

Wonderful World – Spring 2 update March 2017

It's the end of another busy half term already! As a school, we have been very creative, musical and sporty. We celebrated World Book Day and were so impressed by the brilliant, original and fun costumes worn by children and staff. Year 3,4,5 and 6 took part in an Ash Wednesday Service to mark the beginning of Lent. Children in Year 3 and 5 took part in a fantastic new community event called the Spring Waking Parade through the streets of East Dulwich. The streets were lined with onlookers and it was great to be a part of something so special. Children from our hearing-impaired resource base went on a life skills visit to Kidzania and some Year 5 children went on the second week-long visit to Wick Court Farm of the year. The school took part in 40 Acts - a kindness initiative to help us all to "do Lent generously". We have enjoyed listening to children's stories of how they have been kind. We said goodbye to Mother Maria who has moved to a new position as chaplain at Oundle School. Most recently, on Red Nose Day, we raised over £700 for Comic Relief. Thank you to you all.



This term, **Reception** continued learning about **Traditional Tales**. They had a visit from Drama for All who performed a fairy tale forest workshop. They focussed on the Billy Goats Gruff story initially. The second topic of



the half term was **Superheroes**. The children thought about fantasy and real life heroes. They had visits from police officers and the fire brigade and this inspired them to write about people who help us and write about themselves as superheroes with their own superpowers. In the outside area, the children created a superhero assault course. Children have learned about Easter with a particular reference to new life; they created a beautiful display of spring

flowers and wrote heartfelt thank you prayers to God.

The **Year 1** topic was **Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish**, a book by Michael Foreman. The children visited Crystal Palace Park to see the dinosaurs and the farm to look at reptiles, birds, water animals and amphibians. The children have classified and sorted animals. In addition, they have written riddles to describe features of mammals. When learning about recycling, the children re-used all the scrap paper in their classroom to make models. They have written stories this term as well as fact files about recycling. In science, they have learned about body parts and senses. In RE they have learned about why Easter is the most important festival for Christians.



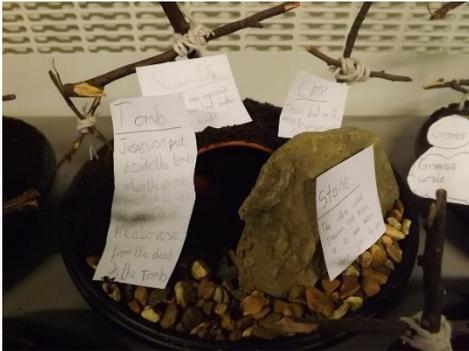
Year 2 called their topic **The Minpins** after the class book by Roald Dahl. The children began the term with a visit to Peckham Rye Park to build little houses for the Minpins in their natural habitat. Following this, they wrote estate agent adverts to describe their houses to prospective buyers. They also wrote their own versions of the story. In art, they made mini houses using recycled materials. The science topic this term has been plants. Year 2 planted beans and peas to observe how they grow. They also carried out experiments to see what plants need to grow – water/no water, light/dark, soil/no soil. In RE, the children learned about the Ten Commandments and Easter Symbols.



The **Year 3** topic's covered **Africa and India**. It centred around "The Cloud Tea Monkey" by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. The children began by tasting different types of tea to learn about the nation's favourite beverage. They also tasted a variety of fruit and wrote persuasive descriptions to convince others to try them. In their own words, they rewrote part of the Cloud Tea Monkey. In music, the children have been learning African songs and they took part in an African dance workshop. In art, they took part in workshops to make butterflies and moths which they took to the Spring Waking Parade through East Dulwich. In RE, the children have been learning about Easter events.



Year 4 have focussed on **Twisted Tales**. The topic was based on a story called "The Sleeper and the Spindle" by Neil Gaiman, a story which combines elements from Sleeping Beauty and Snow White. The children took this idea and wrote their own stories which mixed two familiar tales. They also created "wanted posters" warning of the danger of the mountain from the story and wrote diary entries from the viewpoint of the Queen who was sad about getting married. In computing the children made stop motion animations of fairy tales using a program called ZU3D. All year 4 children have started to learn to play the recorder in their music lessons. In RE, the children made Easter gardens to demonstrate their understanding of what Easter means to Christians.



The **Year 5** children have tried to answer the question **Can We Save Endangered Animals?** They have written explanation texts about which animals are endangered and why. In addition, they have written persuasive letters from the animals' viewpoints, persuading humans to look after them. They have developed their geography skills by looking at the countries and continents where the animals originate and live. In English, the children studied William Blake's "Tyger, Tyger", unpicking the language to develop their comprehension. In RE the children have looked at contrasts within the Easter story and in music they have started learning to play the samba drums.



Year 6's topic was **It's a Wonderful World**. We learned about the Twin Towers in New York and the man who walked between them. Philippe Petit's story features in the book we read: The Man Who Walked Between the Towers. We wrote his biography and used information about the buildings to create our own information posters. We wrote persuasive letters to plead with him not to carry out his tightrope walk and wrote about what it felt like to take the first steps on the wire. We also went to the Walworth Road Fire Station as part of our Junior Citizenship course to prepare us for secondary school. In science, we looked at electricity and in RE we investigated the connections between Adam, Eve, Easter and Christmas.



Next half term's topic is The Circle of Life

The focus for each year group is: **Reception** – Animals,

Year 1 – I Want My Hat Back, **Year 2** – Changes, **Year 3** – The Life of Plants

Year 4 – Critical Critters, **Year 5** – The Hidden Forest, **Year 6** – Walk on the Wild Side.

Our learning skill next half term is : COOPERATION

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