

Straight from the classroom

Newsletter for Class 2, 3 and 4

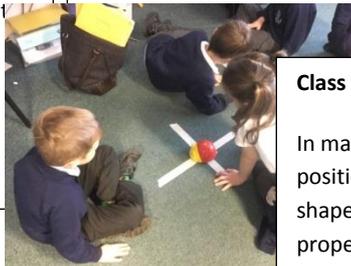
Class 2 Phonics

Year 1's have been focusing on the phonemes /igh/ e.g. high or light, /air/ e.g. hair, /ng/ e.g. wrong and /nk/ e.g. bank. We have been thinking carefully about where our tongues are when we say sounds and what vibration we can feel in our throats. This exploration of sound is to try and encourage the children to say sounds correctly.

Year 2's have been looking at homophones such as there, their and they're. They have also been exploring rules when adding suffixes to words. Sometimes we can just add a suffix without making any changes to the root word but other times we have to double a consonant or change a y to an i. Learning these rules is very important to your child transitioning from a phonetic speller to a transitional speller.

Class 2 English

In English we have been continuing to explore our text 'One Snowy Night' we have enjoyed drama activities such as hot seating and freeze framing to think about characters feelings and personalities. We wrote letters pretending we were one of the animals from the story. We used the conjunctions 'because' and 'and'. We also sequenced pictures and retold the story and we explored the use of question sentences in the story.

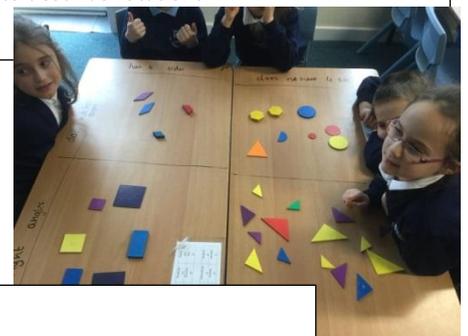


Class 2 Maths

In maths we have been exploring shape and position. We have all learnt about 2D and 3D shapes and found out about some of their properties. Year 1's made 3D shape towers and 2D shape pictures whilst naming and labelling the shapes. Year 2's have been making comparisons between shapes and sorting them. We also explored repeating patterns and tried to spot incorrect ones. We have all moved onto positional and directional language. We have used positional vocabulary to describe where an object is placed. We have also thought about our left and rights and used the vocabulary clockwise, quarter turn, half turn and whole turn to describe rotations.

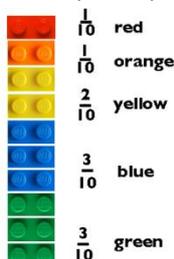
Class 2 Afternoons

Class 2 are luckily going to be working with Miss Blyde who is a student teacher this next half term and a bit. She will be working alongside me to deliver lessons to the class. I'm sure the children will enjoy seeing a new face in the classroom! We have started our topic which is 'What a Wonderful World' with a focus on China. We have been finding out about continents and oceans. We used atlases to find out about key features of different continents. We have been joining class 4 for a bit of music on a Wednesday afternoon with Mr Whawell. This has been fun because we have learnt some renaissance dances. In PE we have been exploring balances and Year 1's came up with some great routines whilst Year 2's were swimming.



Class 4 Maths

In maths we have been learning about fractions. We have been adding them together for example $\frac{4}{5} + \frac{9}{10}$. In this example you would find the lowest common multiple which is 10. You would multiply the first fractions numerator and denominator by 2 to make $\frac{8}{10}$. Then add $\frac{8}{10}$ and $\frac{9}{10}$ together to get $\frac{17}{10}$ which is an improper fraction. You then convert this to 1 and $\frac{7}{10}$. We have also been finding equivalent fractions. We watched a video which used Lego bricks to explain equivalent fractions.



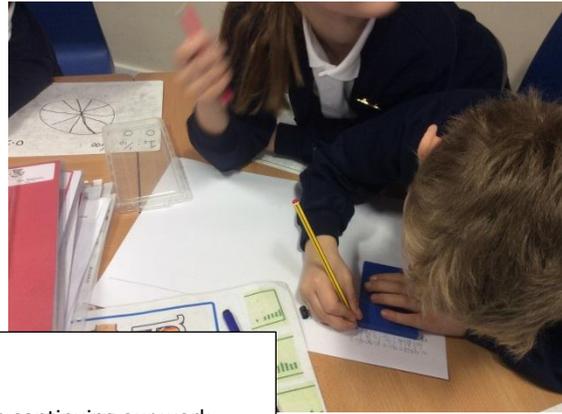
Class 4 English

In English we have been learning about the romans. We created application forms to join the romans and we have written newspaper reports about roman roads. We focussed on paragraphs and using the passive voice.



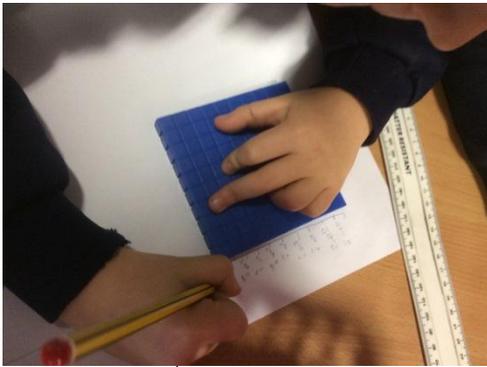
Class 4 Afternoons

In music we have been enjoying listening to renaissance music and we have performed a dance as well. In R.E. we have been finding out about Islamic Relief and we made posters which displayed facts about the charity. In PE we did some gymnastic focussing on balances.



Class 3 Maths

In maths we have been continuing our work with decimals. We have been understanding what a 10th or a 100th is and then ordering and comparing them using number lines. We then moved on to multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals by 10 and 100. The children have done really well with this and have been challenged with problem solving activities using decimals.



In class 3 we have been learning how to add additional clauses to the beginning or end of our sentences and punctuating them correctly. Do you know when you need to use a comma to separate the additional clause from the main part of the sentence? See if you child can explain! We have also been practising our journalistic writing skills for our newspaper reports. We have been learning how to write concisely, but using powerful language for impact and using formal language to give our reports authority.

Class 3 Afternoons

In the afternoons we have been learning all about the Stone Age. We thought about what life would be like as a child in the Stone Age and wrote a diary piece of child living at the settlement at Scara Brae. We have done lots of research into the Stone Age village at Scara Brae, finding out about what life must have been like for those living there and thinking about what the artefacts left behind can tell us about the people who lived there. We were amazed to find that the houses had beds and cupboards to put their belongings in and they made beautiful pots and jewellery.

In PE we have been continuing playing Tag Rugby which the children have really enjoyed and we have begun swimming on a Tuesday. In Science we have found out all about food chains and food webs and have learned how to classify different kinds of animal.

