Blog w.e. 22.06.18

This week has seen the continuation of lots of exciting learning opportunities taking place across the school. Some Year 2 children have visited Grove as part of transition in readiness for September. It has been lovely to see them exploring our school and starting to meet some of the children and staff - we look forward to welcoming the boys and girls over the next few weeks. Year 5 have also taken part in transition activities this week as they attended a taster day at Birches Head Academy on Tuesday. They represented the school brilliantly and we are very proud of them. A big well done to all children that attended for showcasing their MAGIC learning behaviours ☺.

Gryffindor started the week on their trip to Chester Zoo; they were an absolute credit to the school and impressed the teachers. They saw many exciting sights and learned some interesting facts about the animals. However, something very strange happened at the Zoo which resulted in a flamingo going missing (not really) - ask your child all about this! Also, Year 3 have blown the teachers' socks off as they have been learning to read roman numerals - the teachers had only planned to go up to 12 to support with their work on clocks and time, but the children were keen to learn all the way to 20. In English, the children have been completing their diary entries about Oona and the tsunami. What a busy week!

In Year 4 this week, the children have completed their play scripts adding stage directions and scene descriptions. There are some fantastic results and we look forward to seeing their performances. In maths, they have confidently tackled time and can now convert between analogue and digital formats, which proves challenging for many so please support them at home with this too. Creative lessons have also had a maths focus in Year 4 with the children creating and explaining symmetry. In Science, the children have created food chains for a range of animals and have discussed the vocabulary of producers, prey and predators.

Another exciting but busy week has been had by Ravenclaw. In English, the children have made super progress with their persuasive radio adverts and have been making their last improvements in readiness for their final piece which will be completed next week - they have worked so hard on these adverts and I cannot wait to see their final drafts! In maths this week, Ravenclaw have switched their focus from area and perimeter to angles. All children have been engaged by their interactive lessons in the hall and classrooms through estimating, comparing and classification of angles and have thoroughly enjoyed learning through physical learning – it was great to see them collaborating with one another and discussing their learning so confidently. There are exciting times in Year 5 as children attend their "WOW" trip away at the Old Victorian town: Blist Hill. Staff would like to thank parents/carers for all of their support in preparation for the trip but please ensure that the children are fully prepared to be safe in the sun (sun cream applied, hats etc.) Finally, we sadly say goodbye this week to our wonderful student-teacher Miss Redford who has been coached by Mr Woods in RJW; she will be greatly missed by all children and staff alike and we thank her for her invaluable contribution to Grove Academy, wishing her all the best for the future as a fully-fledged NQT.

Another hardworking week for Year 6 where they have been continuing with a focus on developing their writing skills. This week, the children have completed their informative leaflets based on healthy eating – I will be looking at these in case they have any new tips for me! They have worked incredibly hard to ensure that they are detailed and wonderfully presented. As for the latter part of the week, they have begun to write a diary entry from the perspective of Stanley Yelnats in the text, ‘Holes’. This has been a challenging transition of writing style for the children but, as always, they showed resilience and determination to grasp their new learning. I look forward to seeing their completed versions next week as this sounds a very interesting story. In addition to all of this, the children have enjoyed their PE. Most notably, they had their first swimming session of the year and it was a real success; a particular well done must go to those children who lacked confidence at the beginning of the session but managed to overcome their nerves! I look forward to seeing who achieves their certificates at the end of their Key Stage 2 swimming journey!

In French, the children are becoming confident and resilient language learners, understanding that making mistakes when speaking any new language is to be expected. Communicating ideas is what is important! Year 3 Gryffindor are learning to name a variety of animals and Year 4 Hufflepuff are describing monsters using body parts, colours and numbers. Meanwhile, Year 5 have been busy singing a new song which practises directions and Year 6 Slytherin have been revising the vocabulary used to describe people's physical appearance. Soon, they will be ready to describe Mr and Mrs Twit in French as part of our 'One Book, One School' work – how exciting! Madame Barratt does an amazing job of making French lessons meaningful and linked to current learning for the children.

I don’t like to finish on a grumble but I have been made aware of parental safeguarding concerns on Keelings Road. Some parents/carers are continuing to cross at the crossing when the lights have changed to green and there are many vehicles stopping to drop children off on the main road. Both of these things are extremely dangerous and strictly prohibited. This will be monitored for the foreseeable future and safeguarding concerns will be reported as appropriate. Your/our children are precious – please keep them and others safe! As always, a huge thank-you to the large majority that respect safety measures at all times.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend with family and friends.

Mrs Machin