these to make their own. In maths they have been learning about money, time, shape and measurements. For their topic they have been exploring the five senses and they particularly enjoyed their taste investigation.



Year 2

Year 2 have been learning all about Australia and comparing to it to the UK, the children have been very eager to learn more



about the world and have been identifying different climate zones, countries and continents by looking at maps, atlases and globes. They have been reading a traditional Australian story 'Possum Magic' and finding out about the different types of foods that are associated with Australia through our book. The children have also been very busy at home and we have been nibbling on ANZAC biscuits from one of our many homework tasks that the children have brought in, to share with the class. They have learnt all about the traditions of aboriginal art and the children created some fabulous master pieces.

Year 2 have entered the magical world of Harry Potter and have created some wonderfully descriptive



writing about the characters of the story and the settings. They have visited Warner Bros studios on their school trip, where they were able to follow in Harry Potter's footsteps by flying across London on a broomstick and taking part in a wand master class.

Year 3

The first half term, Year 3 enjoyed creating their own monsters and writing interesting descriptions, as well as poems, using imagery and alliteration. They also



had the chance to create a moving monster using a pneumatic system, which they really enjoyed. They also investigated our local area and its physical as well as natural features, locating these features on a map.

Year 3 started their topic ('Let There Be Light') off with a 'bang' quite literally when they participated in their fireworks and light workshop. They have had so much fun making their own lava lamps and writing explanation texts, as well as rehearsing



for our production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'. We hope everyone will enjoy the technicolour extravaganza!

Year 4

During the first half term Year 4 trekked through the deserts of Egypt to learn about the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamen and the process of mummification. The children had the opportunity to experience the day in the life of an Egyptian during the reign of Amenhotep III, making crafts and being immersed in the storytelling. In maths they have been learning how to convert measure in real life situations and looking at fractions. Also they have developed their skills of imaginative storytelling and have shown they have a talent for writing amusing lyrical ballads!



Year 4 have enjoyed an action packed second half term. Not only did they have the amazing opportunity to see the West End production of Wicked, they have also been rehearsing for our own production of Joseph, which is to be a smash hit!

Year 5

The first half term Year 5 enjoyed an adrenalin filled day at Stubbers Outdoor Activity Centre in the extreme cold as part of our Extreme Environments topic. Using safety harnesses they scaled the climbing



walls, exterminated targets whilst using combat skills during laser tag, fired arrows in archery and developed their communication skills through a range of challenging team building activities. They have explored and compared extreme environments and how animals have adapted to live there. They also looked at a range of plant and animal life cycles and how humans develop. During English they learned

Next Term's Events

Tues 12th April – First Day of Spring Term

Mon 18th Apr – Yr 6 Mock SATs Week

Mon 25th April to Wed 27th Apr – Yr 5 Evacuation Residential

Wed 27th Apr – Yr 4 Music and Sound Workshop

Mon 2nd May – School Closed May Day Bank Holiday

Wed 4th May – Reception Trip to Marsh Farm

Thurs 5th May – Nursery trip to Barleylands Farm

Mon 9th May – KS2 SATs Week

Thurs 12th May – Nursery trip to Barleylands Farm

Wed 18th May – Yr 3 trip to Kew Gardens

Fri 20th May – PTFA Hog Roast

Thurs 26th May – Yr 2 trip to Ockendon Farm

Mon 30th May – HALF TERM

Mon 6th May – School Closed INSET day

Tues 6th Jun – 3L Farm to Fork workshop @ Tesco's

Wed 8th Jun – 3U Farm to Fork workshop @ Tesco's

Fri 10th Jun – Class/Team Photos

Wed 15th Jun – Yr 4 trip to Colchester Castle

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**Thurs 16th Jun – PTFA
Fathers' Day Sale**

**Fri 17th Jun – Deaf Community
Day**

**Mon 20th Jun – KS1 SATs
week**

Sat 25th Jun – Summer Fayre

**Mon 27th Jun – Secondary
Transition Week**

**Wed 29th Jun – Zoolab for
Reception**

Mon 11th Jul – Yr 6 PGL Week

Fri 15th Jul – PTFA Disco

Mon 18th Jul – Family Picnic

Wed 20th Jul - Leavers' Disco

Fri 22nd Jul – Last Day of Term

Term Dates 2016/2017

Autumn Term

Mon 5th Sep – Wed 21st Dec

Half Term

Mon 24th Oct – Fri 28th Oct

Spring Term

Mon 9th Jan – Fri 31st March

Half Term

Mon 13th Feb – Fri 17th Feb

Summer Term

Tues 18th Apr – Fri 21st July

Half Term

Mon 29th May – Fri 2nd Jun

poems off by heart and the performance poetry lessons produced some outstanding performers. Their D & T Sculpture on a Pallet project with Thurrock Thameside Nature Park has kicked off and they look forward to displaying their finished work later on in the year.

Pupils composed creative, descriptive and graphic narratives about an alien invasion and hooked the reader with the possibility of life on other planets. Their religious understanding was broadened as they learnt about the different beliefs and cultures from their guest speaker Mrs Qureshi as well as designing graphic cartoons about the Christian events during Holy week. They attended the Thurrock e-safety 'Walk online road show' which was informative as it created an awareness of the 'dark web' and how



to ensure that children are safely surfing the internet. Pupils enjoyed the 'Road safety walk through Chafford' as they had the opportunity to

conduct various surveys; drivers not wearing seatbelts, drivers smoking, eating and speeding down these residential roads - statistics which alarmed pupils.

Year 6

Year 6 have been busy working on their topic 'Crime and Punishment'. They have been working on the poem 'The Highwayman' and have adapted this into a diary entry as well as a newspaper report. They are currently writing their own crime stories filled with excitement and adventure. In maths, they have been focussing on fractions including calculation of fractions, as well as ratio. They also



enjoyed a Crime Workshop, in which the children had the opportunity to become detectives and try to solve a mystery.



Year 6 have also been working hard, preparing for SATs. They took part in a 'Survival of the Fittest' day which really tested the children's physical and fitness levels. They thoroughly enjoyed it and produced some fantastic recounts. Also, They have been reading the story 'Shackleton's Journey' ready to use for their next piece of work. As well as this, they have been revising many areas of maths including area and perimeter, shape and fractions.

Poetry Competition

A huge well done to all the children who represented the school in the Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition. It was a tough first-round but the children did us proud. Well done to Rachel Sowunmi (Year 5) who got through to the finals at the Civic Hall and won the Year 5/6 Individual Category. We hope to see lots of children joining in again next year as it was a lot of fun.

Multicultural Week

The children thoroughly enjoyed multicultural week - there was lots of cooking, dancing and art throughout the week. The week culminated with a special 'Celebration of Faith Day' in which the children had the opportunity to visit other classes around the school to see what they had been learning about. It was particularly amusing seeing the teachers attempt Indian Dancing in assembly. Thank you as well to everyone who came to the Multicultural Cafe - it was a real highlight of the week and the children really enjoyed it.

