



Barrow Hedgelines

Spring (1) 2024

Nursery – Chinese New Year

Nursery has been busy celebrating Chinese New Year. We talked about all the different festivals we celebrate and who celebrates them with us. We know that when we celebrate, we are really happy and it is often a time to come together with family and friends. The children remembered how they celebrated Diwali and Christmas and we talked about the differences and similarities when celebrating Chinese New Year.



We have also been learning about patterns and noticing patterns everywhere! We have loved the story 'Aliens love Underpants' and have been busy matching underpants, counting them and even buying them from our 'shop'!



We are so clever at noticing patterns on our 'teachers' clothes and even at the bottom of our shoes. What great pattern detectives we are becoming!"



It was very tricky but we all kept trying (like Ron Resilience!) Well done!

Reception – Can a Penguin Live in a Hot Place?

This term in Reception we asked the question 'Can a Penguin Live in a Hot Place?' The children were excited to find out! We compared hot and cold places by learning about the Arctic and Antarctica, the jungle and the African Savanna. We learnt lots of facts about the animals that live there, like Lions eat meat and snakes eat frogs! We used the stories of Polar Bear, Polar Bear What Can You See? and in the 'Tall, Tall Grass' to help structure our writing about the animals and made our own explorer books. We had lots of fun trying new activities like exploring ice, melting it to save the trapped penguins, building our own penguin school and playing instruments in time to the Animal Boogie song.



We found out that penguins live in the Southern

Hemisphere (the bottom half of the world).



They live in Antarctica but also in some hot countries like New Zealand and South Africa. They do not live in the North Pole with Santa (like lots of children thought.) Penguins do live in a hot place!

Year 1 – Moon Zoom

Year 1 have had a fantastic Spring 1 exploring our theme of 'Moon Zoom.' We have been great historians and have loved learning about famous space explorers like Neil Armstrong, Tim Peake, Mae Jemison and Katherine Johnson. Many of us have decided that we would like to

be astronauts and travel to space one day. We found it very funny that there is no gravity and enjoyed watching videos of the space station crew floating around and sleeping in special sleeping bags in their small cabins. In English, we used one of our favourite stories 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and changed it to an alien hunt, where we had so much fun bringing the story to life through acting and creating our own alien characters. We couldn't believe it when there was an alien space crash in our Year 1 garden one morning. We tried to find clues and thought of lots of exciting language and adjectives to describe what we thought the aliens looked like. We used this language in our story telling to make our writing more interesting.



Our Design and Technology project was awesome this half term! We got to design and create our very own moon buggies that could travel on the moon's crust! It was fascinating discovering how a moon buggy was made and the different components that are needed to make it work properly. We

compared it to the different vehicles we use on Earth and learned how wheels turn on an axle. We also had so much fun visiting the Science Museum in London, where we got to explore more about space and see real life rockets!



It has been another busy half term in Year One, and we have all had so much fun along the way! It has been wonderful to see the children become more independent and resilient, and we couldn't be prouder of their many achievements!

Year 2 – Nautical Day

Spring 1 has been short but oh so sweet in Year 2. We

started with one of most memorable days of the year, 'Nautical Day'. Here the children dressed in their best seafaring gear to tackle the challenges set for them by Sir Francis Drake.



This unit has been packed full of amazing discoveries within the humanities area of the curriculum. In history, the children have learned about a variety of explorers who have been pivotal in the discovery of new lands over time. These include James Cook, Francis Drake and Christopher Columbus. The children particularly enjoyed the story of Grace Darling and her heroics. In geography, they have explored the way the world is divided into different zones by learning about the continents and oceans across the globe. We can't wait to see what our next unit has in store!

Year 3 – Tremors

This half term Year Three have been learning all about our active Earth in our theme, 'Tremors.' We started off the term by learning about the different layers of the Earth and focused on the Tectonic Plates and their importance in the makeup of the different continents and physical features such as volcanoes, mountain chains and ranges. We were lucky to have a visit from PrimeVR who gave us the opportunity to have a close look at different volcanoes including ones that were erupting! This was lots of fun and for many of us, our first experience of using a VR headset.

