



Dear Parents/carers,

We have reached the end of another relatively quiet week in school and the temperature drop has meant I've seen some fantastic woolly hats and scarves in the mornings!

On Monday, we had a visit from Rob Haring, CEO of WeST; he was accompanied by David Withey, CEO of the Education and Skills Funding Agency and his deputy Tanya Arkyle. I was proud to show them around our fantastic school; they commented on how calm and engaged with their learning all of the children were - well done everybody!

The children have been busy completing some reading and maths assessments, which all primary pupils in WeST will be completing this week or next. The results of these assessments will be reported to you before half term ready to be discussed at the parents' evenings after half term.

On Wednesday, seven children from year 5 and 6 took part in the PSSP netball competition against 5 other Plymouth schools. I am pleased to report that they won 3 games and drew 2 which means our team remained undefeated and came second overall! By doing this they have qualified for the regional finals which will take place in Paignton on 22nd March! What a fantastic achievement! In order to allow them to get as much shooting practise as possible Hele's School are kindly lending us a netball goal - thank you to Mrs Faithful our senior administrator for organising that for us.

If this has inspired your child to take up netball, Plymouth Argyle are running a roadshow at our school on Wednesday, 15th February (during half term) at a cost of £14 for the day from 9.30 - 3.30 at Austin Farm Academy.

If football is your child's preferred sport, Plymouth Argyle are also running a football roadshow on Wednesday, 15th February (during half term) at a cost of £14 for the day from 9.30 - 3.30 at Austin Farm Academy.

Yesterday you were sent the links via email and your child should have brought home a letter today. This can be accessed by children from other schools too, so if you have neighbours who might be interested then please share the details.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

R Baptiste

Foundation: This week we have been continuing to challenge ourselves. We have been practising our cutting skills to pack a case with winter clothes suitable for our current frosty weather. We have just started our new story about Percy the park keeper's snowy night and talking about the problem in the story. This week's maths has been exploring counting within 10.

Year 1: Year 1 have recently started our first computing unit using the Chromebooks. We have been learning how to log on using our usernames and passwords and how to access Microsoft Office applications. We have been discussing how technology is used all around us - children came up with many examples of the technology in their lives. In our history lesson this week, we even drew on our knowledge of how technology has significantly developed over time when learning about Christopher Columbus.

Year 2: This week Year 2 took a walk to Efford Marsh. We were looking for real examples of things that were living, dead or have never been alive; this linked with our science work. The children were fantastic on their trip- it was their first ever school trip! Big well done to you all year 2!

Year 3/4: This week the children have been using an ancient Japanese method of stamp printing called Ukiyo-e. This is a style of painting created by Hokusai; the children made a stamp with a simple shape on using wool and cardboard. By the end of the term the children will be recreating The Great Wave by Hokusai.

Year 5: We have been learning how to write instructions using complex vocabulary in English. In science we have learnt about astronomers who believed in heliocentric and geocentric theories about the planets.

Year 6: This week in Year 6, we have been looking at formal verbs and extending our vocabulary using a thesaurus. We have then been using these in our biography writing to create a formal tone and interest the reader. In SMSC, we have recapped the British Values and thought about how we use all of these in our school daily life. In indoor PE, we have begun our new gymnastic unit where we have been linking our gymnastic moves and rolls with smooth transitions.

Dates to remember:

10/02/2023 - Mufti for food bank - Cash donations.

15/02/2023 - Argyle Roadshow - Please use booking forms which were sent via email.

21/02/2023 - Foundation & Yr 6. Please remember to return the height and weight paperwork if you wish to opt OUT.

A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation: S.Cutting
Year 1: M.Jarrousee
Year 2: I.Ninnim
Year 3: L.Gray
Year 4: E.Everard
Year 5: C.Smith
Year 6: C.Taylor

This week's attendance winners are:

Foundation

Well done !!!

