Blog w.e. 12.04.19

Welcome to the final blog of the spring term! Easter is nearly upon us already! It is lovely though to welcome back the lighter evenings and glimpses of the sunshine that keep showing themselves – it makes everyone feel much happier when the sun is out!

This week, like all others, has been a busy but exciting one. I have to give a special mention to our Year 4 children this week who delivered their show stopping performance on Tuesday to showcase their understanding of the Easter service - they were simply amazing! I know that it has been very well received by all of those who had the privilege to come along and share in their celebration. The children spoke confidently and performed clearly to their audience and we are very proud of them. A little bird tells me that we even had some parents on stage competing to win an Easter egg! What great sports and how fantastic to be having fun all together as a school family. I would also like to thank the staff who worked very hard with the children to prepare the concert – I know that they have put in a great deal of work to make it amazing for everyone.

Year 3 have also had a fantastic week all round! In English, the children have been thinking about how authors show characterisation in speech through description and use of a range of adverbs and speech verbs. They have edited and improved their own dialogue writing in order to show characterisation for the main characters – ‘Early Woman’, ‘Early Man’ and ‘Jeff.’ I have read some examples and they are written beautifully and really describe the characters' personalities in great detail. Why not ask your child about the characters and ask them whether they could tell you a word to describe each of them? In maths, Gryffindor children have continued to develop their understanding of fractions including how to find unit and non-unit fractions of amounts (if you don’t know what these are I am sure that the children would love to teach you). They have made use of practical apparatus such as counters and cubes and have drawn bar models to represent the different calculations. In PSHE, Year 3 have had a walk around the school in order to consider ways that the school environment could be improved for children, staff and the community. They have developed some superb ideas such as planting and growing some flowers, cleaning up litter that they may find on the floor and putting it into a bin as well as simply wearing a smile on their faces! The children have discovered that smiles are infectious - well done Year 3!

What a week to end the Spring term on in Year 4 Hufflepuff! As mentioned earlier they have been amazing performers this week - the children all looked incredible in their outfits which is down to you, their parents/carers, for going above and beyond with these. On the run up to the service, children made finishing touches to decorate the stage as a spring scene, which looks too beautiful to take down. In maths, children have been digging deep with fractions before moving on to exploring equivalent fractions that isn’t as easy as it looks - we’ve tasked the children to challenge you all to tell them the matching equivalent fractions. To end the book, ‘Thieves of Ostia’, children have been writing their own short stories which include the characters Nubia and Lupus - the children have planned some exciting adventures for the troublesome characters to embark on!

In Year 5 the children have been magnificent. To finish the term, they have been really focusing on finishing their wonderful 'Wonderland Theme Park Brochures' based on the Lewis Carroll text: Alice in Wonderland.  This has been a body of work that has carefully fused Writing, Reading, D&T and Art together to produce some sensational pieces of persuasive advertising which have included unique rides, snacks and games! The children have been really immersed by the whole "Me, Myself and I" topic and have reflected and discovered their true selves throughout. In Maths, Year 5 have started to move onto a new topic (fractions) as they have begun to explore different ways to use fractions: equivalences, converting and ordering. Traditionally a topic which children find tricky, Year 5 have shown great enthusiasm to this topic and have shown great success! In PE, Year 5 have showcased their gymnastic routines which they have developed over the term including some special balances and artistic rolls! The 'egg roles' roles in particular have been egg-cellent!

In year 6 this week, the children have been busy searching for angles. Within triangles, polygons, straight lines and full turns, the children are now able to identify missing angles and justify their reasoning when finding them. They have had to use and apply all of their knowledge about the angle sums of shapes and lines to help them to solve some of these very tricky problems. They have unpicked the character of Jan in ‘The Silver Sword’ text and written a short character description to show him in action. Alongside this, the practice for SATs has continued; it is a pleasure to see the confident way that the children tackle the problems within the different subject areas. They really are working hard and remaining positive about the upcoming tests. In PE, the children have been learning the rules of hockey and have had mini tournaments within their groups. We hope that, after working so hard this half term, the children enjoy a relaxing break.

All of the children have been simply magnificent all term and now everyone, including all of the staff, deserve a well-earned rest. Next term is a very busy one with lots of important events taking place. We know that Year 6 may be beginning to feel the pressure of SATs as they draw closer but we want them to know that as long as they do the very best that they can and aim high we are all very proud of them.

Please can I remind you all once again about the correct PE kit and uniform for Grove – please check the website if you are unsure. Over the break please ensure that your child has the correct clothing and shoes ready for the new term, and please be mindful of our policy in regard to hairstyles – we do not allow coloured, shaved or patterned hairstyles.

All that remains for me to say is have a lovely Easter break and I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for a fantastic summer term on Monday 29th April. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Happy holidays!

Mrs Carrigan