Blog w/e 02.10.20

Wow! The end of another week is here already! These days and weeks are absolutely flying by! This week we have launched a new video to show off our amazing academy to all of the families that we hope will want to join us from September 2021 – we hope that you will agree that this makes wonderful viewing and really demonstrates how happy and delightful our pupils are here at Grove. We are so proud to share this short video with you all and sincerely hope that you will share it on social media with your friends and family. I am sure that many of you have small people with starring roles!! The whole school also celebrated ‘Good to be Me’ day this week and the children enjoyed talking all about the many positives that they have in their lives and what they have to be grateful for. They decorated a hand print and this will be proudly displayed on the ‘Diversi-tree’ in the hall, celebrating all the diversity that we have at Grove Academy.

We have also published information on Class Dojo about our remote learning support for your children if they need to self-isolate or in the event of any kind of lockdown. This is accompanied by some guidance of how to use the Oak National Academy website so please do take the time to read this information.

This week Year 3 have been introduced to their new class text: ‘Iron Man’ They have been looking at descriptive vocabulary and how this can be used to improve their own writing. On Friday I could hear the echo of ‘reporters’ around the hall interviewing ‘eye witnesses’ that might have seen the iron giant himself. The joy and excitement was simply emanating from the Year 3 classrooms!

In Maths, the children have started their place value unit in Power Maths, looking at how different numbers can be represented and partitioned. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the practical element of each of their lessons as they use the various manipulatives in their maths trays to support their learning – I’m sure they would be able to tell you all about it at home!

Before completing their first science unit on light, the children investigated how shadows change length, shape and size when a light source moves. Tin foil was in abundance as they created their miniature tin foil humans to test out their hypothesis.

Also, I can’t wait to see the virtual harvest festival. I hope everyone is learning their lines and songs at home ready for the day of filming.

It was yet another busy week in Year 4 too! Where does the time go? Lots of the children in Hufflepuff took part in Bikeability this week and have successfully completed the skills needed to be a safe bike user – well done everyone you were amazing!

The creative project that the children have been working on to make a functioning digestive system is almost concluded. The children can't wait to share their amazing outcomes on Class Dojo as they have been incredibly creative and are so knowledgeable about the digestive system. The children are amazing scientists and can talk about why our bodies need food and how we process food from the moment we eat it until it's final destination. This learning continues as the children are also using their knowledge of the digestive system in English by starting to write an explanation text - proof again that there's some great learning going on. In Maths, the focus continues to be on number and place value with children exploring rounding and one more / one less, even using poems to remind themselves.

Year 5 have also had a super week! They have started their new topic: The Earth, Sun and Moon and have been finding out all about the shape of these and the size of the other planets in the solar system. They did a super investigation into the size of the planets in comparison to each other and found that, when scaling, Jupiter was the size of a watermelon compared to Earth which was the size of a blueberry! The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the orbits of the planets, too, and watched some super videos taken from the International Space Station to support them. In English, year 5 have been continuing with their description of ‘Lucky’’s dream from the class text ‘Phoenix’ and have, so far, written some beautiful similes, adjectives and used powerful verbs to describe. The children in Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed ‘good to be me day’ where they all made some brilliant contributions to our discussions.

Year 6 have settled into their new learning groups brilliantly – all of the children have shown a real enthusiasm to learn to the best of their ability and are flourishing. In English this week, they have had a focus on speech and dialogue. Children have learned how to correctly punctuate speech as well as converting between direct and reported speech. Once the children were confident with using speech, they began to write a narrative to recount the first conversation between Dr Bryce and Cameron from the text ‘Pig Heart Boy’. In Maths, they have been exploring number lines up to 10,000,000, including working out the value of intervals and where to position numbers within a given number line. The children have also started to look at how we can round numbers up to 10,000,000 to a given accuracy. Thursday was ‘Good to be Me’ day. The children celebrated their ‘true colours’ by coming to school dressed in their favourite colour and completed activities to promote their personal wellbeing. In Science, the children planned and delivered their own investigation into the heart recovery rates following exercise. Why not ask your child what they found out?

An amazing amount of maturity continues to be shown from all children and they becoming incredibly skilled at maintaining hygiene and safety. Well done everyone – I am very proud of you all.

Just one last reminder to ask that all parents/carers please support our academy community by wearing a face covering whenever visiting our academy including the arrival & collection of children. Additionally, please remember to stand on a yellow spot to ensure social distancing.  Please join the end of the line and do not stand in between other parents/carers who are already standing on these spots. Thank you for your continued support.

Stay safe everyone

Mrs Carrigan