

Alphas Class Report

Spring Term 1

We have had a great start to the Spring term in Alphas. We have had some recent children and staff changes but all children have adapted well to these changes and made the new pupils feel welcome to the group. The children have continued to work hard and achieve their personal targets.

English

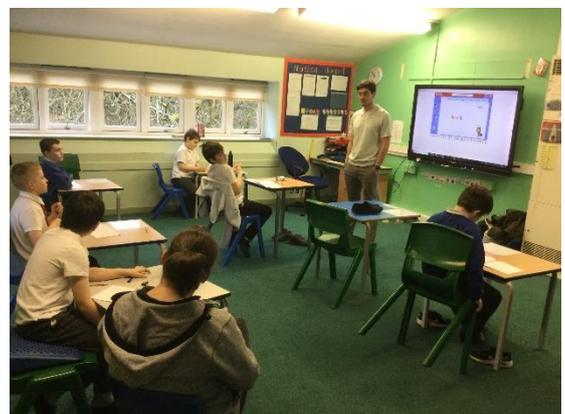
This half term we have continued to have a range of English topics that have been engaging and exciting. The children have participated well within a range of writing or drama-based tasks whilst studying a couple of different text types.

Our first text type was a novel called *Oranges in No Man's Land*. We completed a range of tasks to develop our understanding of the characters and setting. We used our dictionary skills to understand uncommon and tricky words that we found in book. Throughout the half term we predicted, went on to discuss the use of speech in the book, then looked at the plot and structure in more detail in order to complete our own big write. We also looked at developing a range of other skills such as debating, reporting, similes, and drama across the half term.



Phonics

The children have recapped lots of phonics knowledge but we are mostly working on phase 5 phonics. There are two children who are needing extra phonics intervention and who are working at Phase 3/4. We have seen a great improvement with spelling from the beginning of the academic year which shows the phonics is making a positive impact to the children's writing. The children are also doing well with the fluency of their reading with a lot of them becoming more confident to read aloud.



Maths

In Maths we have learnt about a range of things over this half term including: Written addition, Written Subtraction, Roman Numerals, Negative Numbers and Times Tables knowledge. Mr Standing continued to provide differentiation in Maths providing each child with a challenge in alignment with their ability. The children particularly like the practical activities where they can work independently or in pairs. Over this half term the children in Alphas have become better at their multiplication facts also.



Science

In Science this half term we have learnt about Solids, Liquids and Gases and their changing state. We have shown a fantastic understanding of scientific method and predictions and we have completed lots of experiments together including measuring the weight of gases and testing the melting point of foods. This also gave us the chance to have some experiments with chocolate which was not surprisingly a big hit. We have done many practical lessons which all students have engaged with and displayed excitement towards. We have continued to work on using scientific language and predicting and evaluating the outcome of various investigations.



Academic Interventions

In Alphas Class this half term we have continued with a range of interventions that have been chosen for each child. We are aware that the more the children participate in academic interventions the gaps within their English and Maths knowledge should

reduce. The children are currently still completing Stile Literacy & Numeracy, phonics, Grammar Hammer, Maths Hammer and Timetables Rockstars on a weekly timetable.



Therapeutic Interventions

Over Spring Term 1 the children from Alpha's Class have taken part in a variety of therapeutic interventions. These include: Forest School, Build to Express, feelings through Art, baking sessions, jigsaw time and yoga. All children demonstrate a relaxed and calm attitude when taking part in these interventions and they look forward to experiencing new things. We have found in Alpha's that when we do these sessions at the start of a day we all radiate a better attitude to learning. We have been working together to promote positive behaviours, positive attitudes to learning and personal wellbeing.



Thrive

Across Spring Term 1 we have been continuing to meet the Thrive targets set for our children. Thrive is still such a big part of our timetable as it helps us to fill the social and emotional gaps our children have.

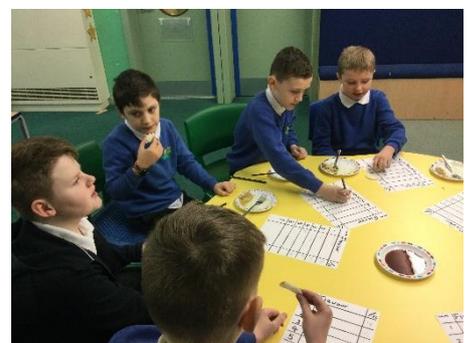
The range of activities that we have been doing this half term have and co-operative and focused on working together. We have also been looking at our feelings as it has recently been wellbeing week. The children did a lot of kind and thoughtful things for

their friends in class and were able to recognise what different things are good for their own wellbeing.



Topic

Our topic this half term has been the Winter Olympics. As a class we have researched and learnt about all the different countries that participate in the winter Olympics. We have completed a range of different tasks to better our knowledge on different cultures and their countries. We did food testing, model making and then at the end of our topic we designed our own Winter Olympics sport suits and then made our own tie-dye tops that we were using to support the different countries. The children took these homes to wear when they were watching the Winter Olympics on their TVs.



PSHE

Our focus in PSHE this half term has focused on online safety and kindness. We have discussed lots of different ways of showing positive and negative behaviours are demonstrated online. As always, the children have been respectful of their peers' feelings when we have shared experiences and thoughts.



Computing

Over this half term we have continued to use technology to assist our lessons and intervention sessions. Alongside this we have been learning about online safety and how to behave appropriately online in PHSE and during wellbeing week.

