

Weekly Learning Reflections

Week Beginning: 4th November 2024



Good afternoon Class Endeavour families,

What a first week back it has been! The children have automatically stepped back into wonderful working mindsets, looking for new challenges to overcome and pushing academic boundaries every single day. They continue to succeed independently and collaboratively across the curriculum, and should be so proud of the week that they have accomplished.

In English, we are starting a new unit, looking at writing a set of instructions about a skill of their choice. So far, we have discussed what makes an effective set of instructions, considering the use of modal and imperative verbs to ensure clarity and understanding. This was further discussed through comparing two instruction guides that used different writing styles, which showcased brilliant oracy and debating skills as the children had to justify their preferred choice. Looking to next week, the children have chosen their skill and started to plan out and organise their ideas onto a planning template, so will be looking at adding to this to create their piece. I am very much looking forward to learning some new tricks and skills!

In Maths, we have finished our Division unit, carried over from last half term. This week introduced the children to a new process in Maths: long division. A concept that often bamboozles even the strongest of mathematicians, long division is known for its longer process, completed to ensure accuracy in our calculations, and its level of difficulty. I am so impressed with how the class faced this new learning. They explored the concept in depth, wanting to know each of the steps in detail, before cooperating to solve a selection of problems to begin with. By the second lesson, the confidence grew, and the children were encouraged to complete some calculations independently – this was done accurately and with great focus. Finally, we looked at word problems, and how to pick out the key information from these, whilst also deciding if there are any additional steps that need to be completed prior to the division itself. Our Big Problem for this unit: Ranvilles Firework Party, saw us tackling numerous tasks, ranging from ordering the correct amount of Catherine wheels and rockets, to ensuring that everyone attending the party was able to have a warm cup of tea! An additional challenge that this problem posed, was that long division wasn't necessary for all of the questions – some of them could be completed using short division. This meant that, after focusing all of their attention on long division, the children then had to reflect back to their knowledge of short division, and work out which method would be most appropriate for the question. All children showed determination and resilience when completing their learning this week, amazing work all round!

Across the rest of the curriculum, in Geography we started to explore population density and how the population distribution across the world has evolved since the 1500s. We also discussed the reasons why people might move from one country to another, and how this affects population growth (something that will be further looked at next week). In PE, Volleyball and Gymnastics were started,

looking at foundational skills in both: reaction time and simple rallies in Volleyball, and basic shapes and movement in Gymnastics. In RE, the concept of incarnation was introduced to the children, as we spoke about the meaning of the word and where the children might have come across it in their learning previously. In Science, we have started our unit on Light and Reflection, where we looked at different light sources before exploring with the pathway of light using torches.

Today, we had HMS Ranvilles Day, with a focus on Remembrance. The children were lucky enough to have talks from our visitors, CPO Hyland and CPO Allen, who spoke about their jobs in the Royal Navy and answered the many, many, many questions that the children had. From being awarded medals to facing invading pirates, we covered a wide range of topics. When we weren't in these talks, the children were exploring what life in the trenches was like during World War I, and looking at the context around it. It became very evident that we have some passionate historians in the class, as many questions were asked, and the answered, by the children themselves. In the afternoon, we looked at some Remembrance themed poems, linking to Flanders Field by John McCrae, and the children then chose their favourite. This poem was then written up and decorated. During this time, we looked at the symbol of remembrance: the poppy, and listened to some Remembrance Day music. It was a wonderful way to spend the time, and the children seemed to get so much from their experience.

For Stars of the Week, the class chose Darcie. Their reasons for this were: she 'shines like a star in lesson', 'tries her hardest in everything' and 'persevered in swimming this week'. My choice for Star of the Week is... Ethan! Ethan has absolutely smashed this week. He has been fully zoned in any time I am giving instructions, always the first to show me that he is listening, and then showing full concentration on all of his learning. As well as this, he has been a brilliant role model in the class, helping others to make the right choices. Well done Darcie and Ethan!

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to seeing you on Monday morning! Remember that Tuesday is school pictures, bring your best smiles!

Miss Devonshire 😊