

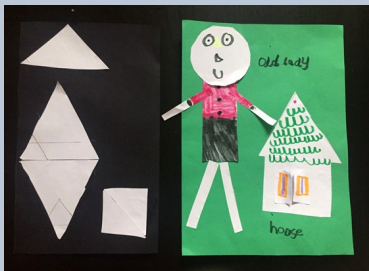


STEPHEN FREEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Everybody; Every Moment; Every Idea Counts"

February 12th 2021

In **Nursery** this term's learning has been based around the story 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. We learnt about all the fruits that were in Handa's basket and we tasted them. We thought of words to describe what the fruit looked like, felt like and tasted like. We practiced balancing items on our head and we walked around really carefully. We were able to find out about our favourite fruit and recorded our findings on a tally chart. In phonics, the children have been experimenting with sounds and we used mirrors to see what shapes we could make with our mouths. The children are really good at hearing initial sounds and they loved making 'silly soup'. The remote learning continues to be fantastic and it has been a pleasure to see all the Tapestry photographs and to watch the children's videos. Our live Zooms have also been a great success.



The Children in **Reception** have enjoyed learning the story of 'The Gingerbread Man'. They re-imagined their own versions of the story and created their own characters. They loved baking gingerbread men. In Maths the children have been learning about shapes and have used 2 dimensional shapes to create images of the gingerbread man.

The children in Year one have become space explorers.

Beegu crashed into our garden and needed our help. We translated his alien language into English to help him find his way home again. On our journey through space we met the 'Smeds' and the 'Smoo's'. The children discovered 'Baby Bear' who whooshed them off to the moon with an owl. We have enjoyed learning about the astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Tim Peakes.

Year two have been learning all about pirates this term. We found out about some famous pirates in history including Captain Blackbeard. The children have been getting very creative by dressing up as pirates, making ships, treasure maps, treasure chests and lots more. We have been retelling the story of 'The Night Pirates' by Peter Harris and Deborah Allwright. We created story maps, stepped the story, drew and described the characters from the book and some children even made films of themselves retelling the story with homemade props. In science we have been exploring floating and sinking. We have tested objects from around the house and tested our own rafts. We are so proud of all the children in Year 2 for showing such self-motivation and resilience.



Gabriella in Peru Class made this fantastic model

In **Year 3** we have been examining fossils, volcanos, earthquakes and tsunamis. In school and at home the children have had the opportunity to create their own fossils out of rock salt. As part of our study about 'The Romans' the children designed their own mosaic patterns. In maths we have been learning about multiplication and division and understanding money and statistics. The children have produced some wonderful pieces of writing about Pompeii.

Well done to you all.



Year 5 have been learning about the Black Death. We have drawn comparison between the plague that arrived in England in 1348 and the current pandemic. As a class we learnt about the symptoms of the plague and examined an unusual theory at the time that the plague was spread as a result of wearing pointed shoes! This term we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week and to celebrate this year's theme, to express yourself, we designed and made art using fruit and chocolate. It was great fun and the best part was eating our creations!



Thank you



Sally Povolotsky, founder of the Hive Hut in Wantage donated £100 voucher for the Space Store to Year 1. We bought these great items.

To the Brinkman family who donated an iPad to school.

To the Cornell family who donated 3 tablet devices to school.

Markers for Mindfulness – Thank you Daniel

Daniel is a Year 11 student at St Birinus School and he has set up a scheme called 'Markers for Mindfulness'. This is an initiative to provide school basics to primary schools. Daniel contacted us to see if we would like any pencil cases filled with stationery essentials to support children with their home learning. Daniel provided 29 children from our school with filled pencil cases.



Term Dates

School closes for half-term on Friday 12th February and re-opens on Monday 22nd February

Term 4

Monday 22nd February to Wednesday 31st March (1p.m.finish.
Bank holidays Friday 2nd April and Monday 5th April).

Holidays: Thursday 1st April to Friday 16th April.

Term 5

Monday 19th April to Friday 28th May (Bank holidays Monday
3rd May and Monday 31st May)

Holidays: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Term 6

Monday 7th June to Wednesday 21st July (1p.m. finish)

INSET Day—Thursday 22nd July