



STEPHEN FREEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Everybody; Every Moment; Every Idea Counts"

Curriculum in Action

March 28th 2024

What a lovely term we have had in **Rainbows Explorers**, from taking delivery of Living Eggs, learning about the lifecycle of a chicken, learning new stories, making swans, learning about animals and their babies, making and eating bread and exploring the environment to making Easter Nests in Forest School. What an action packed term. Everyone in Rainbows were very excited to become chick Mummies for two weeks when the Living Eggs arrived in their incubator. We were all able to observe the chicks hatching and we loved holding them when they were fluffy and cute. It was a privilege to be able to share this experience with the children and we hope that the daily chick update on Class Dojo enabled the experience to be shared by the parents too. The children continue to show how much they are enjoying their time at Rainbows by coming in



with big smiles on their faces and exploring the space with thoughtfulness and care. Let's hope term 5 continues as term 4 has ended.

Happy Easter Everyone.

Reception

We are excited to share the highlights of our term's learning journey centred around the theme of 'growing'. It has been a dynamic and engaging period filled with enriching experiences for the children.

Literacy

Our literacy was anchored by the timeless tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children loved bringing the narrative to life with song, puppetry and prop-based storytelling.

Jenny Jigsaw

We have focused on cultivating healthy habits. We enjoyed peeking into the children's lunch boxes and sharing the diversity of nutritious foods that fuel our bodies and minds.

Living Eggs

This has been a fantastic experience for the children. They learned about the life cycle of a chick and were so gentle and caring when they held them. It was a memorable encounter that sparked a curiosity about the natural world.

Creativity

Creativity flourished this term as the children explored still-life drawings and made heartfelt Mother's Day cards.

Maths

In maths we delved into the concept of parts and wholes, laying the foundation for a deeper understanding of mathematical principles through practical exploration and hands-on activities.

We are grateful for your continued engagement and support through Class Dojo. The children enjoy sharing updates from home with their class, it is such a wonderful home school link.

The children in Reception UK class visited the local flower shop and they each bought a flower to take home.



Year One

This term we have been venturing into space. We found some amazing markings on the ground outside and we saw a video that captured a UFO hovering over the school. We found a letter and a book and deciphered that a little alien called Beegu had crashed landed at our school. We read Beegu's story and wrote letters to her with suggestions of things that we could do together such as play football, go for walks and learn some of her alien games. In science we have learnt some interesting facts about our solar system and how astronauts cope with life in space. In Design Technology we designed a new planet and created it using papier mache over balloons we imagined what our new planets climate would be like and what it would be made of. We have really enjoyed our Out of this World topic.



In **Year 2** our learning this term has been cross curricular, we travelled back in time to 1666 to the great fire of London and this informed our learning in History, English and Art. We were so lucky to have a visit from 'Those History People' who ran a fantastic workshop where the children explored what life was like during this time. We learnt how to make soap and candles and we discovered how the fire started and how it was extinguished. It really was a wonderful day. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us.



This term **Year 3** have been studying rivers. In geography we have examined the way rivers are formed. We have written some wonderful poetry based on the movement of rivers using rhyming couplets. We have also written chronological reports which explain what happens during each stage

of a river. We enjoyed a great visit to the 'River and Rowing' museum in Henley on Thames and ended the term with an assembly where we performed the music that we have learnt on our recorders.



This term, **Year 4** have travelled further back in time through the Medieval Ages to 1066. Having learnt about the changes in Britain during the Anglo-Saxon and Viking periods, we were eager to know what happened next. We have been learning about the Norman invasion of England by William, Duke of Normandy. We have re-enacted the Battle of Hastings and have written a narrative as if we were a young soldier at battle. Unfortunately, the battle ended with Harold Godwinson being defeated by an arrow to the eye and William the Conqueror being crowned King. Despite all of the interest-

ing information that we have learnt, this seems to be the children's favourite fact. At the beginning of the term, we visited Oxford Castle. We discovered that the castle was built by a Norman baron in 1073, just after the Norman's victory. We climbed up the 101 steps to the top of St George's tower and looked at the views of Oxfordshire. We imagined what it would have been like during Medieval times and how useful it would have been to spot our enemies approaching. This term certainly hasn't slowed down, in week 3 we received a letter from Donna and Tracy, our kitchen team, asking us to

help then with a new recipe for a vegetable soup. We rose to the challenge and have spent time tasting soups, identifying our preferred ingredients and creating our own. During the last week of term we cooked the soup and practiced a range of cooking skills. We may have some budding chefs on our hands.



Year 5 have been on a road trip of the USA. We made traditional American pretzels, learnt how to line dance and consolidated our knowledge on American landscapes and biomes. In art we have been learning how to create one point perspective pieces in the style of the American artist Grant Haffner. Click [here](#) to view his gallery. We have really enjoyed reading the novel 'holes' by Louis Sachar and comparing it to the movie and we have written our own versions of a Navajo legend ensuring that we stay faithful to the genre and theme of the legend of how the stars fell into the sky. In our maths lessons we have started to learn about area and perimeter and we produced some incredible Pi themed art to help us learn the first 12 decimal points of Pi. We had a busy end to the term with bikeability, the Space dome and parent consultations. We are really proud of the resilience and self-motivation that the children displayed during assessment week and we are looking forward to a new term.



