

Weekly Learning Reflections

Week Beginning: 5th February 2024



Good afternoon Class Endeavour families,

This week has been a wonderful end to the half term, the children have continued working hard right until the very end, and it is so inspiring to look back at where they started the term and to already be able to evaluate the progress that has been made.

In English, we were preparing ourselves for our Big Debate for this half term. The statement was 'It is right to fight for what matters', and the children were able to pull knowledge from a range of sources and create some very effective arguments. The against team, arguing that it was not right to fight, initially felt a little disadvantaged by the statement, as their automatic response to the statement was that of course it is right to fight for what matters. This meant that they had to focus on forming high quality points, as well as the art of countering arguments. All of this attention to specifics helped them immensely, as they came out on top!

We also looked at our first poem of the year, 'May', which is part of 'A Year of Nature Poems' by Joseph Coelho. The children really impressed me with their knowledge of poetic techniques and language choices, as well as their ability to really step into the text and understand the meaning behind the chosen words and phrases. This unit will be continuing on after half term, where the children will write their own nature poems about a month of their choice.

In Maths, our focus was measurement and conversion. We looked at estimating and benchmarks, allowing the children to explore with different measuring equipment, and how we can use benchmarks to help us to estimate how much something might weigh, or the capacity of a glass, or the length of an object. The children who had immediate confidence in conversion were challenged to create an informative poster to aid the learning of others in the class, and for the current Year 5s to use when they come up to Year 6 – we ended up with some lovely, colourful posters that I am sure the Year 5s will find very helpful when the time comes.

Across the rest of the curriculum, we finished our unit of Hockey, looking at the all-important defensive tackles – the jab and the block – which enabled the class to go 1-on-1 with each other safely and show their competitive sides. In the lesson, we saw some very close match ups as they went head-to-head, trying to gain, or maintain, possession of the ball and successfully score a goal. We came to the conclusion of our Bletchley Park study in Computing, in which the children were tasked with creating a PowerPoint or poster on the history of the now museum, or on a computing hero. Today, we spent some time connecting our curriculum, with English, Art and History all coming together in the form of Blackout Poetry. This type of poetry, also known as erasure poetry, is when you take an existing extract of a book, and choose a selection of words and phrases that you use in a short poem. To create the 'blackout' part of the poetry, you circle your chosen words, and colour the

rest of the extract in black, or other dark colours, to create a clear and effective picture in your writing. The children were so focused in their creations, and we have ended up with some amazing and impressive pieces of work that will be displayed on the exterior boards of the classroom, for the rest of the school to see.

For Stars of the Week this week, the class chose Riley and Seb. These choices were based on Riley's perseverance in Maths and impressive skills in gymnastics, and Seb's focus and independence in English and for always being a good, reliable friend. My choice for this week is Tieghan. The reason that I have picked Tieghan this week, is due to her evident increase in confidence with her Maths, as she is putting her hand up and answering more and more questions in Maths and MAT, and her focus and work ethic in all lessons. Well done to you three!

I hope that you all have a restful half term, and that the weather is kind so you are able to have fun and enjoy your time away from school. Take some time to reset those brains and give them time to relax, they have worked hard for you over the past few weeks!

I will see you on the 19th February,

Miss Devonshire 😊