



Diptford Diary



Friday 05 January 2018

All your up to date news about our classes!

NEWS THIS WEEK!



THANK YOU TO FODS
for helping to fund Diptfords
wonderful new IT Equipment
more photos on FB

Dipper News:

This week Dippers class have started their new topic called "Intrepid Explorers". They have already learned about some famous explorers including Christopher Columbus, Francis Drake, Captain Robert Scott, Amelia Earhart and Ranulph Fiennes. We have started to create a time line in the classroom to help us to understand when they lived. The time line starts at the year 1000 and even goes into the future so that we can include where the children would like to explore when they are grown up!

As always the children have entered into their learning with great enthusiasm and have already surprised me with the amount of information they have retained. I have told them that the end piece of writing that we will do in this topic will be a biography about their favourite explorer and they are already independently thinking ahead about this. Do let me know if you have discussions at home about an explorer that we haven't covered in school so that we can include them on our time line.

Achiever this week: Maddoc for great learning during our topic work this week

Kingfisher News:

We have had a busy first few days back in Kingfishers class this week.

We have been learning about computer programming and troubleshooting with the help of the new Pro-Bots! We have learnt how to create a programme, how to input this in to the device and then how to assess whether the programme was successful or not. We were trying to create digital numbers with our programmes and had to be very precise and clear about what our instructions were going to be. This was also good for our teamwork and communication skills as we had to work cooperatively to get the task completed. We are going to be using the new Pro-Bots cross-curricular as we are looking forward to making some maps that our Pro-Bots can travel on!

We have also been exploring lots about living things this week and have learnt all about vertebrates and invertebrates and how these are broken down further in to smaller groups. This also allowed us to reflect on some of the learning we did last term as we have completed some mini beast and animal hunts previously. Kingfishers were particularly impressive with their invertebrate and vertebrate classifications and were able to draw and classify, using characteristics, a whole range of weird and wonderful living things! Hopefully we can use some of this new scientific knowledge when we do some more outdoor learning this term.

As part of also kick-starting some outdoor learning, we have researched into environmental impacts and how we can help save our planet. We have started to create posters to display around the school to help others understand why we need to look after our environment. We watched a video about different types of rubbish and we were amazed by how long it takes for some items to decompose - it has been predicted that some items will never full rot away!! Why not ask us to share some of these interesting facts with you and see if we can remember them?

Achiever this week: Luca for settling in so beautifully this week

Hawks News:

Hawks class have managed to fit in lots of exciting learning in such a short week. Our topic this term is Our Wonderful World and we kick started the new year with a whole day exploring the habitats in our environmental area. Despite the rain we managed to spend the whole day outside whilst darting into the yurt for a warm up.

The children looked for evidence of the different creatures that live and pass through the area. They made detailed sketches, that can be viewed on display in our classroom. In the afternoon we looked at the work of Andy Goldsworthy. Taking inspiration from his work, the children created sculptures using the natural resources on offer, they got very creative with all the mud.

In Geography this week we have been exploring the wide variety of countries we have visited as a class and discussing the climates of these places. Whilst looking at the climates of the world, the children have set up an experiment to explore biomes. They have created bottle biomes for the forest, rainforest, tundra. grasslands and the desert. Each biome is being carefully controlled to try and reflect the climate of each one.

In English, we took inspiration from a short film called The Clock Tower to write our own stories.

Achiever of the Week: Jude for being very inquisitive when exploring our new topic.



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Little Dipper & Preschool News

Happy New Year to you all!

The Little Dippers have been welcomed back to the Spring Term with an exciting introduction to our new topic, 'The Farm'. Mr Moo, our class puppet who helps with our Phonics learning, has set a challenge for the children to learn all about farms and farm animals. We love challenges in Little Dippers so we're very excited!

The children have been busy exploring our new environment and farm themed learning areas. We now have; a 'Farm shop and Cafe' role play area, a 'farm Office' writing area and an 'On the Farm' small world area. The children have thoroughly enjoyed interacting and engaging in these areas and appear extremely motivated to begin our learning. I can't wait either!

Also this week, the children were invited to tea with myself, Teresa and Paula so that we could have a proper catch up and natter about the school holidays whilst enjoying a nice drink and a yummy biscuit. The children participated really well, sharing their news and asking each other questions. We saw fabulous listening skills and amazing helpfulness when they were pouring their drinks. Well done! It's a joy to see how happy they all are to be back at school and to be seeing their friends. Thank you for a lovely week, Little Dippers!

Achiever of the Week: Amelie for her fabulous determination and progress in Phonics. Well done, Amelie!

Important dates for the week ahead:

PE DAYS

HAWKS - WEDNESDAY & THURSDAYS

KINGFISHER - MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

DIPPERS - TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

LITTLE DIPPERS - WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Requests:

Flapjack Friday, please ensure your child brings in 20p

This week several children received flapjack but did not pay, as of next week, if your child has no money they will not be able to buy the flapjack.