



Willow Word



With Spring coming, we have completed our first term back after Christmas. We have come back ready to learn and all children are getting to grips with new and exciting learning. This update should outline all the key areas of their learning.

In Maths we have introduced and are completing Times table Rock stars regularly. This has been a huge success in our class. All the children are using it weekly and are having a go at home. We began our term of Maths with fractions, learning how to recognise and order them, add and subtract fractions and understand larger fractions such as tenths and hundredths. We then looked at Geometry by identifying shapes and their properties, but also looking at interior angles and being able to identify different types. We then completed our Spring 1 term with our first two operations of addition and subtraction. The children learned and understood different methods from concrete to formal written methods working with a variety of number sizes.

In English this term, we aligned with our History topic of the Stone age. Our first book was called 'The First Drawing' written by Mordicai Gerstein. This story narrates a scene of a stone age boy who appears to have seen a woolly mammoth. His family did not believe him so he had to draw a picture of a mammoth on their cave wall - the first drawing ever made! The children enjoyed this book so much and were able to put themselves in the boy's shoes by writing a narrative story of their own. We then looked at 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King. It is a classic story book about when two boys, who are complete opposites of each other, become friends. We then discussed and described their similarities and differences.

For History this term, we looked at the Stone age. The Stone Age was a broad prehistoric period during



which stone was widely used to make tools with an edge, a point, or a percussive surface. The period lasted for roughly 3.4 million years and ended between 4000 BC and 2000 BC, with the advent of metalworking. The Bronze Age follows the Stone Age, and precedes the Iron Age. The Bronze Age was the time from around 2,000BC to 700BC when people used bronze. The children learned about what life was like, famous settlements from the era and enjoyed an immersive tour of a stone age settlement through Virtual reality. A visit from Wessex Archaeology enhanced the children's interest, where they were able to study and hold some artefacts and replicas of the Stone age.

In RE, our concept was Good vs. Evil and we linked the religion of Hinduism to help our understanding. Hindus have a celebration called Holi which celebrates the start of Spring but also tells the story of how good defeats evil. The children recreated the story of Pralad with a puppet show and relating good things that can defeat evil in real life.

I am so pleased with how we are getting on. The children are succeeding in all areas in different ways. Let's keep it up and await the start of Spring.

Thank you for all your continuing support

Mr Harris

