

KS2 Newsletter

Year 5 and Year 6

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English

Year 5 have continued reading and studying *The Highwayman*, exploring language features including metaphors, similes, alliteration.

Through drama, they have also created a new verse for the poem called 'Tim's Plan'.

Year 6 have just finished a unit of work in which they learnt to include flashbacks in stories by writing in different tenses. Gradually they progressed from supported work, writing paragraph by paragraph, onto planning and writing stories independently.

Our class novel is 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo; we have been thinking hard about the events, characters and themes.

Maths

Year 5 have practised multiplying and dividing whole numbers (and those involving decimals) by 10, 100 and 1000. Group work has focused on using and applying + and - to real life situations, including planning a party within a given budget.

Year 6 have focused on multiplication this week, using increasingly efficient written methods to solve calculations, moving from the grid method, to expanded long multiplication and finally to a compact method. They have used these skills to solve real life multiplication problems involving money and measures. Quite a few children found that their times table knowledge was a bit rusty so need to practise this!

Year 5 visit to St Neots

The class took their learning outside the classroom this week and visited the Museum of St Neots, where they found out about who St Neot was, along with other famous people from the area. They then followed the town trail and learnt about the importance of the Priory, the market place and the River Ouse to the settlements here. Back at school the children used their photographs from the trip to paint watercolour pictures of the River Ouse as it flows through St Neots.

Science

Year 5 have been comparing the relative sizes of the Earth, moon and sun and the distances between them. They have begun keeping moon observation diaries so please continue observing and recording each night.

Year 6 have been learning to classify vertebrates (animals with backbones) into mammals, reptiles, birds, fish or amphibians. They have devised their own keys to identify animals based on their observable characteristics.

Year 6 English Challenge

Congratulations to Ben, Luke, Dominick and Alicia in Year 6 who represented Winhills in the first ever heat of the first ever Cambridgeshire English Challenge yesterday at Bushmead School. Unfortunately we didn't win a place in the final but our team were fabulous and were highly commended by the organisers for their great team discussions and their performance in the memory round.