



STEPHEN FREEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Everybody; Every Moment; Every Idea Counts"

July 20th 2022

Rainbow Explorers Nursery have had a wonderful time this term. We have been learning about the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and the children enjoyed acting out the story and making bridges to cross. We were very lucky to be able to go on a trip to Sutton Courtenay Environmental Centre where we learnt about the teddy bears who live in the wild there! We found out what they need to survive in the wild and we made them a pond to drink from, shelters to live in and a teddy bear salad for them to eat. Then we had a teddy bears picnic in the woods which we really enjoyed. The children have been learning about writing their name



and they have been practising writing some of the letters ready for their move to Reception in September.



Reception

What a wonderful last term we have had. The highlight was our sports day and our trip to Beale Park. The children showed wonderful enthusiasm and resilience as they took part in the sporting activities and the visit to Beale Park was both educational and fun. The children were a credit to the school and to their families. We have seen such a growth in the children's characters and they are all ready for the opportunities that will be presented to them in Year 1. A huge thank you to you all for being such a wonderful group of little humans, you have made us laugh and burst with pride. We are so proud of how blossomed throughout your Reception year. Have a peaceful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in your new habitat in Year 1.



Year 1

This term we have been having lots of adventures. As an extension of our 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' topic we went to Cotswold Wildlife Park and enjoyed seeing the wonderful array of animals that they have. The giraffes, red panda, penguins and lemurs definitely stood out as favourites. Our class story this term was 'The Tiger who came to tea', and we wrote an invitation to our chosen teddy to come to a tea party in school. The children loved sharing their food together and playing with their toys. In art we learned about the French artist Henri Rousseau and we used his painting 'Surprise, Tiger in the Storm' as inspiration for our own paintings. We used paint for a full and busy background, oil pastels for a jungle animal of our choosing and then a mixture of oil and collage for the leaves in the foreground. The pictures are wonderful and the children are so proud of their work. In Design Technology we created an animal enclosure using junk materials and thought carefully about methods of joining pieces together. We had a great time at Sports Day and enjoyed our last Forest School session.

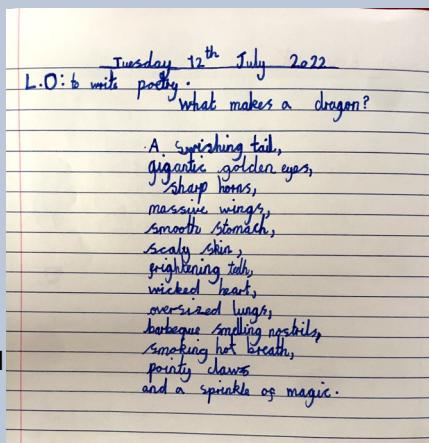


Inspired by our trip to Beale Park, we made our own animal habitats.



Year Two have had a fabulous term learning about castles and dragons. At the beginning of the term, we went on an exciting trip to Warwick Castle. The children explored the towers and ramparts, climbed the battlements and watched a magnificent bird show. They saw real life armour and weapons and took part in a workshop to learn all about life in the castle. Our visit informed our work in history and geography. In English we have been focusing on the story, 'Once upon a Dragon's Fire' by Beatrice Blue. In Science we have been learning about the conditions that plants need to grow and what would happen if we deprived plants of these. The children made careful observations and recorded their findings. The children's art work has been excellent. We have focused on drawing dragons which were inspired by our class story. They thought carefully about warm and cool colours and how these colours

reflect emotions. In Design Technology the children worked in groups to design and create 3D castles. They had to include towers and ramparts, battlements and arrow slits. In PE we all enjoyed a wonderful sports day and we are proud of how the children have engaged in their learning.



Bonnie- your dragon poem is amazing.



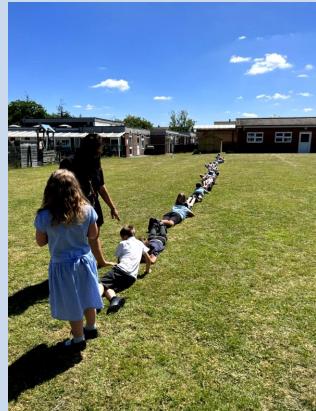
In Year 3 we have been learning about the expansion of the Roman Empire and the impact that this had on Britain. In guided reading we learned what life was like in Roman Britain through the eyes of Boudicca, a Roman soldier and a Celt and in art we examined how the Romans decorated their homes with statues and we made our statues with clay. In science we have been studying forces and magnets. In RE we have been learning about the sacred River Ganges.



Romans on our field



A Roman Bust



Measuring length using
non standard units

In **Year 4** we have had a jam-packed successful term. Children have been thoroughly engrossed in their learning and it has been very evident how they have progressed. Our learning has reflected our topic 'Blue Abyss'.

Reading - we have loved reading 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo.

Writing - we innovated our own stories based on 'Seal Woman'. The children had to write their own stories aimed at a Year 3 child with the purpose of entertaining. The stories were really creative.

