

Curriculum update

Zero to Hero

We have had a brilliant term learning all about people that help us that have superhero powers. We were inspired by Doctor Sophie giving us a superhero power of being able to help people. The children were so excited to be able to try the recovery position themselves. We loved seeing photos from home of children practising with their siblings or parents. If you haven't already, it isn't too late to send your photo in. We have recently enjoyed a fantastic visit from another one of our Madley parents - Jo Freeth. We learned all about how to look after our teeth and the importance of oral hygiene and were very lucky to be given a special goodie bag each with items that would help us to care for our teeth and gums. We also learned about how to be ecofriendly with our new bamboo toothbrushes! A huge thank you from us all for coming to see us! We have two more exciting visits/visitors planned. The children will be finding out about what superpowers the police have and the fire service have. We will keep the website updated with lots of photos so you can see what the children have been learning about.

Art

In Art, we have added together collage newspaper pieces then added detail using a pen. The children were excited to add themselves flying over the top to create a superhero world. We have also explored Pop Art, experimenting with colour using words and pictures. We compared using pen and crayon to see which was bolder and brighter.

Phonics

We have been working hard continuing to practise alternate spellings in our phonics. We have also started to look at some harder sounds, for example 'c' can be pronounced like 's' within a word like 'pencil'. We are using lots of different strategies to know which sound to use and when to use it. The children will be taking part in a Phonics National Screening Check in June. This is a government initiative that all Year 1 children complete across the UK. The children are required to use their phonic knowledge to decode real words and alien words (nonsense words that are made up). We will start to send home little 'homework' challenges to go alongside our spelling shed challenges. We can only encourage you to do them, but it would really support the children to feel more confident. We will send challenges home on a Friday and would love for the children to bring them back in the following week before a new one given on a Friday.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 11th February - Visit from PCSO Pete Knight

Wednesday 12th February - Visit to Peterchurch Fire Station

Thursday 13th February - Sea Legs Puppet Theatre performance. This is a brilliant opportunity that will help to kick start our new theme after half term which is all about stories and storytelling.

Tuesday 18th March and Wednesday 19th March - Parents Evenings

Forest School

This term we have been busy finding out about seasonal changes, which is an important area of our work in science. We have learned all about the cycle of the seasons and about what is happening in the world around us now that Spring is approaching. We enjoyed noticing the new shoots appearing in our school grounds and were excited to see snowdrops in our woodland area at school.

We have identified British birds and talked about which birds we have seen in our gardens and at school and in the forest. We loved making bird feeders to help the birds that live in our garden get through the winter months.

Maths

We have been problem solving in maths creating 'first, then, now' stories. These have helped us to work out whether the total is getting bigger or smaller. The children have enjoyed creating their own stories with their partner and had additional challenges where part of the story is missing, and they have to work out the number. For example, first we had 3 apples then 3 were eaten so now there are 0 apples. The children would then have to work out the missing number. The children have become more confident using the addition and subtraction sign to be able to record what has happened. We have then been using the part part whole model to help create number sentences that all link, for example $4 + 5 = 9$ $5 + 4 = 9$ $9 - 5 = 4$ $9 - 4 = 5$.

History

Linked to our theme 'Zero to Hero' we have been looking at a range of different heroes. We have looked at: Michael Jordan, Thomas Edison, Mary Anning and most recently Queen Elizabeth II. The children were really excited to find out some facts about Queen Elizabeth II. We looked at the line of succession following on from the Queen and created a family tree. We then compared what we have learnt about the Queen to our other heroes to see if there are similar values that they share. Although they are different characters, the values were very similar. We have added all of our 'heroes' onto our timeline and have compared when they were born and whether they are still alive.

Geography

In Geography, we have been focusing on the UK. We have looked at the countries within the UK and the capital cities. We have used the phrase Mr WISE to help us to remember and then looked at the flags that match each country. We have then used directions North, South, East and West to be able to help direct someone around the UK. We have had different pictures spread onto the map and directed each other to the picture.

