

Weekly Learning Reflections



Good afternoon Class Endeavour families,

This week has been yet another wonderful showcase of the children's brilliant learning attitudes, as they have interpreted timetables for a trip to Paris or Lille, analysed the degree of trust from famous scientists, researched, in depth, about the history of Bletchley Park, and published their final print for their Portsmouth Blitz newspaper. Everyone has been incredibly focused, and has been focusing on the finer details to make sure that they are reaching high quality work, consistently across the curriculum.

In English, we have continued our writing for the narrative description that we planned last week. The class really enjoyed creating tension in this piece, through the use of a variety of sentence types, and the specific language that was chosen for each aspect of the room and the movements of the characters. There was a focus on adverbs to clarify the way that the characters were moving, and how much of an effect this had on the feel of the story. For the second half of the week, we have had a look at a new text from the book 'How Was That Built?', which explains the science behind some awesome structures around the world. The extract that we looked at was looking at The Shard in London, and the whole class became really absorbed into how the structure, like many skyscrapers, was able to withstand weather and gravity – we even completed some of the example experiments from the text so the children could see the science in action!

For Maths, this week's focus was time and timetables. We started the week exploring time, including how to convert from 12-hour to 24-hour time, with the children becoming experts at this particularly quickly, meaning they were straight into solving problems. Later on, the focus shifted onto timetables, which involved the children interpreting bus and train schedules in order to help families arrive to desired locations at the correct time, and also work out the duration of their journeys. The working atmosphere for all of these lessons were focused and productive, and it created a really pleasant environment, in which everyone succeeded.

Across the rest of the curriculum, the children were comparing theories and evidence from a selection of famous scientists regarding evolution. We looked at Mary Anning, a renowned palaeontologist, Charles Darwin, the theorist behind natural selection, Jean Baptiste Lamarck, a famous French naturalist who studied evolution, and Masatoshi Nei, who was a Japanese-born evolutionary biologist. With our scientific brains turned on, the task was to compare these Science superstars and their theories surrounding evolution, and suggest the degrees of trust for each person. This exercise allowed the children to have a wide variety of information that helped them form their own ideas, with no true correct answer. In Music, we came to the final lesson of our World War Two songs, and the children worked to bring all of their learnt knowledge to sing 'The White Cliffs of Dover', with harmonies and all – I am sure that the rest of the school were very pleased with our efforts. Still with the World War Two theme, the children were able to type up their newspaper articles on the Portsmouth bombing of January 1941, which has resulted in some very professional looking articles, featuring headlines, images and topic vocabulary.

For Stars of the Week this week, the class chose Josh. Their choice was due to him challenging himself in English this week, working super hard and persevering in the Music lesson and being a good friend. My choice for this week is Freya. It is evident that she has been really pushing herself this week and challenging herself to be more independent and give things a go, that she might not have previously – additionally, I have never seen her more animated in a Maths lesson than in our introductory lesson for time, amazing to see! Well done to you both.

I hope that you all have a relaxing weekend, and have the opportunity to reset yourself and prepare for our last week before half term – time flies when you are having fun! I will see you all on Monday morning.

Miss Devonshire 😊