Maths - we have focused on shape and space. We have enjoyed learning about coordinates and translation.

Science - in science we have focused on classification and the children enjoyed using classification keys to find out what different types of animals were.

Art - the children learnt how to blend oil pastels and charcoal to create paintings based on a photograph taken by the underwater photographer David Doubilet. As you can see the results are amazing.



Highlights

Our class trip to the cinema to see the new Minion film which was fully funded from the profits of enterprise week. All the children had popcorn, a drink a little something sweet and had a fantastic time.

Sports day was amazing and everyone gave of their best - great job Year 4.

National Times Tables test went really well and the results were astounding. We are proud of the children and thank you to all parents and carers for your support with this.

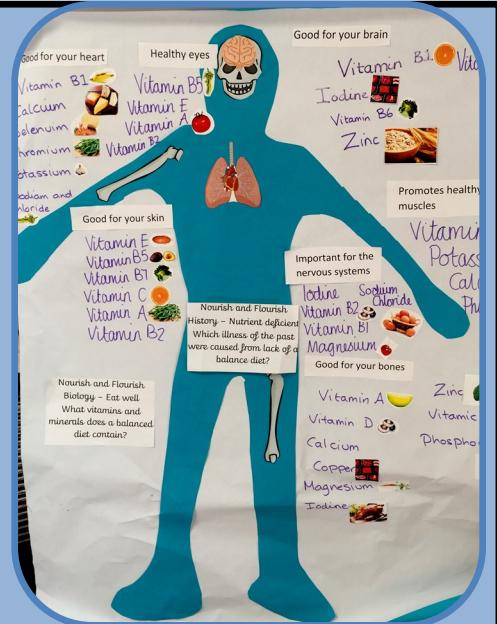
From all the staff in Year 4 - thank you for all of your support in what has been an amazing academic year. It would not have been nearly as great without you. Have a wonderful summer break.

Wow, wow, wow, what a year it has been for our brilliant group of **Year 5** children. When we look back, we can celebrate the wonderful learning and activities that have taken place. We have swum, taken part in a Tudor workshop, ridden our bikes and taken part in some amazing science at UTC. During the last week of term we were involved in a pilot project called 'Nourish and Flourish'. The children learned about healthy food and sustainability and they created their own composter. Some of the children have been cooking at Didcot Girls' School to enhance their own skills. It has been fantastic to see how the children have been learning in different ways. We are heading back to UTC to complete a project on space buggies. Thank you to the team at UTC for all

your input. The children have had success on the sports field winning a rounders tournament organised by Aureus School. They displayed amazing teamwork, incredible batting and skilful fielding.

It has been a brilliant busy year.

Have a great summer and see you all in September.



Our Nourish and Flourish Poster

Year 6 had their final trip to Reading Museum where discovered what Reading was like from as early as 1066. The children experienced what life would have been like for school children and enjoyed dressing in character with petticoats and waistcoats. They had a lesson in adding pounds, shillings and pennies as well as a handwriting lessons, we soon realised how times have changed. Our Victorian teacher made us recite our times tables and certainly didn't hold back with the discipline. Mrs Johnson, Miss Tierney and Miss Andrew received a stern telling off for having painted nails. The teacher deemed it a bad influence on the young ladies in the school. The children experienced how harsh punishments were for Victorian children. Layton and Harry were caught by the school-teacher and received the cane (only pretending of course). Lilly and Anais were unable to answer geographical questions and had to stand in the corner with a dunce hat on.

It was a fantastic way to end the children's Stephen Freeman journey and they were superb ambassadors for the school.



Sports Day - 2022

It was wonderful to be able to welcome family members to support their children at sports day. Rainbow Explorers had a lovely time participating in an obstacle race under the trees. The children in Year 1 exhibited an array of fantastic talent through 12 stations of activities and KS2 took part in races and displayed superb teamwork during the relay and three-legged races. Well done to all of you who took part. The house results are as follows:

1st place - **West** 5418 points

2nd place - **North** 5215 points

3rd place - **South** 5090 points

4th place - **East** 4865 points



Every Moment Counts



Art



Science



So Long, Farewell Mrs Brinkley

After 25 years working as a Teaching Assistant at Stephen Freeman School, Mrs Brinkley is retiring. She has seen many changes and has been an integral part of our school's journey. Over the years the children have loved listening to her stories and pearls of wisdom. She has recently been described as our own 'wise owl'. Over the years, Joy has always been willing to provide emotional and well-being support to the children and she has been a creative, dedicated and warm hearted member of the team. We would like to thank Joy for the commitment that she has shown over the years and we wish her a very happy retirement.

Cheerio, Mrs Bodeker and Mrs Speckels

Mrs Bodeker and Mrs Speckels are also leaving us. They have both enjoyed long and successful teaching careers and now they are going to put their feet up. We will miss their energy, enthusiasm and commitment and we wish them both a very happy retirement.

We hope you are all able to make the most of your summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

School re-opens on Monday 5th September