

Straight out of the classroom

Topcliffe C of E School news

Class 2 news

Phonics - Year 1's have been revising some sounds including s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, l, y, v, w. We have been particularly focussing on our writing ensuring that letters are formed correctly. If this could be focussed on during spelling practises at home as well this would be great. Year 2's have been focussing on the sounds tch, wh, ph, c, ck, k, alternative /ay/ graphemes and alternative /oa/ graphemes. We have also looked at the prefixes un- and mis- and the suffix -es. Our focus in phonics sessions with year 2 is now to learn spelling rules. It is vitally important to make sure spellings are really well embedded.

Class 2 - Afternoons – We have been working on our Healthy Me topic in the afternoons. This has involved thinking about emotional health so we talked about how to keep friends happy. We have also thought about how we change as we get older. We have looked at healthy eating and written some poems about eating 5 a day. We based these on the traditional poem 'An apple a day keeps the doctor away.'

English – In English we have been using a book called 'The Little Dragon Who Couldn't do Sporty Things.' This has linked in nicely to our Healthy Me topic and the recent Olympics. Children have been working on key skills like finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. This last week we have been working on a poster for a sports club. Here we analysed examples of sports club posters, created steps to success for our poster, drafted and edited our posters.

Class 2 - Maths – In maths we've been focussing on place value which enables children to have a good number sense. Children must be able to see number in a variety of different ways and they need to be confident with the relative size of a number. I have seen lots of practical activities going on at home in response to the Fun-key fact – well done everyone!

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{S E N D} \\ + \text{M O R E} \\ \hline \text{M O N E Y} \end{array}$$

Class 4's cryptarithms

Class 4 news

Maths – This week in maths we have been looking at securing our written methods for both addition and subtraction. We have looked at different methods for addition and subtraction and applied this to problem solving. We have also had a go at solving some 'cryptarithms' as well as correcting some mistakes in 'Mr Forgetful's' books! We discussed how it was important to have a 'toolkit' of different methods in order to choose which is the most effective and accurate in different situations.

Straight out of the classroom

Topcliffe C of E School news

Class 3 news

English – Our English this half term has been linked into our Ancient Egyptian Topic, which the children have been really enjoying. We have written information reports about different aspects of Ancient Egyptian Life and wrote an explanation of how to make a mummy! We are now writing our very own Ancient Egyptian myth, filling it full of magical events, creatures and exciting adventures. We are now all expert Egyptologists!

Class 3 – Maths - In maths, we have mainly been concentrating on the place value of 3 and 4 digit numbers – and some of us beyond. We have been rounding, ordering and comparing numbers, adding and subtracting multiples of 10, 100 and 1000, partitioning in different ways and solving problems. We are now moving on to column addition.

Class 4 - English – In English we have been looking at different types of discussion texts. First of all, we had a debate on which was the more superior city state: Athens or Sparta. Then we planned our discussion writing, making sure we would include all the features we had picked out such as logical conjunctions, fronted adverbials and a range of punctuation. We then looked at each other's work to see how we could help one another to improve. We made sure to give a balanced argument so the reader could make up their own mind.

Class 3 - Afternoons - In

Science, we have been investigating sound – what it is, how it is made and whether it can travel through different mediums. We have enjoyed carrying out lots of practical investigations and developing our scientific enquiry skills. I have really enjoyed the children's enthusiasm for our Ancient Egypt topic and have been so impressed by the standard of homework they have produced. We have very much enjoyed sharing this in class and thank you all for your hard work supporting this at home. In PE, we have been developing our football skills, including dribbling, passing and shooting. We have also been developing a routine in gymnastics linking balances, rolls and jumps.

Class 4 - Afternoons – We have been to visit 'Crucial Crew' this week where we learned lots of life skills including: fire and river safety, how to put someone in the recovery position, how to ring for an emergency service and who to talk to if we feel sad. This was a really interesting trip and I hope the children have told you all about it. In PE this week we have been focusing on our hockey skills and particularly defending. We have looked at how to tackle our opponents and used this in small game situations. Our Greek vases are coming along well in art; we just need to paint and decorate them. Please feel free to pop in and have a look whenever you can!