Blog w.e. 08.03.19

Welcome to my weekly blog once again! This week we held our ‘Vocabulary Parade’ to celebrate World Book Day and I have to say that the children and staff looked absolutely amazing! The thought and effort that had gone into some of the chosen words and accompanying costumes was unbelievable so thank you all so much for being such great sports and supporting both your children and the academy in making this such a successful event. Seeing everyone together in the hall guessing each other’s words was brilliant - they were all having such fun playing with language and enriching their vocabulary!

In Year 3 this week the children have been writing some exciting and descriptive diaries from the point of view of Barney, the main character from their class text, ‘Stig of the Dump’. They have edited and improved their use of key vocabulary within this piece of writing in order to ensure that the words they are using give an appropriate and concise description. In maths, the children are applying their multiplication and division skills by solving a range of one step and two step problems. As we have had our exciting vocabulary parade this week, the children have had a huge focus on words in all subjects including maths. Ask your child to explain the maths they have been done using their new vocabulary - I’m sure you’ll be amazed! In D&T lessons, Year 3 have designed, baked and evaluated a loaf of bread - again learning lots of new vocabulary such as ‘knead’, ‘prove’ and ‘combine’. We are so impressed with their efforts!

Hufflepuff Y4 have also had yet another fantastic week of learning: children have been busy exploring the features of holiday brochures as part of their persuasive writing. They have looked at how a holiday brochure makes you want to buy a holiday. This will help them to begin to apply these skills and features in their own writing as they plan a holiday brochure for the Ancient town of Ostia, Rome. In Maths, children have continued to divide numbers but have now had the added challenge of dividing numbers with remainders! A tricky concept I’m sure you’ll agree! Creative has been an exciting designing week as the children have used the influence of artists to design their own Roman mosaics.

A super week has been had by all in Ravenclaw this week as the children have started to prepare their thoughts towards writing a narrative based on 'Alice in Wonderland'. The children have developed their understanding of the story by summarising the events of Chapter 1 and 2 where Alice is left in limbo through radical changes in size, leading to flooding the room with hysterical tears. The children will be working towards writing a short narrative next week using skills such as parenthesis, figurative language and direct speech. In Maths, the children have completed an end of unit assessment to showcase their strong understanding following their work on learning all about area and perimeter. They have been able to show off their skills in this area – well done Ravenclaw! In Science, Year 5 have continued to develop their understanding of animals and humans by exploring lifecycles of different animal groups, whilst in music the children have been comparing similarities and differences between Danny Elfman's modern take on Bob Holliard's Alice in Wonderland soundtrack.

In year 6 this week, the children have begun to read their new text, ‘The Silver Sword’, which tells of a family of children surviving during the Second World War. They have read the story of Joseph Balicki, who escaped from a Nazi concentration camp and I must say that it is a very gripping tale. Through drama, they have re-enacted his escape and will use this information to create a newspaper report on the incident next week. They have explored newspapers too in order to find out all of the features that they will need to include in their own work. In maths, the children have developed their strategies to solve reasoning problems based on their prior learning. They have then developed their understanding of finding fractions of amounts. Try testing you child outside of school: How many slices would be in half of this pizza? What is three quarters of £10? In Science the children have been investigating refraction of light- looking at how a spectrum of colours can be created using a single light source and a glass prism. Just like with rainbows!

Another fun filled week of learning here at Grove! Well done everyone!

Please can we remind you that all children need to be wearing correct uniform including for PE, and that trainers are not allowed as footwear with everyday uniform (trainers are fine on PE days). If you are unsure please check the uniform page in your child’s communication diary.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Carrigan