



STEPHEN FREEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Everybody; Every Moment; Every Idea Counts"

Curriculum in Action

February 9th 2024

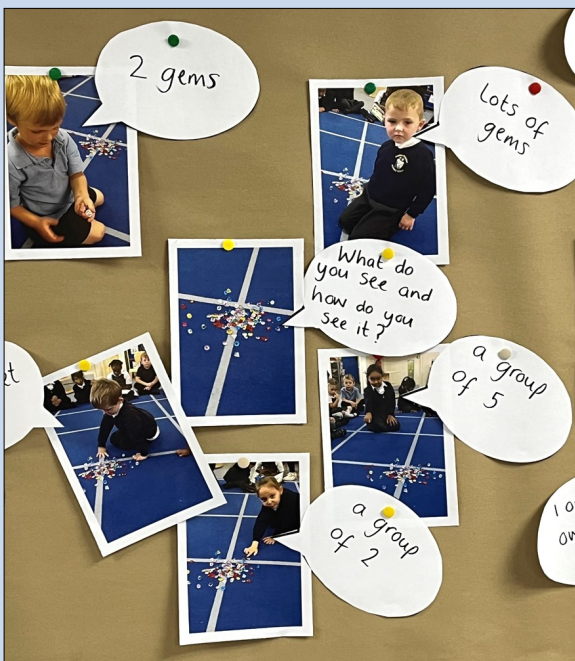
In **Rainbow Explorers** our topic has been nursery rhymes and traditional tales. Our main focus rhymes and tales have been, 'Five little ducks went swimming one day', 'The Elves and the Shoemaker' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children found lost ducks and counted and matched ducks to numbers to make sure that all had returned after their swimming and that they were safe in the water tray. After listening to 'The Elves and the Shoemaker' we made shoes and sold them in our own shoe shop. We enjoyed role playing and we used masks to help us get into character. During this term the children have played games, danced, laughed, ran, rode, coloured, drawn, talked and listened as well as develop their social skills. This is what Nursery is all about.



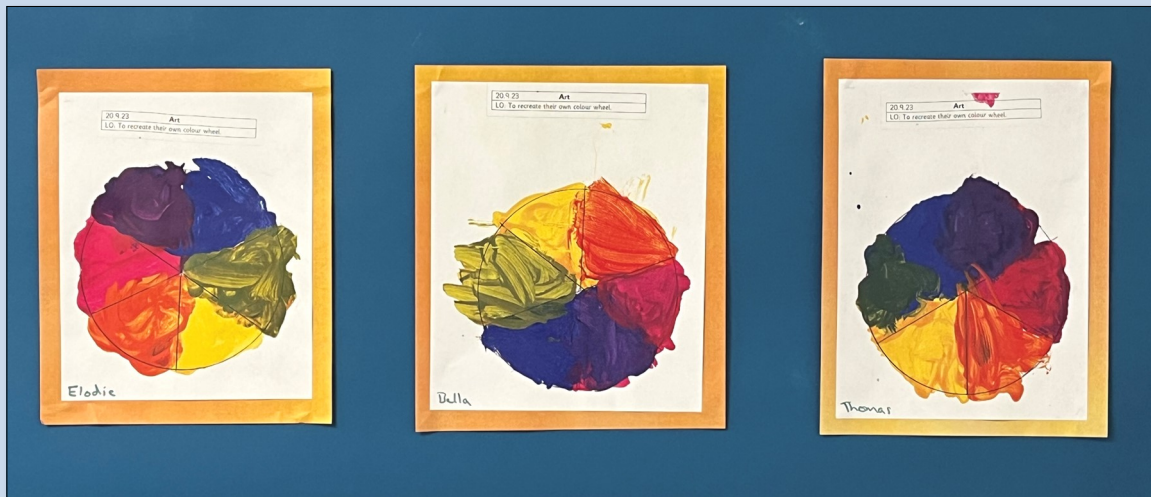
'Five Little Ducks '

Reception

This term Reception have witnessed some very suspicious activity! Oats, golden locks and a girl with golden hair have all been spotted in the classrooms! We discovered a broken chair in our outside classroom and we received a letter from Goldilocks. In her letter Goldilocks apologised for upsetting the bears and she gave us a book called, 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We made porridge and wrote instructions for the bears on how to make it too. In Maths the children have been working hard on spotting patterns, making number stairs and finding ways to make 5. We have sung, '5 green speckled frogs' and '5 little men in a flying saucer' to help us with our maths.