The term in **Year 6** has flown by and we have all worked so hard and learnt so much. The children have really got into their groove and are looking forward to a well earned holiday.

Highlights

World Book Day - we loved dressing up.

IMPS Day - we learnt some incredible life-saving skills which we will have for the rest of our lives.

Visit to the Living Rainforest - we learnt all about adaptation in preparation for our project next term which is all about evolution.

Our most recent assessments have shown the progress that the children are making and we are proud of all their work. When the new term starts we will only have a few weeks to go before the children take their SATs so please keep an eye of Dojo for more information. Booster lessons will continue next term and they have made a tremendous impact on the children's progress. Thank you to all the children for attending these classes and to the parents for facilitating this.



Diary Dates

- Monday 15th April– School re-opens
- Friday 19th April– Brush Party (PTA event)
- Wednesday 8th May– Year 2 trip to Sutton Courtenay
- Friday 10th May– Spring Disco (PTA event)
- Monday 13th May– Year 6 SATS start
- Friday 24th May– End of Term
- Monday 3rd June—School re-opens
- Monday 10th June-Year 6 Bikeability
- Monday 10th June– Year 1 visit to Cotswold Wildlife Park
- Monday 17th June– Year 6 Bikeability
- Tuesday 11th June– Reception visit to Beale Park
- Wednesday 12th June– Father's Day shop (PTA event)
- Friday 12th July– Silent Disco (PTA event)
- Monday 22nd July– End of Term

World Book Day March 7th 2024

We had an amazing time celebrating World Book Day. The children were invited to come to school dressed as a word and everywhere you looked there were colourful costumes and the most ingenious ideas. Mrs Lewis judged a competition for the best costume and the winners were:

Early Years

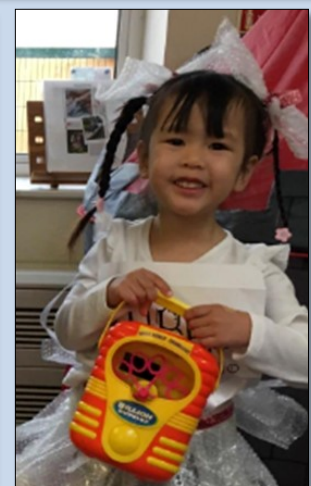
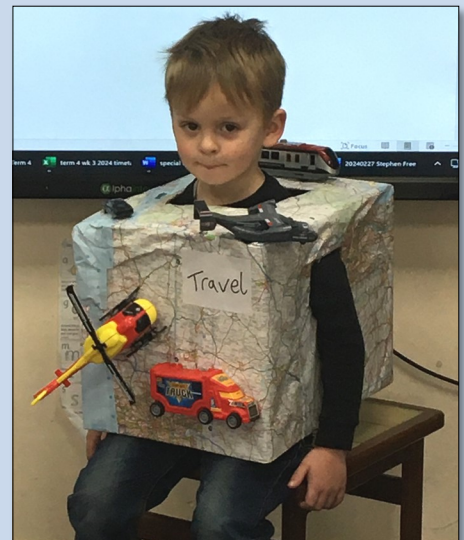
Brianna who was **'Bubbly'** and Ted who was dressed as the word **'Travel'**

Key Stage 1

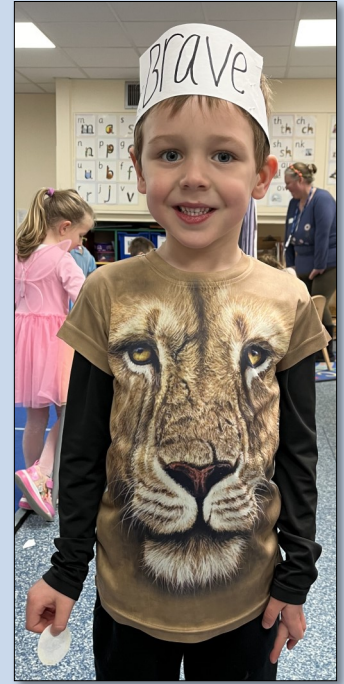
Amelia dressed as *'Concoct'* and Zac's word was **'LIFE'**

Key Stage 2

Libby was **'duplicate'** and Freddie **'Versatile'**



World Book Day March 7th 2024



World Book Day have developed six evidence-based principles that can be implemented easily by families to support children in adopting a life-long habit of reading for pleasure.

1. Being read to regularly.
2. Having books at home and at school.
3. Having a choice in what to read.
4. Finding time to read.
5. Having trusted help to find a book.
6. Making reading fun.

