Blog w.e. 15.03.18

Welcome to my weekly blog! This week has been our assessment week here at Grove where the children get the chance to really show off their skills and learning. All of the children have worked very hard and shown great resilience and concentration – well done all! It has also been ‘Science Week’ where the children have all carried out science experiments based around a scientific journey – I have seen some fascinating things going on and some very keen budding scientists! Make sure that you ask your children all about it!

I would also like to thank you for your kind contributions to ‘Comic Relief’ – this is a fantastic cause and the children looked fantastic all in red. We will let you know how much we raise.

Throughout assessment week, Year 3 have shown how magnificent and MAGIC they are by working very hard every day to ensure they are doing their best! In maths, Gryffindor children have moved on to their money unit. They were superb at thinking of different ways that we use money in everyday life which is key to understanding the context of the maths that children learn in school. The children loved exploring the different ways to make £1 using different coins and I am sure they would be keen to show you at home! Why not ask your child how to convert £2 and 30p into pennies? In English, Year 3 have been learning how to write a letter. They began by becoming text detectives to uncover a secret code of layout and language features within a letter. They then moved forward to planning and writing their exciting letters from the point of view of Barney, the main character from our class text, Stig of the Dump. Another fantastic week Year 3! Well done!

Hufflepuff have also shown true resilience and gumption at all times during this week to showcase their skills. The children have worked so hard, challenged themselves, and most of all, made their teachers proud with their achievements. As well as completing some standardised tests, children in Year 4 have been writing a non-chronological report on Ostia in Rome. For this, children have explored non-chronological reports, taken notes and planned in detail before writing the final outcome. Science this week has been focused around British Science Week where each different class has followed a scientific journey! It looks like each class has had a fantastic science themed day this week - make sure to check out the Facebook post to see some of the work children completed during this day. It has also been amazing to see some children achieve their beginners badge during swimming this week!

A very busy week indeed in Ravenclaw where the children have completed a range of activities to inform progress across Reading, Writing, Maths and SPaG. The children have given a monumental effort in completing these!  In English, the children have produced some magnificent pieces of writing based on Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, by focusing in particular on the rollercoaster of emotions that Alice faces as she desires to enter the Queen of Hearts' enchanted garden. They have showcased a wonderful variety of skills learnt in the past month in this piece: parenthesis, figurative language and direct speech. Children have completed some wonderful scientific class activities as part of British Science Week - Year 5 have based their investigations around several different topics: reversible and irreversible changes; buoyancy, aerodynamics; and volcanic eruptions! Ravenclaw have absolutely loved taking part in these activities and proudly showcased these during a whole-school assembly. Finally, in Art, Year 5 have developed story boards to visually express Alice's feelings and emotions. Super effort this week Year 5; your teachers are very proud of you all.

This week, year 6 have been writing balanced arguments. They have realised the importance of remaining unbiased when discussing both sides of an argument in order to make an informed decision. The children have applied their skills of formal writing, cohesive devices and technical vocabulary to debate what should happen next to Joseph Balicki (a character from the Silver Sword text). In maths, reasoning skills have been vital to discuss how problems should be tackled and what skills should be applied. The children have also looked at coordinates in the first quadrant to plot points and create shapes. Science week has shown the children’s creativity and intuitiveness as they have explored evolution, germs, martian soil and flight. Ask your child about what they have learnt and I am sure their inner scientist will show through!

Wow what a super week the children have had with lots of great learning opportunities! It really is wonderful to walk around the school and visit the classes – I hear so many children talking so enthusiastically about their learning.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Carrigan