



# WINHILLS

## Year 5 and Year 6

### Fortnightly Newsletter

#### Year 5

Year 5 have absolutely loved learning about the narrative poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. They extended their vocabulary massively and wrote very powerfully in role as Bess (the highwayman's true love), as Tim (the ostler who betrayed them) and as the Captain of the Guard who shot and killed the villainous robber. They also enjoyed comparing the text to 'The Highway Rat' by Julia Donaldson.

In Mathematics, the children have been using their times table knowledge to learn about factors and multiples of numbers. They have classified many of these on Venn and Carroll diagrams, confidently explaining the reasons for their choices. This week, they have also investigated prime numbers and are trying to remember the first few off by heart 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19.

The Science topic has really taken off with all children fascinated by the planets in our solar system and keen to learn about the 1969 Moon landing as well as the American Apollo and Space Shuttle missions. They have done some great research and presented their findings.

#### Year 6

Year 6 have continued to work hard in our English lessons focused around our class book, 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom'. This week, they have written a persuasive text around whether the central character is a good or bad character. They have been using a range of contrasting conjunctions to link their ideas together.

During Maths lessons, the children have been working on developing their multiplication skills and applying them to complex problems. This included working on factors, multiples and prime numbers, and using these in context. They have now started to refine their division skills, using formal methods, and have been applying these skills to problems.

In Science, the children have been looking at microbes by investigating mould growth on bread. We are already seeing some interesting results, and will be making conclusions after half term. They are now beginning to investigate the differences between a virus, bacteria and a fungus.

#### Foundation Subjects

As part of their 'Extreme Earth' Geography topic, Year 5 have learnt more this week about how volcanoes are formed as well as finding out about the origin of earthquakes and tsunamis. They also thought about how they would prepare for an earthquake if they happened to live on the boundary of a tectonic plate.

As part of the same topic, Year 6 have been analysing the reasons why people live close to volcanoes, despite the dangers involved, and have written balanced arguments about the positive and negative reasons for living in these areas. Both Year 5 and 6 enjoyed taking part in their DLPT Sports morning this week. Their behaviour, sportsmanship and skills made us very proud. Teams also took part in tag rugby and girls' football competitions.

Last week, four Year 6 students represented the school at the Cambridgeshire English Challenge. They showed great determination and were commended for their work on 'basic skills'. Well done!

#### Reminders

**Homework:** The October half term holiday homework is a reading challenge again this year. All those children who complete the challenge and include some evidence in their homework books (photo, drawing or writing) will have their names put in a hat with one drawn out to win a book. The adults in school are also taking part in the challenge! Happy reading! The children should also complete at least 30 minutes Maths Whizz homework over half term. We return to school on Tuesday 30th October.

Nurture

Inspire

Flourish