Blog w.e. 28.06.19

The end of yet another week! It has been lovely to finally see some summer sunshine this week and watch the children enjoying the warm weather outside. It makes us all feel so much better to see some nice weather! It has been another busy learning week here at Grove with our Year 6 children doing us proud as they begin to attend their transition visits to their high schools. It’s hard to believe that it is nearly time for them to leave us!

As we enter the final 3 weeks of the summer term the children are beginning to study their ‘one author, one school’ texts where each year group are focussing on a different Roald Dahl text. I am really excited to see the exciting activities that the staff have planned for them.

Gryffindor have had a superb week beginning with a very exciting road safety practice walk! The children were so well behaved on their walk and listened carefully to all of the instructions given to them by Miss Boast from Staffordshire County Council. I was blown away by their confident, sensible walking along the route on Thursday, carefully looking in all directions to ensure that it was safe. Back in school, in English, Year 3 have begun their poetry unit of work based upon the animals within their current class text, the Enormous Crocodile by Roald Dahl. Beginning by learning to perform poetry with intonation and expression, and moving to editing and improving rhyming couplets, the children have wowed their teachers and I with their excellent effort and hard work. In Maths, Gryffindor have begun learning to tell the time; they quickly revisited and embedded previous learning from Year 2 and have discussed and explained their reasoning when telling the time. For example, all Year 3 children were keen to explain where the hour hand would be at half past, quarter past and quarter to an hour. Why not ask your child to share their incredible reasoning with you? Keep up the hard work next week Year 3!

Y4 Hufflepuff have also had another exciting week of learning where they have been busy consolidating their decimal skills and then applying them to problem solving challenges before they went on to complete their end of unit check. Next week children will begin learning about money, which we know is not as easy as it looks! As well as continuing to be Maths wizards, children have begun reading George's Marvellous Medicine where they have watched Rik Mayal perform the story and then begun to unpick instructions. Teachers have been extremely busy planning some exciting activities for the final 3 weeks of term and all we can say is make sure your potion making skills are up to scratch! In creative lessons, our super talented Year 4s have been designing and making their own potion bottles ready for our brand new displays round school.

A much lighter-hearted and comical week in Year 5 this week, as Ravenclaw have become extremely excited about starting their new text...a Roald Dahl classic: 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The children have absolutely loved becoming immersed in their new text which started on Monday with a 'cinema-esque' watch of the 1971 original film which is full of fun, thrills and laughter. Oompa looma dumpety doo! Throughout the week, the children have developed their knowledge about the main characters from the humble 'Charlie Bucket' to the greedy 'Augustus Gloop', courtesy of some great discussion and communication skills (not to mention some wonderful drawings by Mrs Gregory!) They even managed to 'become' the characters in the book through some fine drama skills and acting - the impressions of the diva-like Veruca Salt were extremely hilarious! In Maths, Year 5 have started to conclude their understanding of multiplying fractions and using fractions as operators (which can be a tricky concept) whilst in Science, Ravenclaw have been developing their understanding of different time zones of countries and cities due to the spin and position of Earth in relation to the Moon. Finally, to close Year 5's epic 'Clash of the Titans' topic, the children made some scrumptious-looking, healthy Greek salads that would have given Nigella Lawson or Gordon Ramsay a run for their money! Deeeeeeeelicious!

In year 6, our children have been creating their own play scripts based upon the text ‘Holes’. Their enthusiasm has shown through as they have written scene descriptions and plotted out each characters’ lines. They have then used their scripts to develop their drama skills, presenting the characters accurately and with great enjoyment. To finish off their ‘Holes’ topic the children enjoyed watching the film and seeing how the plot concludes- many enjoyed the twists in the many underlying stories within the text. As many children have begun the transition to high school process, it is important to say again how proud we are of their maturity in what can be an unnerving process- they have most certainly done a fantastic job of representing Grove Academy – well done Year 6!

A reminder that we will soon be beginning our transition days where children get to spend some time in their new classes – I am sure that they are all very excited about this as well as maybe a little apprehensive. We can assure you that we will make this as easy as we possibly can for all of the children.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend with your families and friends

Mrs Carrigan