

West Tytherley CE Primary School

Friday 13th January 2023

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

End of Term shenanigans!

Our Visitors at the end of term (OFSTED) certainly made everything into even more of a whirl than it usually is at Christmas. But I am pleased to say that everything continued as usual for the children.

I have a few people and groups that I would like to thank who helped to make this the wonderful time that it was:

Father Christmas very kindly managed to fit us in, at what we all know is a very busy time of the year for him. The children loved seeing him and receiving the presents which had kindly been donated and organised by the lovely elves.

Barry Whitlock, whose wonderful Christmas tree kept the staff cheerful, as we all worked late each night. It really was lovely, and a much needed spirit lifter.

The Team at St Peters, who decorated the church and helped us with our end of term celebration assembly.

The Kitchen Team, who produced a wonderful Christmas dinner for all the children and staff.

The PTA, for our Christmas tree and gifts.

All the teachers and staff who put in extra effort to get the OFSTED organised whilst keeping the festivities to the fore!

Thank you

A few New Year Messages

Uniform

Please make sure that all uniform is clearly named, in order that we can return it to the children. We have a lot of unnamed items in school, that make it difficult to clear and tidy up each night.

Foot wear

Children should wear regulation school shoes to school. They may bring trainers or wellies to change into for playtimes, but they must then change them for class time.

And finally.....We are so sad to be saying goodbye to our lovely children Solomia and Liubomyr and their fantastic family. It is true to say that we have absolutely loved getting to know them, and that they will leave a big gap in our school. We know that Canada will be amazing and we send all our love and best wishes to them.

I hope that the weekend weather is a little drier than this week's!

Best wishes

Lucy Macey

Weekly Awards Friday 13th January 2023

Beech	Skye	For her hard work and determination in reading and writing
Willow	Jack K	For thinking systematically in maths and using this to solve calculations
Oak	Jack B	For being a 'have a go hero' and making fantastic progress in cricket sessions

Thought for the Week

This week we have been reminded that God has no favourites. Everyone is special to God, and anyone can be part of God's family. We heard the story of Peter and Cornelius and we prayed: *Dear God, thank you that you don't have favourites. Please help us to be like that too, so that people we know don't get left out. Amen*

We are

Vicar James

News from around school

Beech

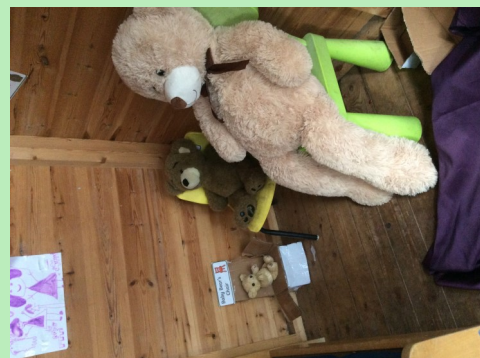
Welcome back. I hope that you all had a wonderful, relaxing Christmas holiday with your families. It has been wonderful hearing about what the children have been up to over the break. This term, our topic is 'Once Upon a Time'. We will be exploring traditional tales, fables and nursery rhymes. The children entered the classroom this week to find a large beanstalk climbing from the carpet all the way up to the mezzanine. From this, they made predictions on what their new literacy learning journey might be- Jack and the beanstalk! Each day, the beanstalk has been getting bigger and bigger, growing leaves and flowers.

Our topic area for 'Once Upon a Time' has also been growing with children's creations. They have been learning to plait and have made long braids of 'Rapunzel's hair'. Our creative area has been very busy with junk modelling, printing and painting. Our creative focus over the next couple of weeks is prop making and small world designs.

In our outside area, Beech Class have been retelling the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', using the language associated with storytelling. It has been wonderful seeing their imaginations run wild over where the three bears could have gone for the day! There has also been porridge making facilities for the children to scoop ingredients between different size bowls to compare.

In maths, we have been learning about time, reciting the days of the week, months and hours on the clock. On Wednesday they started to make their own clocks from paper plates, adding the numbers and cutting out card to make the hour and minute hands.

The children have been praised on their excellent sportsmanship during our cricket sessions. So far they have learnt to catch and bowl, first using bean bags and then soft balls. They even got to practice throwing at stumps.



Willow

Over the past couple of weeks, the children, in English, have started their unit of an author study; we are going to be looking at the work of Emily Gravett. To begin this unit, the children explored her books with a reading session before moving on to identify similarities and differences between the different books. The children identified that all her books include animals and no humans and they are often quite funny. Following this, the children then went on to explore information leaflets, identifying the features, before writing their own information leaflet about Emily Gravett.

In Maths, the Year 2 children have been revisiting properties of 2D and 3D shapes, looking at edges, vertices and faces, before moving on to identify fractions of shapes – $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. The Year 3s have been looking at angles, in terms of rights angles and turns. The children explored turning clockwise and anticlockwise and the direction that you would end up facing. The children also looked at equivalent fractions and how multiplication can be used to find equivalent fractions.

