

Year 5 update

Forest school

We had a great final session with both groups yesterday. Our welcome question was 'What makes you feel excited?' and each child shared something personal to them. Then the children played two games with different challenges. The first was called the Great Ball Challenge. This was a partner game that involved being the fastest player to follow different instructions including taking hold of the ball first. Anyone who got the ball remained in the game and this continued until there were only two children left and a winner was declared. They really enjoyed this.

After this, the children took part in a teamwork game called the Lily pad challenge. Groups had to work together to cross an imaginary river with a limited number of lily pads. This involved discussing different strategies and communicating effectively throughout the task. In the reflection afterwards, Emma emphasized the importance of adapting a strategy if it isn't working and not continuing to do the same and expecting a different result.

Then Emma read a lovely story called 'The Winter Sleep'. In the story, a child went for a walk with their grandmother and learned how the Earth prepares for winter and how animals hibernate. The book showed lots of different animals hibernating as well as a variety of minibeasts.

For the rest of the session, many children chose to use tools and craft to make different Christmas-inspired creations. Some children worked with Emma to make their own wooden reindeer. This was an involved project and took a lot of perseverance and strength. The children chose whether they wanted to saw on their own using a folding saw or with Emma using a bow saw. They cut two pieces of hazel wood as the body and head and then hammered pieces of dowling in for the legs and as a neck to connect the two pieces of wood. Finally, children added faces and antlers to decorate. Other children learnt the cow hitch knot and used red and white macrame string and a wooden hoop to create their own Santa face. They were really pleased with their creations! Other children made the most of their last session through physical play on the slackline and hammocks and being imaginative in the mud kitchen. In the afternoon, the children made a swing again as they have enjoyed the challenge of this activity over the past few weeks.

At the end of the session, we all gathered together for a final reflection on each group's Forest School experience. Children shared what they were going to take away from their time at Forest School. There were a lot of thoughtful and meaningful answers given. We were struck by the amount of gratitude expressed by the children. The opportunity for freedom and choice came up a lot, as did the cooking experiences and Emma's stories.

## R.E

Topic: Prophecy and promise

- Children have been reading Psalm 23
- They have annotated the Psalm thinking about the characteristics of God that it shows.
- They have drawn pictures that represent the Psalm in modern day life

Key vocabulary: Providence, protection, guidance, comfort, correction, generosity

Next week the children will be learning about the Jesse Tree.

## English

Topic: Biographies

- The children have been carrying out some End of term assessments.
- The children have used their research notes to create a plan for the biographies they will be writing next week.

Next week: Children will be writing a biography on their chosen person.

## Maths

- The children have been carrying out End of Term assessments
- The children have been using the column method to multiply larger numbers. It is important that they remember to include the magic zero when they are multiplying by a two digit number.

Key vocabulary: multiplicand, multiplier, product.

Next week: The children will be moving on to division.

## Science

Topic: Materials properties and changes

- The children have been exploring reversible changes, including dissolving and changes of state.

Key vocabulary: Change of state, condensing, evaporating, reversible change

Next week the children will be thinking about irreversible changes.

Extra information:

- Children have completed their Forest School sessions now, there will not be a forest school session on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December.
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December will be the class parties. Children can wear party clothes on this day and hopefully the children have already told you the food that they have signed up to bring in. A polite reminder that we can not have any foods in school that contain nuts.
- Term ends on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December for the Christmas holiday. School will finish at 1.30pm
- School will resume as normal on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 5 team