

Weekly Learning Reflections



Week Beginning: 23rd September 2024

Good afternoon Class Loyal families

Another week has come to an end – a busy one this week with plenty of fresh air and exercise! Bikeability dominated the first part of the week, with the children learning the importance of bike maintenance, as well as road safety. We were quite lucky with the weather and most of the sessions dodged the showers, with the sun even making an appearance at times. The instructors were very complementary about so many of the children, saying how well they followed instructions and, for some, overcame fears. We have the children's certificates and badges and these will be coming home with them on Monday.

In English, we have started our new unit, named 'Mystery Keys'. The children each have a personal key, with a unique design, and going to write a narrative centred around the new 'world' which the key takes you to. After spending some time either drawing or gathering different pictures for inspiration, the children focused on the skills of expanded noun phrases and different adverbial phrases which they could use in their narrative piece. These will continue to be planned next week, before the writing stage is upon us. I have to say that there are so many creative minds in Class Loyal and I am really looking forward to the many different adventures I will be going on when reading the finished writing.

Our focus in Maths has been around addition and subtraction, recapping the key skills that they have practised over the previous years at Ranvilles and using these skills to tackle complex Year 6 problems. As part of this unit, we explored the value of using our rounding skills from the last unit to estimate answers before calculating, as well as considering the most efficient strategy (mental or written) to use for a range of different questions. Next week, we will turn our attention to decimals, before starting to problem-solve with money, ready for our shift at Pizza Hut in our 'Big Problem' at the end of the week. Please ask the children about our MAT session today – they were given a complex problem to tackle using two of our problem-solving skills that we are familiar with (trial and error and working systematically). There was so much fantastic discussion going on around the classroom and the children were very excited when they were able to find a solution. The great thing about these problems is that they enable all children to feel a sense of achievement – some finding one solution and others trying to find them all. Well done, Class Loyal.

In Art, we were looking at symbolic imagery, specifically in Mayan art. The Mayas believed that everyone was born with a spirit companion, similar to an astrological sign. Firstly, the children read the characteristics of each, before deciding which one they think would be their spirit companion. They then designed their own Mayan-inspired tile to represent the companion, as well as their own personalities. These look fantastic and I know they will be eager to show them to you at our first open morning.

Now on the star of the week. The class voted for Ray, for being a fantastic friend to all. Co-operation and collaboration is such a key learning value at Ranvilles and Ray demonstrates his skills in this every day. My vote went to Aimee, who has been a superstar all week, showing her usual focus and determination and maintaining the high expectations she sets herself. She also challenged

herself so much in Bikeability, with the instructors reporting back how she had overcome fears and succeeded. Well done to you both.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Holmes