

Year 1 End of Year Report July 2016

This year has been an exciting year for the staff and pupils in Year 1. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Year Leader. We have enjoyed many new topics and events and had great fun dressing up as Aliens, Pirates and Victorians. We have been focusing on certain groups of children, boys, more able and disadvantaged children and introducing more challenge and excitement into our learning.

During the Autumn term we learnt all about The British Isles, including the four main countries and cities and the seas surrounding us. We built 3D Modroc British Isles. We followed a little bear called Barnaby on his travels and now the children can recognise many famous land marks of the British Isles.

We then focused on a beautiful story called the Angel and the Soldier Boy which really captured the children's imagination, both girls and boys. This was the starting point for some great story writing, we actually made our own story books which the children can keep to share with their families, they were very proud of them.

Our Christmas concert 'Christmas around the World' was hard work but very rewarding, all the children danced and sang and it was a great success. We had some great comments of praise from the parents.

After Christmas we learnt about Our Local Environment and visited St Nicholas Church where some of the parishioners provided a variety of workshops for the children based on different elements of the Church and life in the Church. We then compared this with the country of India, which is totally different in culture to us. The children were able to make comparisons and think about the life of a child in India.

We also learnt about food and where our food comes from, even the adults were surprised to learn where some products originated from. We tasted all sorts of exotic fruit and produced some art work based on fruit, and some sewing on hessian. We designed our own shopping bags in DT.

After Easter we had a superb history topic based on the Victorians and Victorian children in particular, the children could really empathise with how a child like themselves would have suffered in Victorian times. We visited the Weald and Downland Museum and became Victorian children for a day, doing chores and going to Victorian School. We made Victorian tear bottles out of clay.

We sketched Victorian artefacts and had a wonderful Victorian role play morning when the Rainbow Theatre came to visit us. We also had a Victorian Prom set up in our outside area to experience life at the beach in those times.

The first week of the Summer term saw us all dress up as Aliens, we invented all sorts of Alien words for our Alien worlds and Alien family using the phonics we have been learning, which was to support and prepare for our National Year 1 Phonics Screening. This year 81% of all children achieved a pass which was an excellent improvement on previous years.

We had a wonderful day at the beach on 29th June, even though it was a bit windy and damp as usual. Which lead us into our beach topic and Mr Grinlings Lighthouse topic. We all dressed up as pirates and had a pirate picnic which the children prepared halving and quartering the sandwiches and cakes they had made.



Scarlett made a great 3D island and boat for our Beach

Topic.

Throughout the year we have been using and applying the mathematics skills and concepts we have learnt, providing extra challenge for the more able. In Science we investigated waterproof materials to make a waterproof coat for a Victorian child. We have grown our own vegetables and learnt about the structure of plants and animal habitats. We have followed the seasons and kept weather diaries. We made some interesting wind socks and tested them on a very windy day.



We made a friendship chain in RE.

Intertwined in all we do is the Christianity of our school community and each of us as Christians. Each week we focused on a different Christian Value and heard many stories from the Bible. We also thought about how we live our lives and the decisions we make and how we all can make a difference to each other and ourselves. We prepared for Christmas and all the excitement that comes along with that, and enjoyed the Easter bonnet parade at Easter.

The children have had a super year and we have all had a great time making it fun and interesting for them.

Sharon Martin