



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 05

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The children have been working incredibly hard and have certainly been very busy in school this week. Here is a flavour of what has been going on in each class.



In Reception the children have been exploring sensory boxes - and guessing what items were hidden inside. They used some fantastic vocabulary to tell others what they could feel and made some wonderful suggestions – before the hidden item was revealed. They have also been learning all about the number 3 and have created a new construction area outside. The children are really impressing their teachers with how fast they have settled in and are now following our routines incredibly well. Today they really enjoyed taking party in Wake N Shake for the first time.

In Year 1 the children have been doing lots of maths work, using the 'part part whole' model; and have enjoyed making number staircases as part of their Mastering Number sessions. They have also each made a story map to help them to retell the story 'Peace At Last' – and are using actions to help them to remember what happens in this wonderful story.



They have really impressed their teachers with their amazing story language and using such great expression to re-enact the story in great detail.



In The Fawns, the children have enjoyed looking round the school ground – searching for natural and human features – such as trees, birds, pond, play pod, container, car park and brick buildings – as part of their learning in Geography. They have also been using their senses in Science, guessing what different foods and objects were.

The children have started to take part in a daily sensory circuit – to improve their fitness and to help to set them up for the day. The staff are very impressed with their Ready To Learn sitting – as the children know that athletes are always ready on their starting blocks (and ALWAYS stay in their lane) if they are to produce their very best.

In Year 2 the children have been working incredibly hard at retelling the story of The River – and the quality of their writing (especially their use of language) has been phenomenal. They have also just finished their unit of work on Place Value and have been showing their teachers what they already know before moving on to their next unit of work on Addition. In Science they have been looking at the properties of materials – and finding out which of these are manmade and which are natural - using actions to show whether these have been dug from the ground, grown, taken from animals or originate from a tree/plant. They have started to use some very impressive vocabulary too: 'waterproof', 'transparent' and 'opaque'. In PE, the children have been exploring lots of different ways of moving - galloping, side stepping, hopping - and using tactics to play a new, exciting game. They really impressed their



teachers at how well they followed the rules, cooperated and worked together.



In Year 3 the children took part in their first Topic Week, on the Stone Age. Their lessons have focused on finding out about the everyday lives of people who lived during this period of history; and they have looked at artefacts to learn about how hunter-gatherers lived. They have become experts at using timelines and can explain how life then was different to the way we live today. Their enthusiasm and the improvements they have made to the standard of presentation of their work has been outstanding.

In Year 4 the children have been writing newspaper articles to inform their readers as to whether the great spotted whale is real, or not. They have also been learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali and how this religious festival is celebrated. They have recreated rangoli patterns and are greatly looking forward to making Diwali lamps out of clay next week. The behaviour of all of the children in Year 4 has been exemplary and they can be very proud of the standard they have already set.



In Year 5 the children have finished reading 'The Errand' and wrote a cliff-hanging narrative to demonstrate all of the skills that they have been working on over the last few weeks. They also wrote a persuasive letter, to the Ministry of Magic, to explain why they would be a good errand person. The class also took part in a workshop to help them understand who loan sharks are and how they operate. They used this knowledge to create a pixel art picture, which will be displayed permanently at Norton Priory (with some of the images they developed alongside the key messages the children felt strongly needed sharing). The children are also enjoying learning about Space – and, as well as looking at how day and night happens, they have been developing their knowledge of why there are different time zones too. The children have made an excellent start to learning how to play the guitar with Mr Hulme and have also produced an information booklet all about The Torah.



Our Year 6 pupils have been learning about Rose Blanche and have written a diary entry to demonstrate how much they have learnt about this character. They have also been considering why Frost Hallow Hall would have been a good place for evacuees to stay during The Blitz and have shown a wonderful understanding of how to use the correct level of formality in their letters. Their attitude to all aspects of this World War Two topic have been magnificent. They have also been using classification keys to identify animals and have been using these to name the trees and plants that we have around the school grounds.

As you can see there has been lots going on!