Blog w.e. 05.10.18

Wow! What a fun filled and action packed week it has been here at Grove! We have celebrated ‘No Pens Day’ where the children carried out all of their learning without doing any writing at all! All activities were focussed on speaking and listening, which the children thoroughly enjoyed! We have also celebrated World Teacher Day where the children have been voting for their favourite ‘Wow’ teacher here at Grove. The lucky winner this year was…….Mr Woods! The children have shared some lovely comments about the staff which have been a delight to read – it clearly shows the positive relationships that are formed between teachers and pupils at our Academy and makes me feel very proud of everyone in our Grove family. It was fantastic to see the children dressed as their favourite teacher! They really made me smile with their brilliant efforts. Teachers were all thanked for the hard work and dedication that they give to the school and I know that they appreciated this greatly. Huge thanks go to the support staff who organised this event, especially Mrs Sheldon and Mrs Hudson.

We have also had a whole school focus around learning about being healthy and active this week and the positive impact that this can have on our lives. After some intense PE lessons and thought provoking lessons, we are delighted that our children are now aware of the importance of staying active in their daily lives and can probably show us adults a thing or two about keeping active. Mr Woods organised some great activities to convey this message so please share in those sent home tonight as the children compete across their classes next week with our fruit and vegetable competitions to be crowned the most healthy class! Who will be the winner?

In Year 3 Gryffindor, the children have been looking at calculating what 10 and 100 more and less than a number is. Although this has proved to be a challenging objective for the children they have all showed real gumption when tackling the problems in front of them and overcoming any difficulties they have faced. Please help them by talking about what difference it makes to numbers when we add or subtract 10 or 100 at home. In English, the children have been learning about the houses of Hogwarts and how the sorting process takes place. They have looked at different personality traits and how these relate to the different houses at Hogwarts. The children have continued to work hard when looking at the prefixes un-, dis-and mis- for their weekly spellings and are still showing real enthusiasm when finding new rules – please remember to keep working on these spellings at home. Also this week the children were delighted to welcome the Year 2 Teaching Assistants from Hamilton and Northwood into their classrooms and to show them how fantastically hard they are all working.

Y4 Hufflepuff have had another fabulous week too! They have been using their knowledge of multiples to solve a variety of different problems, using the concrete resources and their speaking and listening skills to explain their reasoning to partners. As well as this, in English, children have been busy using conscience alley to begin thinking about how Topher might have been feeling about Ka the cat. I am sure that they will enjoy telling you all about how this works! From this, children have drafted a character description focusing on Topher's feelings - these have been a wonderful read for teachers.

Year 5 have also had a very busy week! The children have started to impress in swimming after their second visit at Fenton - they have settled in really well and we'd like to thank parents for their continued support with the purchasing of swimming caps and kit. Speaking of sport - health and fitness has been a key topic this week and Year 5 have discussed and written about the positive effects of exercise on the body. In English, they have continued to consolidate their understanding of figurative language by planning the opening scene of their Beowulf-based narrative (which they will look to start to write next week). Whilst in Maths, all classes have learnt about negative numbers with some wonderful active learning taking place during this week's "No Pens Day" - why not challenge your child at home to write a number line with positive, negative and missing numbers?

This week in year 6, the children have been getting to grips with a range of mastery problems to support their understanding of rounding. They have worked both independently and in groups to solve and explain their answers to problems. They particularly enjoyed the games played during No Pens Day! In English, they have been looking at how figurative language can support descriptions. During topic sessions, they have enjoyed researching their diet myths as part of their health topic and have used their reading skills to research and present their findings.

The children have all had yet another amazing week with many memorable and enjoyable learning experiences taking place and I am sure that next week will be just as brilliant!

Please ensure that you continue to support your child at home with their reading, spelling and times tables – it really does support them at school. Practise makes perfect!

Have a lovely restful weekend.

Mrs Carrigan