

Weekly Learning Reflections



Week Beginning:

Update 15/3

What a busy week. We started our English work by reading some challenging poems about 'Lost Words' which are falling out of use because they're beginning to vanish from children's dictionaries. The poems were about birds and plants, which allowed us to explore figurative language techniques such as metaphor and personification. We also found that well-chosen verbs can be just as descriptive as adjectives. The poems were in acrostic form, which we will use next week to write poems about animals we discovered when writing about the rainforest. We started planning these yesterday by choosing animals and doing some research on their appearance and habits. In maths we extended our knowledge of fractions and decimals into understanding the basics of percentages, getting to grips with fact that a percentage is the same as a hundredth. Today we completed that work by tackling one of two Big Problems, either working out who won Sports Day, or a quest to escape a cave.

In science we spent time thinking about scientific methods and realised that defining questions based on observations can lead us into using research to find solutions – but this doesn't work unless we think hard first about what the questions should be. We tested this by looking at the life cycle of birds and found that there are differences between species. We found ourselves asking, why do birds have different coloured eggs? Why do some birds build nests but others don't? Does the environment in which a bird lives affect their life cycle? And many other questions. To further our DT project in the computer room we started using Tinkercad, 3D design software which will allow us to create ideas for a case for our animal monitors. The class took to this brilliantly and we very quickly had all manner of different styles and designs. Elsewhere we continued looking at conjugating verbs in French, finished the Christian story in RE with a superb discussion, introduced the tags into tag rugby, practised overhead shots in badminton, learned to play a blues scale in music and this afternoon progressed our poem portraits by creating a background to sit behind the words using an arrangement of torn paper. Definitely time for a sit down.

This week's class voted stars of the week are Dylan T and Phoebe, who shared the most nominations. My star this week is Holly, who always carries a positive attitude about her and always contributes very enthusiastically to our 'rockstars' stormbreaks.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Self.