

## Weekly Learning Reflections



In English this week we have been planning the start of our portal stories, in which a character is transported out of their mundane every day life into an exciting adventure. Portals are popular in children's literature, whether that be a wardrobe leading to Narnia, a rabbit hole leading to Wonderland or a gap between station platforms leading to the Hogwarts' Express. This week the class's imaginations have been running wild coming up with their own ideas. In maths we moved on to drawing angles now we can measure them and we finished the week by starting to work out missing angles in diagrams.

In science we undertook another interesting experiment, this time making a variety of parachutes to see how air resistance works against gravity. One of the mind-bending concepts we explored here was that without air resistance, all objects fall at the same speed. To see this happen we watched a video of astronauts on the moon dropping a hammer and a feather, only to see them hit the ground at exactly the same time. In geography we looked at where in the world we find deserts, and concluded that the largest and hottest tend to appear around the parallels of the tropics. In computing we started to learn how to use software called Sonic Pi to program music, for the first time using actual written code instead of snapping blocks together as we do with Scratch. In our music lessons we are now back with Mr Johnson for this half term to progress our ukulele playing. In art we are continuing our exploration of self-reflection through portraits, this week taking photographs of ourselves to manipulate into some truly amazing work using pastels and collage.

Next Thursday and Friday we have our class trips to the Winchester Science Centre. As outlined in the letter sent last month, we are doing this over two days with one half of the class going on Thursday and the other on Friday. Your child will be going on the day outlined in your letter. I will message again about this next week, but please ensure on the day your child is going that school meals are cancelled and they have a packed lunch for the trip. It promises to be a very exciting day, but there are no facilities there for purchasing food or drink.

This week we have two class voted stars of the week. Holly was nominated for the second week in a row, this time for being odd but helping friends and generally being kind. Sharing the award is Flo, who was nominated for working hard, being funny, persevering and challenging herself. Now that Mr Masson is working with us, the teachers' award has become a joint choice, and this week we decided Phoebe deserved recognition for the effort she has put into her answers, particularly her contributions in maths and our morning tasks.

Have a good weekend,

Mr Self.