We have started our new History focus, looking at the Iron Age and the changes made from the Stone Age. The children started by recreating a drawing of archaeological discoveries found relating back to the Iron Age before comparing the different houses from three periods – Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. Willow Class have also started a new unit in Science: Light. The children were tasked with an investigation, looking at whether we need light to see. During investigations, as a class we are looking at how we can plan them to ensure they are fair and measureable and what variable is to be changed.



Oak

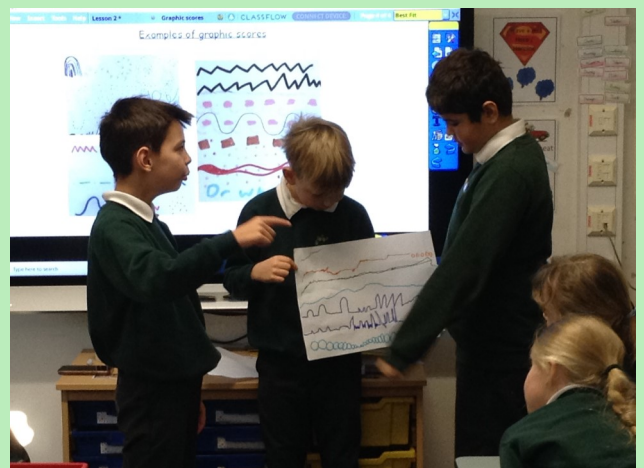
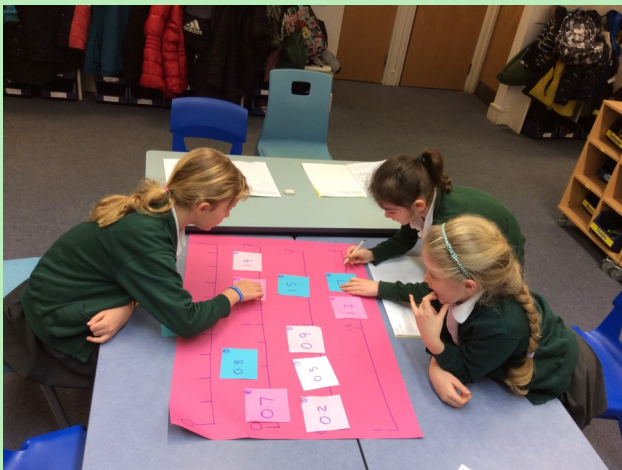
We started the New Year with a bang in Oak class and have really got stuck into our learning. In Maths, we have been reminding ourselves about tenths, hundredths and thousandths and recognizing the link between decimal numbers and fractions. Some children were then introduced to percentages and worked hard to find fraction or decimal equivalents to particular percentages.

Our first English learning journey of the term 'Dulce et Decorum Est' links to our History topic; World War 1. We began by reading through and performing short parts of the poem in groups. We tried to predict what the poem was about before using dictionaries to help us understand what some of the trickier vocabulary meant. In Week 2, we were introduced to the video 'Beyond the Lines', which helped us visualize what the battlefields described in the poem were like. We gathered expanded noun phrases and figurative language to help us write a setting description before working in groups to write conditional sentences.

To start off our History topic, we listened to a recording of a young soldier going off to war to see what information we could gather about the time period. We then explored how the British Army recruited and either made our own recruitment posters or persuasive speeches to try to get boys to join the army. We also discussed reasons why wars may happen and then learnt about some of the short and long-term reasons why the First World War began.

We are learning about Space in Science so began by ensuring we knew what the planets in the Solar System are. We used fact cards to work out the order of planets from closest to furthest away from the sun and how big the different planets were. We used different food items to help represent the sizes of different planets and couldn't believe how big some planets were compared to others. We then began to look at the relationship between the Earth, Moon and Sun and explored what orbited what by creating working models.

Our focus in Music this term is 'Music through colour' so began by doing a little experiment. We listened to different pieces of music and drew a picture using the colour we felt most fit the music. It was interesting to see which colours different children chose and why. We then learnt about graphic scores and worked in groups to create our own graphic scores, thinking carefully about what shapes and colours could represent different parts of the music.



Upcoming Reading Event

We Love To Read! - Twilight Reading Event

Monday 6th February 2023 5pm - 6pm

We are pleased to invite you to a twilight reading event at West Tytherley Primary school. Children and Parents/Carers are invited to come to the village hall in their PJs or comfy clothes with a favourite book.

There will be blankets, bean bags and hot chocolate. Everything you need to settle in for a cozy read. You can snuggle up with your own favourite story or share a story with a friend.

Want to try something new? There will be books available for you to explore.

Children in Willow and Oak can be dropped off or accompanied, but we politely request that children in Beech class are accompanied by an adult.

If you would like to attend, please sign up with your class teacher so we can make sure there is enough hot chocolate to go around!

INSET Days for the next academic year 2023

30th January 2023

31st January 2023

20th February 2023

20th March 2023

Date	What	Who	Where
24/01/2023	School trip	Willow class	Danebury Hill Fort
24/01/2023	School trip	Oak class	Wallop Army Air Museum
30/01/2023	Inset Day	All	
31/01/2023	Inset Day	All	
10/02/2023	Half Term Assembly	All	Village hall
13/02/2023- 17/02/29023	Half Term		
20/02/2023	Inset Day	All	
21/02/2023	Start of Spring Term 2	All	