Reception Maths



In **Year 1** we have been learning all about Superheroes. Our very own superhero called Supermarkie visited our classes with Supertato and we created our own superheroes made from potatoes. In History we have been looking at real life superheroes and we compared the lives of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. In Design Technology we have been designing our capes to transform our teddies into Super Teddies. We used fabric pens and a simple running stitch to hem the tops of the capes and attach the ribbon. In art we learnt all about the colour wheel and how this is used by artists.



Amazing Africa in Year 2

We painted our own adinkra paintings and had drumming lessons with Kwame from 'African Activities'. We danced and told stories and performed to other classes. Kwame told us all about Ghana and this linked in perfectly with our Geography lessons. In writing we have been learning about adjectives, expanded noun phrases, the past tense and writing in the first person. We loved reading 'Lila and the Secret of Rain' and imagined what life must be like in Kenya when the rains don't come. We were bemused when a mysterious suitcase turned up in Year 2 filled with exciting objects including goggles, sun cream, mealworms and a passport. It all belonged to a meerkat called Sunny. Sunny explored Africa and wrote postcards home to his family. We imagined taking Sunny to the Rainforest and we wrote our own postcards home. In maths we focused on money, a concept the children found quite tricky (they realised that we all use our phones or cards to pay for things) and we learnt how to apply the word 'times' to our multiplication calculations.





Adrinka paintings represent the richness of Akan culture in particular and African culture in general.

Wow, what an amazing time we have had in **Year 3**. In English we are reading 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl and we had our own chocolate workshop where we learnt all about how and where chocolate grows, how it is harvested and the processes that it goes through before it ends up in the shops. The children made their own chocolate which tasted delicious. We wrote a letter to Mr Willy Wonka using our drama skills to support the writing process. In maths we have been learning all about multiplication and division and have linked this to length and perimeter.



We have had the fun and enjoyment of our first forest school this year. The children have been helping to keep the environment clean and tidy. We have made mud pies and cakes in the outdoor kitchen and enjoyed swinging from the tyre swings.

Year 4 - The Vikings and the Anglo Saxons

We wondered why the to settle in Britain and the Jutes and the Sax-migrated from Northern navia. We learnt what looked like in the 4th arrival of the Vikings Saxons way of life for-the facts that the chil-their learning:



Anglo-Saxons decided by studying the Angles, ons we learnt that they Germany and Scandi-Britain would have Century and how the changed the Anglo-ever. Here are some of dren remembered from

Isaac: there is no evidence that Viking helmets ever had horns.

Roshan: the Vikings loved eating carrots which were not orange but purply-red and white.

Olivia: The Anglo-Saxons lived in Britain from 410 AD to 1066 AD.

Mia: The largest kingdom in Anglo-Saxon Britain was Mercia which bordered all the other kingdoms.



Year 5 have been on a global mission. In Geography we have learnt all about the tectonic plates of the Earth and how they create geographical features such as volcanoes, mountains and earthquakes.

In science we have explored states of matter and how solids, liquids and gases react with one another. The children were

tasked with separating materials using a variety of equipment and recording their observations. In writing we have looked at formal persuasive letters, fact files and reports. It has been exciting to see how the children are making links between the curriculum subjects, an example of which is our study of the wolves of Yellowstone National Park and the importance of the species to the eco-system. In computing we have been learning to code micro:bits, these are small computers that have a range of inputs and sensors and we have created images and moving texts.



