



Headteacher

It's been a great start to the new school year at Gillibrand and it's been lovely to see the children together again on the playground and also in the hall and not just in their 'bubbles'.

I have really enjoyed holding assemblies in the hall again too and hearing the children singing together. This has been one of the highlights of September for me!

Our new Gillibrand Acorns - Breakfast and After School Club, has also got off to a flying start and we have had lots of positive comments from both children and parents. We do still have a few places available on certain days of the week. Please contact the school office and speak to Mrs Gornall if you require any further information.

EYFS

We have now come to the end of our busy first month of school. The children are all settling very well, starting to form friendships and getting into the swing of school life. They have been exploring all the different areas of our indoor and outdoor setting and learning about how to safely and successfully use all the resources in the provision.

Our current theme is 'All About Me' and the children have been very busy learning about things that are the same and things that are different about themselves and their lives. They have been learning how to draw people and have produced some fabulous drawings of their families which will be on display at the art exhibition next week. They have also been thinking about how they have changed since they were babies and all the amazing things they can do now that they are four years old! Well done children - you have made a brilliant start!



Year 1

The children have all made a fantastic start to their learning in Year 1! All the children were eager to return to school and settled into a new routine, with new staff and in a new classroom very quickly.

Over the month of September, we have enjoyed a visit from successful children's author Abie Longstaff. Abie read her new story to us and shared with us her top tips for writing exciting stories. We are currently busy completing an art project, based upon portraits, in preparation for display at the art exhibition in early October.



In maths, we are learning about place value and addition and we are beginning to solve simple one step problems. In science, we are learning about the different animal groups whilst, in art, we are using different materials to create portraits of ourselves.

Well done to all the children for making a brilliant start to Year 1 and we all look forward to what October brings!

Year 2

Well, what a fantastic start to a new year, Year 2 have made! They came in ready to go and have worked so hard throughout September and made a great start. In English we have been reading a range of different stories, and have been using 'The Bear and the Piano' in English to produce some wonderful descriptive writing. In Maths, we have been focusing on number, using lots of practical equipment to solve place value and addition calculations and we have also been answering and explaining some very tricky reasoning problems too. The class have loved science this month, learning all about habitats in the school grounds and creating their very own mini beast habitats which you may have seen around the school grounds! Children will be using their habitats to learn all about the wonderful creatures we share our school with. As we move into October, we look forward to lots of outdoor learning, displaying our art work at the exhibition and sharing our learning about harvest. Well done Year 2 on a great start - keep it up!



Year 3

We have had a great start to the year in Year 3. We have already taken part in our 'River' workshop - learning about the different parts of the river and the effect the weather can have on our river banks and we have participated in our CAD computing workshop, learning all about coding and algorithms. In art, we are using the works of Lowry to reproduce our own version of his 'Rivers' painting. In science we have been investigating light and dark and looking at how light is reflected. Did you know, that the reflective strip is called: 'Retro Reflective material'? In our writing, we are using the book, 'The Journey'. We have read the book together, acted out the story and we are working on producing adventurous vocabulary in order to re-write the ending of the story. In maths we have looked at place value and are starting to look at adding and subtraction 2 digit numbers from a 3 digit number.

Year 4

We have had a brilliant start to the year and all of the children have now settled into the new routines of year 4. The children have been working hard and have enjoyed starting our new topics.

In English, we began the year by looking at poetry and the children have written some fantastic poems based on how things make them feel. This week, we have had our first 'Live Teaching' lesson by Pie Corbett which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We are going to continue to take part in these live lessons every Monday and will be basing our English topic on them.

As part of our geography topic about 'Rivers', we have recently been on a walk in our local community to the River Chor. The children enjoyed walking alongside the streams and lake which feed into the main river. Whilst we were out, we also did some sketching of a lake to use in our art work as we have been looking at Monet's techniques.

Year 5

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year in Year 5 with the new class settling in well. We dived into our half-term topic of rivers with a visit from the 'River Ribble Trust' who provided a 3D demonstration of how devastating floods can be and how we can help prevent them. In English, we have completed a newspaper report on a flood disaster and are about to start our 'Live Teaching' sessions with Pie Corbett. We have been making fantastic progress in maths looking at place value and rounding. We are also very fortunate to have had external people come in to school and deliver river themed lessons in both PE and music with the progress uploaded onto Seesaw for you all to see. We are looking forward to taking a walk to our local river, the Yarrow, which will be the inspiration behind our pointillism artwork over the coming weeks.



Year 6

Welcome back to the start of another year at Gillibrand Primary School. It was lovely to see a sea of smiling faces coming back in to school. Year 6 have had a great start to the new year and our new topic of 'Rivers'. We were very lucky to have a visit from 'River Ribble Trust', who brought in their amazing river table. We were able to see how a river meanders through the countryside and is constantly changing shape and direction. We also had the opportunity to see the destructive force of erosion and how this affects people living and working along the river. The children discussed ways to reduce erosion and help support the river system. The class was also fortunate enough to take part in a fantastic CAD morning where they got to build a drumming monkey from Lego and then make him work through using motors and a movement sensor. I think we have quite a few budding engineers and computer aided designers in our class! Alongside all of this, we have been working hard on our English and maths work as well as creating amazing artwork for our upcoming art exhibition in school.