

Straight out of the classroom

Topcliffe C of E Primary School Class 2, 3 & 4 news



Class 2 - Phonics –Year 1's have been learning some compound words and seeing how lap and top can have such different meanings on their own, compared to when we put them together. We are finishing the week considering the silent letters in knee and have. Year 2's have been looking at alternative /igh/ graphemes such as /i-e/ e.g. mine, /y/ e.g. try. We have also been looking at alternatives for /e/ such as /ea/ in bread and /a/ in any and /ie/ in friend. In addition we have looked at short /o/ in words like was and wand.

Class 2 - English – We have been letter writing this week. Using the book "Dear Greenpeace" as inspiration to write a letter to ask for advice about an animal we have found in our garden. We have thought about the types of formal language we should use in a letter.

Class 2 - Maths – Year 1s have been telling the time this week. We have been getting on very well with time to the hour, we are now moving on to half past. Year 2's have finished their work on multiplication and division. We spent a while problem solving. We used RUCSAC to help us. R is read, U is underline, C is calculate, S is solve, C is check. We have now moved on to time. We have very quickly revisited o'clock and half past and we are now working on quarter past and to, and five minute intervals. We made our own clocks to help us understand that there are almost two scales on a clock; the hours and the minutes. We are also trying to memorise key facts such as 'there are 24 hours in a day and 60 minutes in an hour'.

Class 2 - Afternoons – We started our topic off by exploring our local village. We looked at an aerial view of our school and used a map to help us find photographs of landmarks from Topcliffe. We then sorted these into physical and human features. After that we designed a new landmark for Topcliffe – there were some great ideas! During our open afternoon on Tuesday we investigated the school grounds in a mini orienteering exercise and then expanded the investigation to look at maps of Topcliffe. On Wednesday we moved a little further afield and compared photographs of Thirsk in the 1950s and today.

Class 4 news

Maths – In maths we have started our statistics topic. This means we have been looking at mean average, timetables and graphs. I wonder if your child can find the mean average of the data below by adding up all the values and dividing by the number of values. Data: 54, 53, 14, 34, 45. It would be great if you could practise looking at TV, bus and train timetables at home and ask your child related questions.

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Class 3 news

English – We have been creating nonsense words in the style of Lewis Carroll to go with our own version of the Jabberwocky poem. We have begun to plan our poems and I am looking forward to seeing how they develop. Our SPAG focus has been learning when to double or not double consonants when adding suffixes to words and also when double letters occur in the middle of words.

Class 3 – Maths – We have been problem solving, using all the skills we have learned this year. This has been a great way to revise place value, written methods, measures, fractions and decimals. The children have been enjoying the challenge and have gained lots of confidence in applying their skills in different contexts. We will be going on to learn about telling the time, both digital and analogue versions, as well as calculating differences in time. If you have a watch, practice this at home!

Class 4 - English – This week in English we have been looking at different examples of poetry. From this we have been finding examples of personification, metaphors and similes. I wonder if your child can remember any examples of these three techniques? We have written our own poems about an imaginary monster and we have personified an object such as the rain, the wind or a volcano. We are working up to writing a poem based around our class read, Kensuke's Kingdom.

Class 3 - Afternoons –

The children have designed fabulous 'Jabberwocky' monsters in art with Mrs Trueman. They have thought about them in a lot of detail. Please come and see the new display in our classroom. In Science, we have been learning about different kinds of rock and how they have been formed. Did you know that igneous rock comes from volcanoes? We have also been having fun creating 3d topographical maps of the landscape in Geography. Thank you to all those parents who came to our open afternoon. We hope you enjoyed it!

Class 4 - Afternoons – During our open afternoon on Tuesday, we explored the features of rockets then designed, built and evaluated our own models. This was to 'launch' our space topic which the children are really excited to get going with! In PE we have been learning about stride patterns and gait in athletics and about a forehand shot in tennis. In RE this week we have been looking carefully at the Easter story and linking with our work in English, writing a poem based around the story.