What a wonderful and productive term we have had in **Year 6**. We were all fascinated and enthused by our topic, 'The circulatory system'. We learnt how the circulatory system works and how important a healthy lifestyle is to support it. We have been reading two books in class, 'Pig Heart Boy' and 'Abomination', both of them are brilliantly written and have evoked such an emotional response in all of us. A sure sign of a good book. The highlight of the term was our visit to the UTC who led a dissection of a pig's and a sheep's heart.

Alice, Martha and Nathaniel from Year 6 wrote about their visit to the UTC to see a heart being dissected

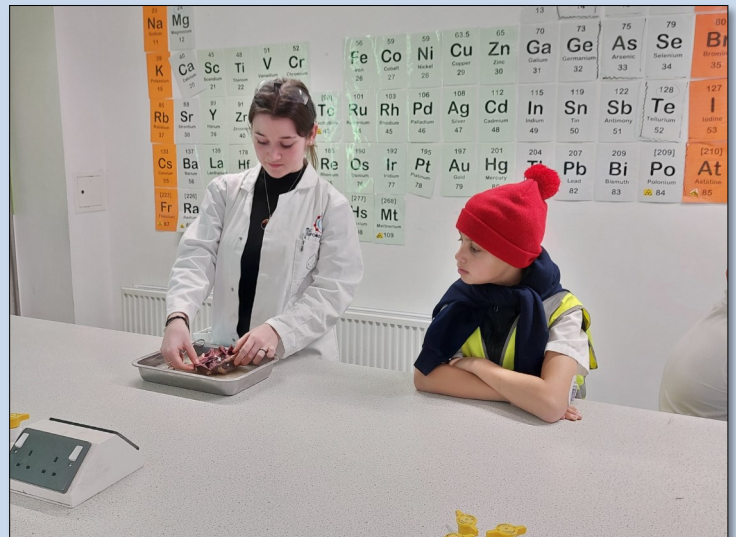
On January 25th, Year 6 went to UTC to dissect a heart. When we got there we sat down and were speechless when we saw the hearts, they were horribly stinky! They looked like blobs! The UTC leader had a real pig's heart. Here are some facts we learnt:

The white part of the hearts were fat.

Having more fat meant that the heart was unhealthy.

The blood vessels were stretchy, if they weren't they would pop.

Some Year 11 students dissected the hearts and it was incredible. The leader explained the different parts of the heart and in the sheep's heart there were lots of fat clots which is very unhealthy. Afterwards we got to do the unthinkable, we touched the heart. Of course everyone was keen, it was fantastic. The heart felt all gooey and slimy. Afterwards, we had to thoroughly wash our hands to not get ill. This was probably a highlight of our topic and it made it all the more exciting. We are so thankful to UTC for allowing us to have this opportunity.



Staff Update

Good Bye Mrs Eggleton

Mrs Eggleton our Year 1 Teaching Assistant moves on to pastures new. She is taking up the role of Teaching Assistant at a school in Wantage. Thank you Mrs Eggleton for all the support you have given to the pupils and the contribution that you have made to our school

We will miss you and wish you the very best of luck in your new role.

Congratulations to **Mrs Cummings**, our Nursery teaching assistant, and her husband who are celebrating the birth of their daughter.

We are all delighted for you both.

Diary Dates

Monday 19th February

School re-opens.

Year 4 visit to Oxford Castle.

Thursday 22nd February

Year 2 History Workshop

Wednesday 28th February

Roving book shop in school.

Friday 15th March

Year 6 visit to the Living Rainforest.

Tuesday 19th March

Year 5 Bikeability course

Monday 25th March

Year 1 and Year 5 Space Dome workshop

Tuesday 26th March

Year 3 visit to the River and Rowing museum

Thursday 28th March

Term finishes 1.30 p.m.

Monday 15th April

School re-opens