

Turtle and Starfish Class



This week in Turtles class we have been reading the book 'Planes, planes, planes.' I bet you can't guess what it is about! The children have been talking about vehicles that fly and some of them remember going on a plane themselves. They had small world planes to use imaginations with and blue water with cotton wool clouds in the tuff tray. The children noticed that the cotton wool changed when it went in the water and enjoyed squeezing the water out. Outside on the play deck they spotted real planes and talked about where they might be going. Several children knew that Southend had an airport. They watched some real planes take off and saw people jump out and use a parachute. They then used a parachute themselves to play games and made dollies and teddies fly up high. After the dollies and babies were fed their dinner and put to bed. Next week our song of the week will be Wheels on The Bus. It would be lovely if some of the children could go on a real bus over the weekend.



Mrs Cochrane, Mrs Loe and Ms Burgess



Turtle and Starfish children: As the weather gets brighter please apply long lasting suncream to your child before school and supply more in a named bottle to reapply.

This week in Starfish class our story focus has been Handa's Surprise.

There has been lots of discussion around our favourite fruits and the different animals featured in the story. We have been expanding our vocabulary, learning the names of some more unusual fruits, such as guava and passion fruit. The children were great at remembering which fruit each animal took out of Handa's basket. We looked at different parts of the story and have been developing our language and communication skills to describe the events in the story, using pictures to help us.



In maths we used Lego blocks and tally marks to record our favourite animals from the story. The children explored counting the marks and blocks and compared amounts during the activity. We discovered that the monkey was our favourite, with five votes.

Our story focus next week is The naughty bus.

Well done Starfish class on another busy week of fun and learning

Mrs Brant, Mrs Attard, Mrs Bowser, Ms Burgess and Mrs Edwards.



Seahorse



This week in Seahorse Class we looked at the occupation of a Vet. We began the week by listening to the story 'I Wanna Iguana', which is about a little boy trying to persuade his Mum to have an iguana as a pet. Throughout the story the little boy writes letters to his Mum explaining why they should have an iguana as a pet, with his Mum replying with potential problems.

As we read through the story, we explored vocabulary such as 'compassionate, trial basis and soccer'. We researched what 'P.S' means at the end of a letter and found out it meant 'postscript' and was additional information the writer wanted to add but had already finished the letter.



As a class we made a tally chart of what pets we had. In our class, dogs and cats were the most popular type of pet. However, most of us did not have any pets at all. We also explored how to look after certain animals. Before looking at what a Vet does.

In Literacy, the children wrote a persuasive letter asking their Mum for a pet. We discussed what the word persuades meant, before exploring reasons why we would have a particular pet. The children then wrote their own persuasive letter with a positive characteristic about their chosen pet.



In maths, we have explored subtraction using the phrase 'first, then, now' to show the stages of taking away objects from the original number. The children then used currant buns to apply their understanding of how to solve a subtraction sum.

In PE, we have been practising running races and played the magic bean game.

Throughout the week the children experimented with changing the colour of water using chalk, measured using rulers, tape measures and bricks, built with the magnetic shapes and role-played in the vets' surgery in home corner.

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny



Oyster Class

In our maths lessons this week we have been learning about grouping and sharing. This is a first step towards learning about division of numbers. The children have enjoyed being able to represent grouping and sharing in a variety of ways.

In our geography lesson this week we have continued looking at our local area. We have used simple maps to plan routes. The children have also labelled maps with familiar local places.

In our English lessons this week we have continued our work looking at the story of The Storm Whale. The children planned and wrote their own similar stories, where Noi found a different creature stranded on the beach.



Seagull Class

What a busy and brilliant week we have had in Year 2!

This week in Maths, we have been learning all about time. The children have worked really hard. We will continue practising this next week to help everyone feel more confident.

In English, the children completed their independent writing and wrote their very own fairytales about the big bad wolf. We were so impressed with their fantastic ideas, imagination and storytelling!

In Science, we have been getting green-fingered by planting seeds. The children really enjoyed this hands-on learning and are excited to watch their seeds grow.

During Reading, we have been using dictionaries to find the meanings of different words. This has helped us build our vocabulary and become even more independent readers.

We hope you all have a fabulous bank holiday weekend!



Mrs O'Donnell,
Mrs Mota and
Miss Calvy



Heron Class



In English this week, we have finished our unit on 'The Gardener' and have completed the independent write (writing letters in response to the character Lydia Grace). We have since moved on to our poetry unit, which is called 'Out There in the Wild'.

In maths this week, we have looked at measuring mass in grams and kilograms, equivalent masses, and comparing masses.

In P.E this week, we focussed on long jump- thinking about what good technique looks like and applying the technique to the jumps.



In R.E this week, we have begun our new unit, which focusses on the big question 'How and why do people try and make the world a better place?'.

We began the lesson by considering why the world could be considered a good or bad place. These ideas were written on post it notes and placed on the big whiteboard to display all the wonderful ideas that they came up with. We then listened to the song 'Wonderful World' by Louis Armstrong, and discussed whether we agree or disagree with the lyrics. We then finished the lesson by thinking about adjectives to describe the world, followed by a discussion on ways that we can repair the world.



In art this week, Heron class created Mayan masks. Finally, in computing, we began our new unit on PowerPoint. We looked at how to open a PowerPoint and how to change the font / colour of the text. Heron class then had a go at creating their own title pages.



Overall, a very busy week!

Miss Venables

Have a great weekend.

Curlew Class



We are now halfway through our penultimate half term together. This year is flying by so quickly and I can't believe that before long these fabulous humans will be in someone else's class as grown-up year 5s.

This week, in science, we began our investigation into how different drinks affect tooth enamel. We used white eggs (as eggshells contain calcium and have a very similar make-up to teeth) and conducted a fair test by considering all the variables. The only change was the liquid we put them in. We used milk, water, cola, lemonade, apple juice and orange juice, and also had one egg in no liquid as a 'control'. We look forward to seeing the effect each liquid has on the shells after a whole week.



Have a glorious bank holiday weekend, Fabulous Foursies. Let's hope the weather is kind, so many first family barbecues of the year can go ahead...

Miss Eakins, Miss Brailsford, Mrs Mistry and Mrs Allen



Sanderling Class



This week Year 5 have started their Maths unit on position and direction and in English, they have planned and written their narratives based on the book *The Explorer*. In Geography, they learned about the features of a mountain and in Art they created sculptures based on the work of Ruth Asawa. They had their first swimming session at Shoebury Pool and hugely impressed me with their effort and energy when practising javelin and ball throw. Another great week. Keep it up Sanderlings! Have a great weekend,

Mrs Emmings, Mrs Allen and Miss Walpole.



Avocet Class



This week, as part of Year 6's study of Ancient Benin, they have been learning about the religious beliefs and customs of this ancient civilisation. They have explored the importance of animals and designed a throne to incorporate these ideas. In Art, they have been creating African masks based on their own designs from last week. This has involved the use of a variety of papercraft and collage techniques.

In PE, the focus was on sprinting and improving our technique, as well as how to successfully pass the baton in a relay. In Maths, we have been exploring the use of algebra in mathematical equations and expressions.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend!

Mrs Calvy, Ms Hardy and Miss Brailsford