When learning about the different tectonic plates, we also explored the unfortunate natural disasters that occur when there is activity at the boundaries such as Earthquakes. We used an online tracking website to look at the seismic activity across the globe and were shocked to see how many earthquakes occur every day! Thankfully most have little or no impact on humans.

This unit has really had us globetrotting around the world! During our Art and Geography lessons this half term, Japan became a real focus for us due to its position on a fault line! We learnt about the artist

Katsushika Hokusai and used his work to inspire our own creations. Within our music lessons, we've learnt all about the music of Hawaii and traditional instruments of Polynesia

We have had lots of fun learning about our active Earth this half term but we can now smell the delicious aroma of food in the air and are eager to dive into our next theme. We hear it's going to be Scrumdiddilyumptious!

Year 4 – Road Trip USA

Year 4 have had a busy but amazing half term studying our 'Road Trip USA' theme. We had a special visitor from PrimeVR where the children were given the opportunity to explore famous sights in the Americas via virtual reality (pictured). In English this half term we've studied Native American myths, written postcards and created persuasive adverts for California. For Geography, we've learnt about the different states of the USA as well as expanding our knowledge of latitude and longitude and how these are used to plot co-ordinates on earth. In Science, the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about electricity and building their own electrical circuits.

Year 5 – Space

Year 5 had an amazing Engage Day all to do with Space, their exciting new topic. Throughout the day, we participated in some out-of-this-world activities! Firstly, we created a moon buggy created from Lego, which we tested out in the courtyard to see which buggy was the most successful. Next, we were put through our paces by Astronaut training activities, which included both physical testing and intelligence testing - both of which pushed us to our limits. The Stroop Test was particularly challenging! Finally, we completed a Planet Top Trumps activity to round off a thoroughly enjoyable start to the term.

Year 6 – Industrial Revolution Workshop

To conclude our half term's learning, Year 6 took part in an active and engaging 'Industrial Revolution' workshop. We got hands-on in all of the sessions of the workshop, which included learning about the formation and uses of coal and mining; the major advancements from casting iron to bridge building during the Industrial Revolution; exploration of the evolution of the steam engine and the impact of the railways on Britain. We particularly

enjoyed learning about the jobs that children during the Victoria era were made to do – they worked for long hours, for little pay in unsafe working conditions, which meant they could not really be 'children' or get an education. We even tried out some of these demanding jobs and got paid depending on how well we carried out the tasks... we can confirm that being at school is better than having a Victorian job! The day ended with a 'trial' where we debated the pros and cons of the Industrial Revolution in our very own courtroom, complete with judge, barrister and jury. It was a fantastic day and really brought our learning to life!



Leadership Lines

Our last edition of 'Leadership Lines' was sent out at the end of the autumn term but we know what a

busy time this was and that not all parents would have had time to read this important newsletter. With that being said, please click [here](#) to read the December edition.

Main Entrance

We are really pleased with the new canopy and railings outside the main entrance. I'm sure you'll agree that it really smartens up this area of the school.



Have a lovely half term break. We look forward to seeing the children on Monday, 19th February 2024.

Dates for the Diary	
26 th Feb	Y1 Life Long Ago Workshop
29 th Feb	Y4 Visit to the Easter Experience
1 st March	PTFA Gift for a Special Person
4 th March – 6 th March	Y4 Hooke Court
7 th March	World Book Day
8 th March	Y6 Trip to Down House
11 th -15 th March	Book Fair
13 th March	Parent Teacher Consultation
14 th March	Parent Teacher Consultation
21 st March	Y3 PTFA School Disco Y5 PTFA School Disco
27 th March	Reception and KS1 Hat Parade
28 th March	Children Break up for Easter at 2pm



JDFS FEBRUARY HALF TERM

MONDAY 12TH - FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

4-14 YEARS OLD

9.00 AM - 3.00 PM

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