



Green End Primary School

Autumn 2, 2016

Green End Primary School, Burnage Lane, Manchester, M19 1DR Tel: 0161 432 7036

The term has continued to be another successful one, with children thoroughly engaged throughout the day in some fantastic learning opportunities. Our weekend with year 6 at Ghyll Head was a huge highlight of this half term with everyone really challenging themselves and trying something new. It was great that so many staff gave up their weekend to make this possible.

We are really looking forward to showing you the children's fantastic work on parents' evening and I am sure you will be delighted with the progress which you can already see in the children's books since September. I have met with each individual teacher this half term to look at progress and am very pleased to share with you that recent assessment results have also been very positive throughout the school with children being challenged well.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term, with plenty more activities which are listed with this letter.

Mrs Vyas

ONCE UPON A TIME

This half term Reception class are learning the stories of the Billy Goats Gruff, Little Red Riding Hood and the Jolly Christmas Postman. They are going to be making lots of objects with junk and collage materials to use in their role play areas. They are having two theatre companies visiting to help them use their imagination in a story-telling workshop and are taking a trip to the woods to act out some of their stories. For topic launch day, the children dressed as their favourite story characters, made masks and used them to create stories with their friends. They went on a fairy tale number hunt around the school and some of the grown-ups came in to read some of their favourite stories. The children had so much fun!



THROUGH THE VICTORIAN KEYHOLE

This half term Year 2 are whizzing back in time to the Victorian era. Queen Victoria was on the throne and they plan to investigate how life was different for children at school. They will be looking at how children were treated and experiencing a life in day of a Victorian child on our exciting trip to Portland Basin. For Topic launch day, the children discussed what they would like to know about the children that lived in Victorian times. They acted out some scenes from children in the workhouse, chimney sweeps and coal mines. The children were shocked at the 13-hour work days. Most were glad that they were born in the 21st century. They also created their own wallpaper prints in the style of the famous Victorian artist, William Morris.

GHYLL HEAD

Last weekend 45 Year 6 children made their way up to Ghyll Head Outdoor Education Centre in the Lake District. The children challenged themselves to try new activities such as abseiling, canoeing and ghyll scrambling. They also conquered the famous zip wire! The children were a credit to Green End, both in their attitudes and behaviour. This will be an experience that our children never forget!.



OUR SCHOOL CHARITY RETRAK

In Week 6, after assemblies in each school that week, our children will be twinned with children in Retrak centres in some countries Africa. They will receive a Christmas card template with a Christmas picture already done on it by a child from Africa, with their name on it. Our children, will then do a Christmas picture next to their 'partner's' picture and write their names as well. These Christmas cards will then be printed by Retrak and sold at the Christmas Fair to raise money for Retrak.

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NATURAL DISASTERS

For topic launch day for their new topic of Natural Disasters, Year 3 watched a clip of some natural disasters and were amazed at the power of the weather! After that, they talked about volcanoes and what happens when they erupt. Working in groups, they made a 3D volcano and decided how they would make it erupt using baking powder and vinegar. They talked about the kind of words that they would use to describe natural disasters and used them to create a wordle on the laptops.



THIS MORNING I MET A WHALE

During this half term Year 4 will be basing their work on the book 'This morning I met a whale' by Michael Morpurgo. As part of the work they will be using drama, maps and ICT to look at birds in the local environment as well as looking at how they can improve the local environment, the importance of rivers as a habitat and practise their relief printing skills.

They began the topic by visiting Moorcroft Walk where they helped to plant wildflowers to make the local area a nicer place to live for the residents and to encourage more wildlife to visit. They explored how planting the wildflowers will affect the local food chains. They are looking forward to returning in the Spring to see how the environment has changed.



MACBETH

Year 5 searched the internet for facts about William Shakespeare, his plays and where they were performed in Elizabethan Britain for their topic launch day. Through drama and role play, they explored the character of Macbeth and his contemporaries and how they would have felt after defeating the Norwegians in battle. They also explored various ideas on how the King might reward Macbeth for his loyalty. They enjoyed a visit from a theatre company – Shakespeare With a Twist – who led the children through the main events in the play so that they understood the plot. The topic will culminate in a short iMovie film portraying the story through the children's artwork, written text and soundtrack.



LET'S CELEBRATE

This term Nursery are very excited as THEIR topic is Let's Celebrate. They will be thinking about all the fantastic celebrations that we celebrate at home and in school, such as birthdays, Christmas, Eid, Diwali and Bonfire night. The children will be creating their own class book which will be full of their favourite celebrations. They will also have their own party shop in nursery where the children will be able to buy all the necessary things you need for a party. For topic launch day they will be having their own tea party in school, where the children will make their own party food, dress up and play lots of traditional party games.



OUR HISTORY

To launch their topic, year 6 explored the tragic events of The Hillsborough Disaster, as this was a significant event in the lives of the year 6 teachers. They explored how the event was initially portrayed in the media, and why reporters at the time got things so wrong. They also explored some of the results of the recent inquiry and examined how and why opinions on the event may have changed. The topic allows children to look at some significant moments from recent history and focus on the impact of these events on everyday people. Through drama techniques such as role play and hot-seating, children will explore the experiences and perspectives of the people involved and the effects on the wider community. The children will also be able to select their own event to explore and research.

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