

# Straight out of the classroom

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

**Class 2 - English** – We have been using the poem 'The Spider and the Fly' to inspire our writing. We explored the rich language in the poem and found out the meaning of unfamiliar words. We then thought about the predator and prey relationship which the poem portrays. We thought of adjectives for another prey creature and then used these to write descriptive sentences in a similar style to the poem.

**Class 2 - Maths** – We have been learning our addition number bonds. Year 1's have been looking at number bonds 5-10 and year 2's have been looking at number bonds 11-20. We have used the part, part whole model to identify the various partitions we could make. We have also tried to work through these systematically so that we can see the number patterns that are created from the additions.

**Class 2 - Afternoons** – We have been finding out about Divali in our Celebration topic. We learnt the story of Rama and Sita and how Divali lamps were used to light their path home. In art we have been designing symmetrical Rangoli patterns and painting these on fabric. In science we have been learning about light and we investigated light sources around school.



## Class 4 news

**Maths** – In maths we have been looking at various methods for solving multiplication and division questions. We have learned all about short multiplication, where you multiply a number by a 1 digit number and also long multiplication, where you multiply a number by a 2 digit number. We have then applied these methods to solving word problems.

124 × 26 becomes

$$\begin{array}{r}
 124 \\
 \times 26 \\
 \hline
 744 \\
 2480 \\
 \hline
 3224 \\
 11
 \end{array}$$

Answer: 3224

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## Class 3 news

English – We have been planning and writing explanations about how to play Hockey for the last few weeks. The children have been using causal connectives such as 'because' or 'as a result' to explain why something happens, as well as researching technical terms to add to their reports. We have also been learning how to use brackets to explain these words. The children are now hockey experts!

Class 3 – Maths - We have been concentrating on mental methods for multiplication and division and will be moving on to formal written methods next week. The children have been practising their 4 and 8 times tables, using doubling to help them connect the two. It would be great if the children could be practising their times tables at home as much as possible. This will really help them with our work next week as well.

Class 4 - English – As we showed you in Sharing Assembly on Friday, our English is based around 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver. We have written our diary entries which are packed full of description and a range of simple, compound and complex sentences. I wonder if your child can tell you the difference between the three? We have also been fine-tuning our peer marking skills. We developed our own success criteria for our writing and then our partners marked it, using the criteria to see how successful we had been.

Class 3 - Afternoons – We have been playing Hockey in our outdoor PE sessions to help with our explanation writing. However, we will be going on to do orienteering, which should be great fun! In Science we have been learning all about electricity, finding out how an electric current is made and will be investigating and making circuits. Our new topic for this half term is Europe. We have had fun trying to name and locate the capital cities and countries in Europe. Over the next few weeks, we will be learning about the region's natural features and landmarks.

Class 4 - Afternoons – In PE we have been continuing our work on keeping fit and healthy. We have learned about different activities such as lunges, bicep curls and squats and we used these in our dance routines. In art we used different materials to complete poppy collages. This was linked to our work on Remembrance Day and we have also written quizzes on the computer all about World War 1. In science we are learning about materials and last week we investigated some materials by testing their qualities. We looked at experiments for finding the most protective material, the most absorbent material and the bounciest material. We then wrote these experiments up, thinking about how we kept them fair and how to record our results.