

# Upper Primary News

# Marjory Kinnon Spring 1 2020

#### **Dolphin Class**

We have had busy PSHE lessons in which we have been learning about our community. Children learnt about people's roles within the community as well as developing an awareness of their responsibility towards others and to the environment. The children enjoyed taking part in role play activities and exploring different jobs within the community. In our Science lessons this half term we established that the dark is the absence of light and that we need light to see things. The children learnt about shadows and some children recognised that shadows are formed when the light source is blocked by an object. We created a sun safety poster while we were learning that the UV rays from the sun can be dangerous for our eyes without protection.



#### Panda Class

Panda class have been working super hard this half term. In Maths, we have been learning about the place value of numbers up to 50 and beyond. We have been exploring different ways to show our answers in Maths by working on our reasoning skills. In English, we have been looking at instruction writing using the book, "How to grow a sunflower" as a shared text. The children planted their own sunflower plants and the adults were very impressed with the care the children took with the planting, ensuring the seeds were planted carefully. They learnt the steps needed to grow a plant successfully. In Science, the children have been learning about different sources of light. We have been busy learning about shadows and making our own shadow puppets in the classroom. Well done Panda class for your terrific hard work this half term



## **Rhino Class**

Rhino class have worked very hard this half term. Well done Rhino Class! We have been following the Power of Reading scheme in our class. We have performed presentations on how we can help the world by making informed choices about our recycling habits. Each child made a poster using bossy verbs to encourage others to recycle responsibly. In Maths we have been learning about multiplication and division. We made arrays and used repeated addition. In PHSE we read 'The Runaway Wok' by Ying Chang Compestine. We acted out a scene from the book. We recreated Mr Zhang's house and wrote Chinese New Year cards to each other. Each child wrote a kind message describing what made them a good friend.



# **Elephant Class**

In Literacy, Elephant class have been reading instruction texts. Firstly, we read the instructions and then we put them in the right order. We also found the bossy words that tell us what to do and finally we followed the instructions to make superhero stick puppets and Chinese lanterns. The topic for science this half term has been light. We identified various light sources, made shadows of different shapes and sizes, used mirrors to reflect the light and made some interesting art using light sensitive paper.

RE was not about light but the enlightenment of Siddhartha Gautama who became known as the Buddha. The children in Elephant class were very interested in the story of the Buddha and they were able to relate the Buddhist values to their own experiences and the values of the school.



## **Lion Class**

Lion Class have had a great half term! They have enjoyed their English learning which has been based around a book called '10 Things I Can Do To Help My World'. They have created posters to help their world and presented this to the rest of the class. They have created their own poems and performed these to their peers too. In Science, they have been learning about Light and have investigated what materials would be best used for a school bag. In Geography they have been learning about changing landscapes and understanding what are human and physical features of an area. In their SEAL (Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning) we have been learning about Mindfulness and how to respond to the emotions that they experience.



#### **Manatee Class**

Manatee Class have been enjoying Science a great deal this term. We have been learning about light and dark. The children had many opportunities to explore light and dark places, and they began to explore how light behaves when it goes through different materials. We experimented with transparent, translucent, and opaque materials, and we even learnt how to create shadows. The children enjoyed sorting pictures of day and night, and they joined in peekaboo games to learn that we use our eyes to see. Experimenting with different light sources has been so much fun!



## **Orca Class**

It has been a great half term for Orca Class! In our Science lessons, the children have been taking part in a Fishkeeping programme! So far, they have set up the amazing aquarium in the classroom and introduced Zebra Danios to it. Each week, we have a new Fish keeper of the week who checks the temperature of the water daily to ensure that it is suitable for the fantastic fish! Orca class are having so much fun learning about different types of fish and how to look after them. In Humanities, we have been learning about how the environment around us has changed over time, thinking about how it may be improved and sustained. The children have also been identifying the human and physical features of the environment.



## **Tiger Class**

Tiger class have had a great start to the new year and have been learning a lot of new things! We have learnt about Chinese New Year, and have made our own dragon masks as well as taking part in a Chinese New Year dance workshop. In Literacy we have been learning about non-fiction texts, such as instruction and explanation texts and have even had a go at planting our own seeds to learn how to follow instructions accurately and help us to write our own! In Humanities we have been learning about changing landscapes. We have learnt about rural and urban landscapes and have been thinking about how we can help to protect our environment. We used the book 'Windows' to inspire our learning. In Art and Design we have been learning about the artist LS Lowry and have been working on creating our own collages based on his work. We have learnt how to paint a background using the colours which LS Lowry's used, and how to build up the landscape using industrial buildings, terraced houses and people.



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#### **Giraffe Class**

We have had a busy half term in Giraffe Class. We learnt about light and shadows in Science. We learnt about the sources and properties of light and how shadows are formed when an object blocks light. We also looked at light in detail at what the colour spectrum is. In Guided reading this term we studied instructional texts and how instructions use imperative verbs and time connectives. Giraffe class watched an espresso clip on how to make a Chinese lantern. They had to write a set of numbered instructions and then make their own lantern using their written instructions. These lessons coincided with the Chinese New year assembly at the end of January where they brought their work to show the primary department. We also had a Chinese New year dance workshop which the class really enjoyed. They did a dragon dance with the dance instructor in the play-ground-it was great fun!



#### **Tapir Class**

This term Tapir class has been learning about the importance of light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. We have also explored what happens when light reflects off a mirror reflection and noticed that light is reflected from surfaces so we played mirror games to answer questions about how light behaves! We used torches to look for, and measure, shadows, and found out how they are formed and how they change!



## Zebra Class

In literacy we have been reading an information book about Teddy Bears. We have been asking questions to find out facts about real bears. We followed instructions to make a sandwich and to find treasure! We also made our own playdough and wrote the steps followed. In RE we have been studying Buddhism. The children learned about the story of Buddha and did a role play about it. In maths we have been exploring number. Below are some photographs of the work we did looking at multiplication and counting in groups. We have been doing division as well, sharing cakes and other objects equally between different people. We made a lamp for Chinese New Year and learned about some Chinese stories in guided reading. We also attended to a very fun Chinese workshop where we all could dance with red ribbons and follow the dragon! In computing we have been very creative making a front page for our own book about Zebra Class.



#### **Dates for your diary**

- Monday 24th February
- Tuesday 25th February
- Friday 28th February
- Thursday 5th March
- Friday 3rd April

- **INSET Day (School closed for pupils)**
- Pupils return to school (First day of Spring 2)
- Maths Workshops
- World Book Day activities
- Last day of term (School closes at 1:00pm for pupils)