

# Straight out of the classroom

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

## Class 2 news

**Phonics** - In phonics we've been looking at a variety of sounds. In Miss Shaw's phonics group we have learnt the /ff/, /ll/, /ss/ and /zz/ graphemes. These all come at the end of words. In Mrs Kildin's and Mrs Whatley's phonics group we have been looking at CVCC words and CCVC words. The C stands for consonant and the v stands for vowel. We have been identifying these letters in our alphabet. Year 2's have been thinking about the /l/ phoneme and that it can be written as el, le and al.

**English** - This week we have been working on instructions. We looked at some good examples of instructions identifying the features we could see. We then focussed on time adverbs to help us sequence a set of instructions. We enjoyed one group making us jam sandwiches. We then went on to look at Bossy verbs. The posh name for these types of words is Imperative Verbs. We played Simon Says and then identified bossy verbs. We used all these skills to help us write a set of instructions.

**Class 2 - Maths** – We have been working a lot on number sequences this week and we have enjoyed singing our Percy Parker 2 times table song. Year 1's have been counting in 2's and we have done lots of grouping, jumping on a number line and chanting the multiples of 2. Year 2's have been working hard on number sequences and counting in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's. We have been making sure we see whether the sequence is getting bigger or smaller and then how much we are adding or taking away.



**Class 2 - Afternoons** – Last week we focussed on keeping clean and healthy. We did a sneeze experiment to see how far germs travelled when we sneezed. I think most of the children found this pretty cool and gross! We created a mind map of what we knew about Islam before we went on our Mosque visit. We have then added our new knowledge to it. It's amazing how much we learnt! This week in RE we thought about promises and focussed on promises that are made to a new-born baby at a Christening. In topic we have also designed a 5 a day fruit salad.

## Class 4 news

**Maths** – We have had a real focus on problem solving over the last two weeks. We have been looking at problems which are set out differently and discussing the techniques we could use to solve them. We have recapped the mnemonic: RUCSAC to help us remember the steps for problem solving. I wonder if your child knows what this stands for? In order to help us develop our problem solving skills, we have also been developing questions of our own from photographs of maths in the real world.

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## Class 3 news

English – We have been writing a detailed character sketch about an Ancient Egyptian God for our own myths, using detailed description to bring our characters to life. We are now planning our stories and thinking about extending our sentences using a range of conjunctions and different ways to begin our sentences.

Class 3 – Maths - In maths this week, we have been focusing on written methods for subtraction. We have been learning how to exchange from our 10s, 100s and some of us, 1000s. By the end of the week, we will be moving on to problem solving, using both addition and subtraction. In maths this week, we have been focusing on written methods for subtraction. We have been learning how to exchange from our 10s, 100s and some of us, 1000s. By the end of the week, we will be moving on to problem solving, using both addition and subtraction.

Class 4 - English – In English we have been looking at refining our grammatical skills and trying to use these in our writing. We have learned about parenthesis and how we can punctuate this using brackets, dashes and commas. We then applied this in our writing about the mosque visit. To link with our topic, we have also been writing persuasive leaflets about Greece and the legacies the Ancient Greeks left behind. I wonder if your child can remember any of these legacies?

## Class 3 - Afternoons - In RE

we have been writing about our fantastic mosque visit. We have written thank you letters, explaining what we enjoyed the most and what we have learned. It was lovely to see how well the children responded to the visit and how much they have got out of it. In science we have been continuing our investigations with sound, finding out how we can make sounds louder or softer. In PE we have been continuing to create our balance and jump sequences in gymnastics and we have been developing our shooting skills in football.

I hope you all have a fun and relaxing half term and we will be looking forward to seeing you all when you come back!

Class 4 - Afternoons – We really enjoyed our visit to the mosque this week and as a follow up we have been looking at comparing Christianity with Islam. We have looked at mosques and churches and researched the similarities and differences. We then made 3D models of each which look fantastic! In PE we have moved our attention to football. We have discussed the similarities between hockey and football and how we could apply certain skills to both. We have been focusing on passing and receiving skills and shooting towards goal. Our ukulele lessons are going really well – we have learned to play 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat' and 'Animal Fair'. I hope the children are still practising at home!