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Introduction

The highlight of these two weeks was our trip to Forest Adventure. We were so impressed by the way the children cheered, supported and encouraged their classmates and the younger learners in Year 1. The learners overcame their anxieties because of this support and they all came back knowing they can be risktakers in any future task they attempt.

We would like to thank the parents who accompanied us. Without them this trip would not have happened or been the success it was.

We were able to share some of the field trip memories with our other parents through our year group assembly last Friday. We had Ms Meher, Mr Shaun, Ms Webb, Mr Massey and our school chef join the learners as they sang a very lively song about our school community, composed together by Ms Roberts.

Unit of Inquiry

Our first unit of inquiry has now ended. The children have had the opportunity to learn about different schools and have been reflecting on their learning this past week.

We will be starting our new unit of inquiry. Our Central Idea is *Learning about previous generations helps us understand the relationships between the past and present.* We are going to be time travellers. This unit will investigate how aspects of the past still influence us today and how we can use artefacts to find out about the past.



Mathematics

In Mathematics the learners have been working in groups. One group has been exploring the patterns created by odd and even numbers. The other group have continued to work on consolidating their knowledge of place value, using base-ten blocks to understand that a digit in one place represents ten times the digit in the place to its right.



English

We have started on an intensive reading programme which will benefit all learners. Details of this have been mailed to all parents earlier this week. The learners have been sharing their books and beginning to work independently through their rotations. Reading books, when sent home, have to be returned to school the next day.



Languages other than English

Chinese

All learners had a great experience celebrating one of our Chinese traditional festivals, the Mid-autumn festival.

The aim for the learners new to Chinese, was to develop their listening and speaking skills by talking about the festival. By the end of the activity, most of the learners could name some key words and use them in simple sentences.

Learners with previous experience have learnt simple greetings and writing them with correct strokes. They were also introduced to the vocabulary associated to learning tools.

For the learners with significant experience of the Chinese language, they have also been exploring Chinese culture.

French

Linking with the recent UOI, our focus has been on significant people, objects and places we find at school. It was very interesting to hear the learners finding ways to recollect difficult words, through mnemotechnic strategies. The topic

was addressed through songs, artwork, flashcards and games. The learners enthusiasm seem to be endless and the group is becoming very homogenous as we go through the term. Each learner uses different ways to learn and shows this to others.



Art

Year 2 learners completed their last unit by creating shapes on paper plates which they cut out, connected and painted. They worked hard on taking time over their painting and using different colours to emphasise the shapes they had created. Moving on to their next unit of inquiry they have gone back in time this week where they have looked at the painting of the caves at Lascaux, identifying and discussing the animals they saw and the colours used.



Music

Learners have continued exploring different percussion instruments and have tried to use them when composing in small groups and pairs. Action songs and music and movement exercises have been enjoyed as well.



Health and Physical Education

The learners have continued to focus on their level of Social Responsibility within in different group activities in Health and Physical Education. They have been taking part in activities such as 'Rocket Launch' and 'Chain Tag' to encourage them to work together in a caring and cooperative way allowing all learners to contribute to group success.

Reminders

Please note the Library day for our classes: Monday. Learners return their library books on this days and exchange them for new books. They are welcome to change their books more frequently, and can do so during lunch times.

Our Term 1 Holiday starts on Saturday, 5th October. We begin Term 2 on Monday, 21st October. We wish everyone a restful break and happy holidays.

