

News from the Desk of the Deputy Head

I think autumn has well and truly arrived this week - we started the week off still enjoying the sunshine and closed the week with our brollies and rain coats and dodging the rain! But we don't let the rain dampen our spirits at Stratford Primary and it has been another exciting week of learning...

We began our week with Mrs Humphriss' assembly on Teams – the children and staff really enjoy our weekly remote 'get togethers' and this Monday the children were talking about Jewish celebrations: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. Mrs Humphriss always challenges the children to make a pledge for the week ahead really gets them to think about how they can help to shape the world around them. The children also enjoy their Friday morning class assemblies when they get to share and celebrate the values tickets that have been awarded throughout the week – it is so lovely to see the pride on their faces when they know that they have received a nomination! Next Tuesday, the children are looking forward to our virtual whole school Harvest assembly. Each class has been busy preparing something to share and the children can bring in a tin to contribute to the Stratford Food Bank Harvest collection.

As well as Harvest preparations this week, Reception children have been learning all about the number 5! They have been making the number five out of leaves, cones and twigs, using ten frames to represent the number five and doing lots of counting to 5. Mrs Slater introduced the children to set 3 sounds and I have seen lots of work on repetition and rhyme. The children thoroughly enjoyed their first forest school session today and had lots of fun exploring at the paddock. Miss White and year 1 have been reading The Gingerbread man this week. Ezra was excited to come and show me his fantastic writing on Tuesday and he could tell me all about why the Gingerbread man was in the cooker and he hoped he would escape! Miss White has also been painting on the walls again and has created a chalkboard on the classroom wall for the children to practise their phonics sounds and emergent writing. Year 2 this week have continued to be space explorers they are really enjoying reading all about Bob the Man on the Moon and think it's hilarious that he can't spot any aliens hiding on every page. They started the week designing their own aliens and then imagined that they were Bob and wrote some amazing factual speeches about the moon. A particular highlight of the week was checking on their moon rock and making an alien cress head. They have learnt SO many facts about space and never fail to amaze me with what fantastic learners they all are. Year 3 have had a busy week and their classroom is covered in life size skeletons. The children are loving learning about different types of skeletons and had great fun working in groups to assemble the bones of a human body! They are also buzzing about their times tables - it's amazing how times have changed. I remember dreading practising my times tables at school! This week has also seen the introduction of '5 words a week' - the teachers are introducing their classes to 5 challenging and ambitious new words each week that link to all areas of the learning. In Year 4 this week the children were debating what the word 'foreboding' meant. This linked nicely to their class text Viking Boy and they have been exploring different traditional tales that have similar settings and themes. When I visited Year 5 this week I was truly blown away by their poetry. The children have been writing harvest poems and a verse that really struck me was Petra's: Why do the trees let their needles fall? Because they know they have to. Why do spiders make webs? To catch your beautiful dreams. Wow! Year 6 were also eager to share their learning with me when I visited them. Linked to their lessons on Charles Darwin, the children have been sketching shells using a series of lines and cross-hatching. Thomas then tried to sketch his shell using pen and the results were fantastic! It's hard to believe that we only have a few weeks left before half term - this half term is flying by but that's what happens when you are having fun!

Weekly Attendance by Class

Overall - 97.4%

YR - 94.4%

Y2 - 97.4%

Y3 - 99.3%

Y4 - 96.6%

Y5 - 97.3%

Y6 - 97.5%

1 - 99.3%



The winner's this week are Years 1 and 3 with 99.3%

Well done!

Second Hand Uniform

Please note - we are **not** currently able to accept school uniform donations or hold a second hand uniform sale.

If you need replacement school uniform and would like to purchase some second hand please email the school office, for the attention of Mrs Wilson, stating the items you need and the exact size (in age and inches).

We will check the uniform we currently have as quickly as we are able to and let you know if it is available and how to collect and pay.

Thank you

***************** \bigstar $\frac{1}{2}$ Harvest Festival Donations ☆ ☆ Please send any donations for Harvest Festival in with ☆ ☆ your child on **Tuesday 6th** \bigstar $\frac{1}{2}$ October. ☆ \bigstar ☆ \bigstar We will celebrate Harvest ☆ ☆ Festival in the individual ☆ \bigstar classes and the donations ☆ ☆ will be taken to Stratford ☆ ☆ Foodbank. \bigstar \bigstar Thank you in advance for \bigstar \checkmark your support. ☆ \checkmark

'Having fun is the best way to learn' Einstein

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Withers

