

Curriculum Update

Year 2

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year. It has been a very busy and exciting start to the Spring term!

Come Fly with Me...The Arctic Circle.

In the second half of our theme, we have been learning all about the animals and plants that can be found in the Arctic Circle. In particular, we have focused on how the animals adapt to their surroundings. Last week, the children chose an Arctic animal to research in more depth, using a range of sources to find out more information about them. Using the information they gathered, they started to put together their own non-chronological reports about what their animal looked like, their habitat, their diet and any interesting fun facts they found out about their animal. They have worked very hard on these over a series of lessons and have completed their reports to an amazing standard. We are now beginning to look at the Inuit people of the Arctic and starting to learn about their way of living. We are looking forward to finding out more about this in the coming week!

Science

In science this term, not only have we been learning about the Arctic Habitat and how animals adapt to this harsh environment we have also been learning about materials. The children have been learning about the different types materials that can be found, alongside their properties. They have carried out material hunts both inside and outside of the classroom.

Our weekly time table

Monday afternoon - Swimming
Tuesday morning - Forest school
Wednesday mornings - Rugby skills
Thursday morning - Music with Mrs West from Encore
Thursday afternoon - Mrs Baker
Friday afternoon - Mrs Baker

Forest school

Forest school has provided us with some amazing opportunities to observe and appreciate the seasonal changes from Autumn into Winter! Although it has been very cold we have found some beautiful sights on our winter scavenger hunts within our school grounds. We have made close observations of how the trees around us have changed, the patterns the ice have made on grass and Ever Green leaves, as well as finding some amazing frozen cobwebs.

This week, the children had the challenge of making their own igloos using a mixture of ice and natural materials. We have been learning about how the Inuit People make igloos so they used this knowledge to help and inspire them. They had to move very quickly to make sure their ice didn't melt and think very carefully about how to place the ice together. They worked brilliantly in their teams using our school values of communication, perseverance and patience.

Mathematics

In maths, we have been completing our unit on money. The children have gained greater confidence of the different types of coins and notes, understanding the differences in their values. We have learnt about how to use coins to make different amounts and which coins we could use. We have compared values and added values of coins too.

This week, we moved onto our multiplication and division unit. We started by recapping on recognising and making equal groups. We used arrays to represent equal groups.

40 READS

Please continue to read with your children daily for at least 10 minutes. We use 40 reads in Madley to encourage the children to read at home with an adult. We are keeping records of their achievements in school and will be celebrating them in our next celebration assembly.

Reading at home helps children access a range of different types of books, exposes them to a range of new vocabulary, helps them learn and apply their phonic knowledge, helps them learn how words are spelt as well as many other benefits.

Please can I also use this opportunity to remind you to ensure children bring their books and record books into school daily.

The Gary Johnson Award

This week in Madley we were very proud to be able to give out our very first 'Gary Johnson' award in honour and memory of our much beloved Chair of Governor. This award is unique in that it will only be offered and awarded in times when children have gone over and above with values such as bravery, commitment and perseverance. This week, Year 2 were very proud as our very own Belle was presented this award for her outstanding bravery and courage to face her fears of water and join us in our swimming lessons. Over the last few weeks she has blown us away with her progress! A huge congratulations Belle!!

Swimming

Year 2 have had a successful start to their swimming lessons at Halo. All children have participated with confidence and bravery. We are also using this as an opportunity to develop their independence in folding and organising their clothes. This could be practiced at home too!

PGCE student

Next week, Year 2 will be welcoming Miss Weston into our class. Miss Weston is joining us as part of her PGCE and will be with us for 6 weeks. We are looking forward to having her.

