



Rogate Review

Spring 1 2022

9th Edition

So far 2022 hasn't provided us with the relief from the pandemic that we had hoped for but it has none the less given us so much to be grateful for and school life, thankfully, feels almost 'back to normal' in so many ways. Our children continue to work hard and the resilience they show in everything they do is incredible. We are extremely proud of each and every one of them.

There was a great buzz among the children during our 'Totally Super-Duper Sponsored Reading Challenge' and everyone immersed themselves in extra reading. This is not only a wonderful activity for the children to do but it also raised some vital funds for books for the school. Thank you to each and every one of you for your support. We will let you know how much was raised when the monies have all been collected.

This was alongside our 'Story Telling Week' where there were a host of literary activities in classrooms including Red Kites creating their own picture books, which they then shared with Starlings and Wrens, Kingfishers re-wrote some of Jesus' stories from the bible; presenting the stories to class mates and some were also read out in front of the whole school in Assembly. Starlings used their imaginations to write and perform their own 'Helicopter stories'. Whilst Wrens listened to stories from visiting parents who brought in their favourite stories to share.



Following this we enjoyed our 'Wellbeing Week', which was packed full of ideas to ensure the children have strategies to help them relax and stay safe and happy in their very busy lives. Wrens connected with nature in the early spring sunshine, Kingfishers expressed their feelings through dance, Red Kites made spinners full of ideas to help them cope with their emotions and Starlings enjoyed some 'Mindful colouring pages' inspired by the book 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse'.

As part of 'Wellbeing Week' we also took part in 'Safer Internet Day', which for 2022 celebrated young people's role in creating a safer internet and explored the ways they are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. The Day challenged them to foster supportive relationships and respectful communities, whilst equipping them with the skills they need to keep themselves and others safe in these spaces. As part of this Ms McAuley shared some work on Teams for KS2 children to do at home with an adult.

The Wrens welcomed in the new season of Winter this term. They had an unexpected visit from Elsa who froze some of their toys in ice. The children used their super scientific brains to think up wonderful ways to get the toys out. They explored the ice using their hands and magnifying glasses. They also had great fun finding out about Chinese New Year. They explored using mark-making to have a go at Chinese writing, made red envelopes with good luck messages for friends, designed their own Chinese Dragons and enjoyed feasting on prawn crackers, spring rolls and chow mein noodles.

They also joined in with the Big School Bird watch. They used binoculars and identification charts to spot the birds in the school grounds. They used observational drawing skills to draw their favourite birds using the correct colours and made their own bird nests using their pinching fingers like a bird beak. It was tricky and sticky! Thank you Wrens for another fabulous term of learning.



Starlings have started the new term with a super exciting event - a spaceship has crash landed in the playground and a strange yellow creature has been leaving all sorts of messages and gifts. The children found out all sorts of facts about their visitor from the book she brought them and they wrote her some lovely letters and postcards. The role play area has transformed into a space station and the children have been listening to 'space' inspired music about the planets, which the children found fascinating.

They also wrote stories about their own aliens and have gone on to make them out of felt in DT. You may have heard about Miss Hamson, who will be with us until the end of term, getting her final bit of experience before finishing off her teacher training. In Geography lessons the children learnt about the local area and found local landmarks on the map. They were able to use the map and directions to find the way to the Rogate Park. The children were delighted when they realised that was our destination and they had fun time playing together in the sunshine before returning back to school.



To kick off this terms' topic, Kingfishers went on an imaginary journey to the rainforest, where they closed their eyes and listened to rainforest sounds and then drew pictures of what they had visualised during this journey. They then used Atlases and Globes to find the Rainforests of The World, labelling them on maps, and naming the countries where they can be found.

Now fully immersed in the topic, the children have been eagerly doing their own research on the different layers of the rainforest and the plants and animals that live in each layer. This has linked into Science, as the children are learning about habitats in our school environment and will be making comparisons with the woodland around school and the Amazon Rainforest.

In English they have been reading a book called, The Great Kapok Tree, which is a dilemma story with a clear message about the vital importance of looking after the world's rainforests. Through reading this key text, discussion and role-play the children have explored the features of a dilemma story and have now written their own dilemma stories.

In art lessons, Kingfishers have been exploring block printing techniques and have created their own rainforest themed prints, some of which I think would look great in a Tate Modern Gallery!

We are very much looking forward to our trip to Marwell Zoo next half term, where we will be visiting the living rainforest.



Red Kites have had another exciting half term. Their Keen to be Green topic has proved to be very engaging - and they have been finding out about global warming and the issues which are causing it. They had a very informative visit from Carrie Cort of Sussex Green Living; she drew attention to all the problems with 'fast fashion' and the children had the opportunity to find out how far their clothes had travelled. They've also been finding out about the impact of deforestation - the children wrote some amazing stories about an orangutan who lost his home to the palm oil developers. Next half term, they will be travelling to Tuppenny Barn in Emsworth to learn more about sustainable living.

In art, the children used sgraffito techniques and colour mixing to create some wonderful rainforest leaves, which are on display in the corridor outside the classroom. They also found out about the Wombles and their litter-picking skills - they produced some wonderful drawings which are now on the staircase, reminding everyone to pick up their litter!

The main maths focus has been fractions and a lot of hard work has been done - some of it involved eating cake, which always makes maths more memorable!

The children have continued to work hard whilst having fun, showing a super approach to their learning.



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