Blog w.e. 06.03.2020

It has been a busy week here at Grove with lots of exciting activities and events taking place. Our Year 4 children have all been out and about on their ‘Roman’ visit to Chester. All of the teachers have reported that the children had a fantastic time with lots of exciting learning taking place – well done Year 4 you have represented our academy fantastically!

We have also held our SATs information meeting for parents this week and would like to thank those of you who came along to support this. We understand that this can be an anxious time for children and parents alike but we would like to reassure you all that we do our absolute best to make sure that the pupils are all well prepared for the tests and know exactly what to expect. We know that they will be amazing and do themselves and the academy proud! Please continue to support your children with regular attendance at boosters and regular completion of any homework.

On Friday we celebrated ‘World Book Day’ with a theme of ‘inspirations and aspirations’ – it was fantastic to see so many of the children dressed as someone they are inspired by or as something they aspire to achieve. Thank you so much to everyone for some amazing creativity and the effort put in to supporting this day at Grove.

There has been lots of exciting learning taking place in each year group this week too.

The children have had a great week in Year 3! In English, they have been learning how to use verbs and adverbs so they can continue their amazing descriptions of the Minotaur. They started the week with some drama, taking on the role of the Minotaur. The children roared, growled and panted as they stomped around the classroom beating their chests, hunching their shoulders and shaking their knotted manes. The energy emanating from the classrooms was magnetic and it clearly helped the children to gain a greater understanding of how he would have moved around the maze. In maths, Year 3 have begun their new unit on money. The children started the week recapping their previous learning from Year 2, by reviewing the different coins and the value each of them holds. As the week has progressed they have been looking at various coin combinations and devising a range of strategies to support them when calculating the total. The children then used this knowledge to support them when converting pounds to pence. They’ll soon be experts I’m sure! In their topic work, the children have started to locate Greece on a European and world map. To help deepen their understanding the children have been looking at new vocabulary linked to their new topic. After discussing and researching the meaning they consolidated their knowledge and understanding by creating their own glossary which they can refer to through the topic.

It has also been a lovely week in year 4! The children really enjoyed their exciting trip to the Dewa Museum in Chester where they learnt how to march like a Roman solider alongside many other things! The children loved walking around the museum, looking at ancient artefacts and trying on Roman armour. Back at school during topic, the children have been answering the question ‘What did the Romans do for us?’ They evaluated Roman inventions such as roads, coins, language and public baths. The children created their own ‘Top Trump’ cards based on these inventions. They have been focusing on fractions in Maths. The children are working hard to find equivalent fractions and are now beginning to think about how we can simplify a fraction too! In English they have continued to look at the story of Illiona and her journey from Greece to Rome. The children have written their own paragraph describing how they would feel on the voyage by considering the character’s thoughts and feelings.

This week, Year 5 have continued to read their English text ‘The Lorax’. The children have been comparing the characters of the Lorax and the Once-ler within the story and focusing on persuasive language in preparation for writing a persuasive letter next week. I am sure that they will do a great job with this as I can bet that they are very good at using persuasive techniques at home!! In maths, the children have begun a new unit of learning around fractions, learning how to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator or a different denominator (which is far more challenging). Year 5 are continuing to enjoy swimming and have been very excited by the progress that they are making. During Geography, Year 5 have been discussing our topic question ‘Why does the rain forest matter to all of us?’ and this week have been learning about deforestation and the effects this has on the environment and animals. In guided reading the children have enjoyed starting a new book this term - PR and HC are reading ‘The Sleeping Sword’ by Michael Morpurgo and KE and HW have been reading ‘How to Train your Dragon’ by Cressida Cowell. In French they have been learning about the names of different countries and identifying their flags.

In year 6, children have been using extracts of text from ‘Tales of the Arabian Nights and other Stories’ to build a picture of what the Sultan’s palace would have looked like. They have then written a scene description using vivid vocabulary and figurative language. In maths, children have been working on fractions, decimals and percentages along with beginning to understand how algebra is used to create and find rules. In history, Year 6 have looked at the House of Wisdom- a haven of knowledge during the Islamic Golden Age- which was located in the city of Baghdad. They have also begun to understand more about the Prophet Mohammed. It is a pleasure to see our children excited about sharing their knowledge of this religion. In Art, the children are working towards making their own paper - we have already had some donations of newspapers to help with this but if you are able to help, please send in any unwanted newspapers to your child’s class teacher.

There are lots more exciting events and activities coming up over the next few weeks so please ensure that you look carefully at the diary dates on the website to ensure that you know about everything that is taking place.

Thanks, once again, for your ongoing support. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Carrigan