Blog W/E 07.09.18

Firstly I would like to say a huge welcome back to a new school year here at Grove! We hope that you all had a lovely restful Summer and are now ready for the exciting year ahead. It has been lovely to see all of the children back in school looking very smart and ready to learn; they have all been showing off their magic attitudes beautifully. A special welcome goes to our new Year 3 Gryffindor pupils who already look like they have been part of the school for much longer than just one week! All of the children have settled brilliantly and there has been a very calm and purposeful atmosphere all around the building – well done everyone we are very proud of you already!

Year 3 Gryffindor have had a fabulous start at Grove this week, they have shown such maturity and applied themselves with enthusiasm to all of the new learning challenges that they have faced. In English, E-Safety has been a large focus as the children have explored the dangers of the Internet and have been giving advice to help protect their friends. They have also been looking at organisational devices when creating their own prospectus in preparation for their arrival at Hogwarts in their class text 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'.  In Maths, the children have started to develop knowledge of place value; reading and writing numbers up to 1,000 and developing independence when giving values to numbers. Also, they have started to look at forces this week in Science and are looking forward to carrying out investigations next week – how exciting!

Y4 Hufflepuff have also had a fantastic week settling in to their new classes and they have been a credit to their previous Y3 teachers. In Maths, children have been working on their place value skills and have explored a range of equipment to help them represent different 2 and 3 digit numbers – we can already see that we have some mathematicians in the making! In English, children have begun to make predictions about our new classroom text ‘The Time Travelling Cat and the Egyptian Goddess’ – they all have lots of valuable ideas and contributions which made their predictions out of this world!

The Year 5 Ravenclaw team have been delighted to see children with real excitement and a true sense of commitment with some super work being produced. In English, Safety has been a large focus as the children have explored the dangers of the Internet with a particular focus on 'Online Gaming' and communication with strangers. They have written insightful letters as agony aunt "Dave" to provide advice to a child with online worries. In Maths, Year 5 have started to develop their knowledge of reading and writing numbers up to 1,000,000 whilst also identifying the value of each digit - please do test them at home as their communication of reading these numbers has vastly improved! Finally, in Science, Ravenclaw have begun to explore the effect of 'Forces' in everyday life. They are looking forward to reading their class text next week: Michael Morpurgo's Viking tale: 'Beowulf'.

In Year 6 Slytherin, the children have delved straight into their new text with a real enthusiasm. Their reading has helped them to understand how Count Dracula is perceived in different media and to understand some of the new vocabulary used within the book. In writing, they have discussed the format of letters and have written their own letter from the main character Jonathan Harker to his fiancée (Mina) about his experiences so far at Castle Dracula. The children's Mathematical understanding has been developed by looking at place value: understanding how to read and write numbers to 10,000,000 and identifying the value of each digit.  They have begun to look at the circulatory system in Science and have created physical representations of how the different organs work together.

As I am sure that you will agree, the children have had a fantastic first week of term and we look forward to a very exciting year ahead of us.

Please do ensure that you support your child at home as much as possible, especially with their reading, spellings and times tables. It is crucial that they practice these in order to meet age related expectations for each year group. If you have any queries or questions please write these in your child’s communication diary.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Carrigan