w.e. 25.01.19

Wow, end of week 3! These half terms really fly by!

This week in Year 3, the children have had another busy week delving deeper into the ‘Stig of the Dump’ story. In English, the children have been writing stories about Barney and Stig playing an exciting game of hide and seek. From describing Stig's shaggy black hair to the way that Barney leapt through the stinging nettles and past rickety fences. I have read some truly beautiful descriptions and am very proud of the children’s efforts to improve their writing. In maths, Year 3 have continued to develop their addition and subtraction skills, learning to use the formal column methods for both calculations. It has been a real challenge for the children to solve a range of missing numbers problems. Why not ask your child what exchanging means? I'm sure you'll be as impressed as I am! In other lessons, the children have been completing their assessment point two tests. All of the teachers are so proud of how hard they have worked! The children all deserve a nice, relaxing weekend (obviously with some reading, spelling and times tables practise too)!

Year 4 have had a 'testing' week but have shown true resilience and gumption. They have been completing maths, reading, grammar and spelling assessments and have rounded the week off by completing their independent write where they have had the opportunity to showcase their skills and true abilities. These pieces of writing give them chance to show all of their fantastic writing skills! There is a lot of discussion that goes into them and it is always exciting to see their finished articles. Throughout the tests, children have been learning all about Hadrian’s Wall - the sketches of this are magnificent! Please ask your children to share their factual knowledge about this historic landmark – you’ll be truly amazed by how much they know! I am sure that both teachers and children alike are excited to get back into their Power Maths work next week as they've really missed it.

With the next assessment point on the horizon, the Year 5 children have also worked hard this week in terms of the range of assessments which they've had to complete. A massive well done to all children whom we know have tried their best and have produced some wonderful results! In preparation for their "Big Write" on Friday, Ravenclaw had to really 'dig deep into the memory bank' this week to reflect and share their most favourite experiences in their home-life and school journey so far; in a range of autobiographical drafts. This task - which has showcased the "Me, Myself and I” topic has culminated into some excellent writing (and thoroughly amusing experiences) in their Friday write. Their teachers have learnt some amazing and humorous facts about the children in their classes and the children have really enjoyed writing about themselves - who would have thought it?! Year 5 have continued to develop their graphs and tables in Maths through some challenging problems as they round off the topic to learn about multiples and factors next week. In topic work this week the children have been learning about the 'misunderstood genius' Vincent Van Gogh and his wonderful artwork. They have also explored his personal struggles with mental illness which has stimulated some excellent discussions. This work around Van Gogh have inspired some 'budding artists' in Ravenclaw as children have created some wonderful self-portrait pieces which they can be very proud of. A very productive week indeed!

In Year 6 this week, the children have also completed their big write: they have taken on the role of William Beech (from Goodnight Mr Tom) and described the moment he first met his evacuation host. The children have written some fantastic recounts using the 'show not tell' technique for writing (ask them to tell you all about this as it is a really clever way of describing emotions). In maths, the children have shown great prowess in their fractions understanding. After lots of hard work, they are now able to identify fractions on a number line, convert between improper and mixed fractions and order fractions. During the topic sessions, year 6 have investigated the key areas targeted by the Germans during the air raids. They have then used this knowledge to identify the 'safer' areas where children were evacuated to. In French, the children have been discussing the vocabulary of places - they can now name some key points in the local area (e.g: the swimming pool and the library). Why not test them at home?

Another very productive week here at Grove – I am so proud of how hard the children are working and it is a delight to visit all of the classrooms and see their wonderful attitudes to learning. Well done everyone!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Carrigan