

# This week in the classrooms...

## Reception

This week our focus has been on 'Healthy Living and Eating'. We talked about all the things we need to do to keep healthy. Each of the boys then wrote their own ideas down in a sentence. We read the book 'Fussy Freda' by Julia Jarman about a little girl who didn't like to eat anything! We discussed how important it is to eat a balanced diet and talked about which foods are healthy and which are unhealthy. In Maths, we had fun subtracting using Cheerios! In Phonics, we are recapping all the Level 3 sounds again to make sure the children are secure in their knowledge. We were very excited to see how much our beautiful flowers had grown in our outdoor area over half term.

## Year 1

This week, we introduced our new book for this half term, The Day the Crayons Quit. The boys wrote a prediction using the words 'predict', 'fiction' and 'because'. We also had a colour battle where the boys chose their favourite colour. The various teams then had to create costumes, posters and presentations to convince the class that their colour was best. In Maths, we have been revising key topics such as number bonds to 10 and 20, addition by counting on using our fingers as well as counting backwards from 100. We also conducted a Science experiment to test whether the stem transports water throughout the plant. We placed roses in coloured water and watched their petals turn from white to blue. The boys then wrote up their experiment making sure to include a title, list of equipment, method, prediction and result.

## Year 2

What a fabulous week in Year 2. The boys were incredibly lucky to take part in the Lego robotic workshop making a funfair ride. The instructor was very impressed with the boys' Lego skills and they all worked so hard to produce moving lego pieces. In Maths, we looked at shape, position and direction, while in English we started our new book 'Lila and the Secret of Rain. In Humanities, we have started our new Geography unit learning all about Zambia.

## Year 3

The Year 3s have had a great week of learning after the break. We started our new class book: The Great Kapok Tree which is about a man who starts to chop down a great kapok tree in the rainforest, and exhausted from his labours, he puts down his axe and rests, but as he sleeps, the animals who live in the tree come and plead with him not to destroy their world. We discussed a lot of new and exciting vocabulary. Can your child explain any of these words: dappled, fragrant, wither and plodding? In Maths, we have consolidated our learning in statistics and looked at bar charts and pictograms. We completed our Geography topic about the rainforest and the boys created fabulous posters all about deforestation, which links nicely to our new class book. In Art, we looked at the artist Andy Warhol and learned about pop art. The boys created their own piece of pop art using an everyday object as inspiration. In Science, we completed our topic about humans with a lesson about muscles. The boys learnt that muscles work in pairs and they felt how their bicep muscle contracts and relaxes as they lifted and put down their arm.

## Year 4

This week in Maths, we focused on geometry and statistics which involved interpreting tables and graphs, understanding coordinates and translating a shape on a grid by understanding movement. In English, the boys made up an animal that could live in the rainforest from the book The Tin Forest and have written a character description to describe all aspects of their animal. In Science we discussed the issues surrounding the environment and how people destroy habitats. They made posters urging people to keep the environment clean and tidy for the animals and why it is important. In Humanities, the boys worked in pairs to learn about different countries around the world and how they differ depending on their climate zone.

## Year 5

We have had a productive week of learning in Year 5 this week. In English, we have explored a range of punctuation skills and grammar concepts while exploring our creative minds through extended writing pieces. In Maths, we focused wholly on multiplication and we have grasped the concept of short and long multiplication. Science took the boys on an exploration of different properties and what they are made of. The boys enjoyed a tour around the school, finding different objects and identifying what they're made of and how they feel (texture). They thoroughly enjoyed the active learning aspect of the lesson while the sun was shining!

## Year 6

We were very lucky to have Rabbi Zeidman again from Gift, inspiring us about how to be a true giver. He discussed the need for creating new habits and that it needs to be a daily event. In our Shoah lessons, we looked at some old towns and how instrumental they were in the forming of ancient customs. We then prepared for an assembly today on World Music Day which we are sure you will hear all about.