

Year 5 update

Forest school

At the session, we discussed the fact that it was a cold day today and that it can be challenging to be outdoors in this type of weather. We spoke about how we could look after our bodies today and a key way of doing this is movement. Emma showed the children some different exercises they could do if they were feeling cold during the session. We feel both classes coped very well and showed resilience in the cold.

Next we had a discussion about needs. 'Needs Understanding' practice is a way of understanding ourselves and others better. Emma explained that we have needs to survive (e.g. sleep, water, shelter) and needs to thrive. Emma shared some of these different needs that help us grow and thrive as human beings; for example, connection, purpose, creativity, discovery, fun. Then the children tuned into how they were feeling today and shared what their primary need was for Forest School today.

After this we played a game called Giants, Wizards and Elves that incorporated a lot of movement to keep us warm. It is a game involving two ever-evolving teams and everyone really enjoyed playing this. Back at the log circle, Emma told a story called 'How the Stars Came to Be' which is a fun and imaginative folk tale about how the stars were originally created and then the children began the free choice element of the session.

The craft activities followed the star theme of the story. Some children chose to create their own little wooden weaving boards using a hammer and nails to make their own star designs. They hammered the nails into a small wooden disc and then used their knot skills to tie wool on and wove it around the nails into a star shape. This activity helps to develop gross and fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and focus. Other children made their own star wands out of willow. This involved bending and manipulating the willow into a star shape and securing the shape in place with pipe cleaners. Children helped one another by holding the star shape in place for each other and it was lovely to witness this kindness and generosity. Some children used wool and cardboard to make their own star weaving designs. The mud kitchen and construction with the poles and ropes were popular in both sessions. In the morning, children who have been building dens most weeks elevated their structure into a far more skilled design and persevered when it fell down to rebuild and work out the problems. In the afternoon, the children made a hotel that they were very proud of and Emma gave it 5 stars on Tripadvisor! Another child made a swing and it presented a useful opportunity to chat about risk and risk management.

To finish, Emma and the children reflected on their session and discussed 'Needs Understanding' again. Children were able to name some of their needs that were met during the different activities. For example, fun and challenge on the slackline and creativity and purpose when making the star wands.

R.E

Topic: Prophecy and promise

- The children read from Samuel 16:1-13
- They created a 'God's guide to choosing a leader.'
- The children have created an Advent display based on the life of John the Baptist. They have planned class worships that they will lead throughout the Advent period.

Key vocabulary: David, Samuel, Saul, Jesse, Bethlehem, Anoint

Next week: Children will be finding out about what sort of king David was.

Maths

- Children have continued to explore mental strategies that can be used when approaching multiplication and division.

Key vocabulary: Multiply, Times, Product, Factor, Multiple, Divide, Dividend, Divisor, Quotient

Next week: Children will be using formal written methods for addition and subtraction.

English:

- Children have completed their description from the book 'Cloud Tea Monkeys' and have been spending time editing their work.

Key vocabulary: description, sensory language, figurative language, similes, metaphors, personification, expanded noun phrases.

Next week: The children will be starting a new topic on biographies.

Extra information

- Please can you check at home for any school books that have not been returned, it seems that some are missing.
- Please ensure that children are equipped with a blue pen and green, they use these in every lesson. A few children have been bringing in pens that aren't appropriate for school. We would recommended handwriting pens, a plain biro or if your children has particularly good handwriting an ink pen might be the best fit.
- Thank you for the generous donations to the food bank.
- Friday 5th December is the deadline for our Christmas appeal. If you are able to donate a toiletry gift set, or new adult gloves, hats, socks or scarves, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Purchases can still be made from the 'My childs art' website – please see the leaflet below.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 5 team



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St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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