



Cotherstone Primary Newsletter 6th May 2022

Mrs Matthewman would like to thank everyone for the generous gifts, cards and kind wishes sent to mark her retirement - all much appreciated.

Class 1 Development

There's been big excitement in Class 1 today as the workmen have completed their work. A new small toilet and sink has been installed and the area has been tiled and we also have a new sink in the classroom for the children to use!



This week in 'Little Learners Pre-School'

Our topic this half-term is 'Mini-beasts' so we started the week off finding out what mini-beasts actually are and where they live. We had great fun searching for mini-beasts in our school grounds and then painting, counting and chalking them outdoors. ☺

This week in Class 1

This week in geography the children enjoyed learning about famous landmarks in London and then went on to piece chosen landmarks together by making them into paper models. In literacy, we have continued our work on 'Poems' and the children have created their own poems and a group one based on 'Our Crazy Classroom'. The Year 1 children have been measuring in maths, whilst the Year 2 children have been learning about equal parts and fractions.

This week in Class 2

We have had a great start to the summer term and have settled into our new classroom!

We have been very busy in class 2 this week as we had our trip to Bowlees on Wednesday, where the children really threw themselves into the role of rock and fossil detectives and lots of fun was had by all!

Please see the pictures below to see all the different activities we got up to! ☺

In literacy, we have started our new book 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. The children have explored the characters in the book and have started to plan the next chapter of Edward's

journey, using fronted adverbials as sentence starters to enhance their writing. They have all come up with some amazingly creative ideas!

In maths, we have been looking at the tricky concept of telling the time and they are all doing great! In particular, we have been looking at the incredibly accurate Japanese Bullet Trains and using our clocks to show their arrival and departure times – to the exact minute!

In science, we have started our new topic of Forces and Magnets and we have been exploring Push and Pull forces. Working in pairs, the children came up with some excellent 'Freeze Frames' displaying either a push or pull force. You could ask them to show you. 📺

Miss Heaviside







This week in Class 3

We have had a very busy start to the summer term! Our wonderful Year 6 children have been preparing for their upcoming SATs papers next week. This Year 6 group are the first to sit the papers following the pandemic and I could not be prouder of them - superstars!

Year 5 began their literacy unit on 'The Alchemist's Letter' a video clip of a machine used to hold memories. They have explored descriptive writing this week and have produced some excellent writing using expanded noun phrases and prepositional phrases to enhance their description.

We have been looking at Evolution and Inheritance in science as part of our new topic. Last week, we explored what inheritance means. We researched the characteristics of different breeds of dogs and then cross-bred them deciding which characteristics they would inherit from their parents.

This week we looked at adaptation and how species evolve over time. We focused on Charles Darwin's finches which he studied on the Galapagos Islands and how their beaks adapted depending on the food available on each island. To do this, we simulated a bird collecting food using their beak. Of course - we had to be birds! We used tweezers, chopsticks and teaspoons to represent the beak and then used sunflower seeds (small, awkward shaped seed), sweet worms (to represent worms!) and other sized items to represent the different food available. Class 3 had to collect as many of the different food items as they could using their beak and place it in the bird's 'stomach' in 30 seconds. Class 3 then had to work as a group to see which beak worked well for which food item to see how a finch's beak adapted over time. To work scientifically they made their predictions, considered fair testing, thought of variables and recorded their data. They will write a conclusion and think about which type of beaked finch would be best for each island within Galapagos.

SATs arrangements for next week

The Year 6 children should arrive in school at the normal time of 8:40am next week please ready to begin the first paper at 9:30am. Please send them in with a healthy snack for break time. The SATs papers will take place Monday-Thursday during the morning sessions. On Friday, for their 'SATs Party', Year 6 will head to Cotherstone play park for a treat for all their hard work. ☺ They appear to have also convinced me to do the traditional water fight once the warmer weather arrives!

Miss Thomas



1 - Awards

Class 1: Star of the week - Lilah, for being so adaptable with the changes of working in the hall for the last 2 weeks whilst the Pre-school toilet and sink were fitted. Presentation award - Joseph.

Class 2: Star of the week – Lydia for trying hard in all lessons and having a great attitude towards learning. Presentation award – Jake.

Class 3: Star of the week - Aliccia for trying super hard with your maths practise papers. Presentation award - Ashton.



2 - Golden Ticket Awards for this week:

Josie - for happily following the lunchtime routine.

Elodie - for being a great help to lunchtime staff..

Emmy - for being polite and kind to younger children.

Summer - for being a great Play Leader.

Homework

Class 1 - Please see individual folders. Spellings for Year 1 and 2 and reading books

Class 2 - Fronted adverbials worksheet and spelling practice ☐

Class 3: Year 5 - Mr and Mrs Men adaptation work and lots of reading ☐ Year 6 - Spend some time this weekend doing things you enjoy ☐



After School Club

We are happy to announce that as of next Wednesday 11th the After-school Football Club will be open to key stage 1 children. Children can wear their football strip or sports clothes but football boots and shinpads are **not** necessary for the session. The session runs from 3:15pm-4pm and costs £3 per child. If your child would like to attend please let a member of staff know.



Dates for your Diary

w/c 9th May - Week 3 of lunch menu

9th-12th May - Year 6 SATs

13th May - Year 6 SATs Party

27th May - School closes for half term break

7th June - School re-opens

Thank you for your continued support.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Richard Batchelor

and the Cotherstone Team