Blog w.e. 05.07.19

Welcome once again to my weekly blog. As we prepare for the last couple of weeks of the academic year it is very busy here at Grove with staff and children getting ready for transition. Preparations for both the end of year and the beginning of the new school year in September are well under way.

This week Year 6 have been on their end of year visit to the Warner Brothers Harry Potter Studios in London. They had an exciting, ‘magical’ day and represented the academy fantastically. The children were all worn out and I am sure that they will sleep well this weekend! I am very proud of all of them – well done Year 6.

In Gryffindor this week they have been very busy! In English, Year 3 have continued their poetry unit and begun to plan their own poem using different animals. They have really focussed on improving the word classes such as adjectives and verbs within their poem and they have done an amazing job! They have also been answering comprehension questions based on their class text, The Enormous Crocodile, using all of their knowledge of word classes to help them. In Maths, they have started to learn about days, weeks, months and leap years and have also estimated time. In Science, the children have been learning about various muscles in their bodies. They took part in a challenging mini work out where they isolated specific muscles in their bodies to exercise. They even enjoyed an abdominal strength competition as a cohort – some of the children have super strong stomach muscles!

Hufflepuff have had yet another fantastic week! They have amazed their teachers with one of the final big writes that they will complete in Year 4; they have been fabulous to read and their improvements since they joined Year 4 last September are clearly evident. The instructions that they have written are out of this world and extremely creative - I know how proud each of the teachers in Hufflepuff are. Also, children have been learning how to apply their prior knowledge of decimals as they’ve continued with their money unit. Some questions involved converting between pounds and pence which was certainly a little bit tricky, but they got there! Y4 have been MAGIC learners in creative this week as they have been creating triples using sketching, pastels and watercolours. I can't wait to see the display work come together next week - it is set to be a show stopper! On top of all this exciting learning, I am pleased to announce that Year 4 have officially passed their stepping out observation walk around the local area - staff monitored their every move to check they could cross the road in a safe manner. They represented the school fabulously and we are all so very proud of them, as I’m sure you are too.

The chocolate-themed fun has continued in Year 5 this week as Ravenclaw's work related around Roald Dahl's 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' has developed further. Met with great excitement by the children, Year 5 combined Art and English to design their own character (and supporting family) to win a golden ticket and a trip to Mr Wonka's magical factory. Character appearances and their traits had to be thought about carefully and designed to each child’s specification. The children designed a range of interesting characters: footballers, dancers, explorers and even astronauts! The Year 5 team have observed some fantastic drawings supported by wonderful vocabulary. Next week, the children will start to develop a short narrative around how their character received their golden ticket. In Maths, Year 5 have completed their unit of fractions successfully with confidence and look forward to learning about decimals and their relationships with fractions. In PSHE there has been lots of discussion based around the values of friendships and relationships.

What a fantastic week our Year 6 children have had. Most notably, their trip to the ‘Wizarding World of the Harry Potter’ Studios in London where the children were able to get a behind the scenes look into the characters, props and filming techniques used to create such a magical world. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were a credit to our school with their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm. Back in school, the children have begun their topic based upon the book ‘Matilda’ by Roald Dahl. They have created character profiles by making Top Trumps style cards to play with their friends. In addition to this, they have studied the Bruce Bogtrotter and the chocolate cake scene: the children particularly enjoyed deciding on the criteria for the perfect cake and then taste-testing a variety of samples. They certainly made good food critics! In PE, the children have completed their Bleep tests to show their fitness progress over the year.

As I am sure that you will agree the children have had a lovely week filled with lots of exciting learning opportunities! Next week we are all looking forward to our transition days and I know that the staff can’t wait to get to know their new classes and I am really looking forward to seeing the Year 2 children join us as they move to Year 3. We know that some children may feel a little anxious but rest assured their worries will quickly be forgotten.

Hopefully the sun will continue to shine over the weekend and everyone can enjoy some relaxation time with their families.

Thank you

Mrs Carrigan