



Diptford Diary



Friday 13 October 2017

All your up to date news about our classes!

NEWS THIS WEEK!



Thank you from Totnes Food Bank for your Harvest donations

Dipper News:

This week Dippers Class have been writing pages of our Firefighters book. The children have worked hard to create a working wall of things that will help us to write sentences for our book, including a text map, key words, a list of chapters, a writer's list of things that will make the writing good (correct punctuation, interesting information, neat handwriting). They have been using these reminders very well to put their pages together and I have been impressed with their writing so far. We will finish our books next week.

In maths we have been working on addition and subtraction. Year 2s have used tens and ones apparatus to tackle calculations that cross over into the next tens number. Year 1s have been investigating the numbers 5 and 6 and have used Cuisenaire Rods to find combinations of numbers to make 5. We have started work on using the bar method to give us a picture of calculations. The children have taken to this quickly. This will give them another method to use when they get to a difficult calculation.

In phonics Year 1 have been learning how to write oi / oy sounds in words as well as practising words with 'ir' in them such as girl, bird, third, shirt.

Year 2s have been continuing to work on their set of homophones as well as writing silly sentences using the Year 2 word list and using different spelling strategies for learning words they do not know.

We have all been working on making sure we use the words around the classroom when we need them in our writing. We have a new poster for *because* – "Big Elephants Can't Always Understand Small Elephants".

Achiever - Sonny for fantastic independent writing this week.

Kingfisher News:

We have started a new book in English this week - *Where My Wellies Take Me* by Michael and Clare Morpurgo. It is written in the style of a scrapbook which means there are lots of interesting parts of the book. There are lots of good poems in the book which we have enjoyed reading and there are lots of lovely paintings and drawings. After reading part of the book, we went on our own walk around the school and made sketches and maps of where we travelled. We then wrote about part of our walk using some of our amazing adjectives and created our first draft of a sketchbook page. Some of us even picked up leaves and stuck them to the page! Can you find any more leaves or interesting things on your walks this week?

In Maths we have been demonstrating super teamwork skills to solve some mastery problem solving questions in pairs. This made us think outside the box and let us practise using different methods of addition and subtraction. The questions challenged us in lots of different ways but we enjoyed sharing our ideas with others and working as a team.

We hope you enjoyed our French Fruits song at the Harvest Festival! We have been working hard to learn the different fruits in French and like using songs to help us remember key words. As always, Kingfishers Class have been awesome in their French lessons - *Tres Bien!*

Our reading total this week has reached the 1 million milestone, with our class having read a huge 1,143,145 words.

Achiever of the week is Edward for his super enthusiasm towards his spellings and big improvement in his attitude for learning.

Hawks News:

Hawks have had another very busy and productive week. Preparing for the Harvest Festival in church has been a priority with lots of effort going into learning the songs and practising the readings. To link in with our celebration of the harvest the children have designed their very own vegetable soup and investigated the air miles the different ingredients might have travelled to reach their local supermarket. The children's geographical skills definitely improved as they discovered the far flung countries where their ingredients had grown. We were very surprised at the huge distance covered in transporting food and considered the environmental impact that would have. The children are now even more determined to grow their own fruit and vegetables and buy local produce to help protect the environment.

In English Hawks have been using their hawk-like observation skills to proofread and edit their own and other people's writing, with a focus on spelling. They applied these skills in a history lesson where they corrected the spellings in a letter written to *The Times* in 1849 by Victorian slum-dwellers! They enjoyed exploring the archaic language and practising their dictionary skills to spot and correct the numerous errors.

In history children worked in their cooperative teams to explore the mystery of why so many people moved from the countryside to the cities in Victorian times, despite the life expectancy being so much worse! Can you guess the average life expectancy of a labourer in urban Liverpool? They investigated the many possible reasons and decided which factors they considered to be the most important in forcing people to the cities. Children put themselves in role as a Victorian and wrote informative and emotional diary entries demonstrating their empathy and understanding of the bleak prospects faced by many Victorian people.

Have a fantastic weekend and thank you for your continuing support.

Achiever of the week is Oliver for his excellent determination and effort in all his learning, particularly his super Victorian diary writing.



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Little Dipper & Preschool News

Goldilocks has been to visit Little Dippers this week and she has left some porridge oats for the children to make their own tasty bowls of porridge. The children have been exploring and developing their mathematical language to talk about different sizes. Daddy Bear had the biggest bowl, Mummy Bear's was smaller and Baby Bear had the smallest bowl. We have really enjoyed exploring this with the children but most of all, we have enjoyed tasting the yummy porridge they 'made' (in the role play area) using lots of interesting toppings. My favourite was the porridge mixed with conkers and glitter.

We had a fun playing 'Guess the Bear.' We took turns to be blindfolded and try to guess which bear was talking and which of our friends were pretending to be the bear. It was great game and we played it well, showing off our super listening skills.

Goldilocks also left some letters for the children which set them challenges. The children have really enjoyed hearing from Goldilocks and particularly enjoyed the challenge of following the recipe to make her favourite 'Phonics Porridge'. I wonder what challenges Goldilocks will set next week...

The Reception children took part in their first Harvest Service this week and we could not have been any more prouder of them. They all sang 'The Wheels on the Tractor' so beautifully. Well done, Boys and Girls!

Achiever: Bea. M for her fabulous attitude towards reading. You are doing so well, keep it up!

Important dates for the week ahead:

Mon 16 Oct – Fizz Pop Assembly

Mon 16 Oct – Central League Football 4.00 – 5.30 pm

Wed 18 Oct - Tempest Photography from 08.30 am

Correspondence out this week:

Primary Times

Requests

Diptford Preschool Open Day, please spread the word, plenty of flyers in the office