



Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.

15th January 2021
Newsletter 9

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here we are at the end of another busy week. There has been lots going on both in school and at home.

Congratulations to our stars this week. You have stood out in your learning!

Reception

This week in Reception, our children have been busy: finding out how snowflakes are made; designing snowflake making machines; building castles for the Snow Queen and Princess Ellie to live in; dancing and singing about penguins; drawing penguins; listening to stories about penguins and other arctic animals and finding out why penguins can't fly. They have also talked about winter and have had fun packing two suitcases, one with winter clothes and one with summer clothes in. The children have really enjoyed their daily 'dough disco' sessions which are now live twice a week. It has been fabulous to see parents joining in too. What a fun-filled week our Reception children have had.

★ **Star from near: Callum for fantastic listening and participation in PE.**

★ **Star from afar: Gwen and Jacob - Both for super home learning**

Year 1

In Year 1, everyone has been incredibly busy whether they have been working from home or in a school bubble. In Maths, the children have been investigating tens and ones when working with numbers to twenty. In English, the children have continued their work based on 'Monkeys and Hats'. Our Year 1 children have used role-play to act out the problems in the story and have used this to produce some fantastic written responses. In computing, the children were keen to write their own blog on the school website as they decided which season they preferred. They have also looked at internet safety

with Jessie and friends, on the website 'Thinkuknow'. What hard work Year 1. Keep it up!

★ **Star from near: George J - For putting such a great effort into his work and for being kind to others and including them in his games. Well done!**

★ **Star from afar: Tobi - For a fabulous attitude to all online learning. Keep it up!**

We also have an apology to make. Our Star from near last week should have read Gracie. Sorry Gracie!

Year 2

This week, our Year 2 children have been writing the opening paragraph to their own version of the Cinderella story. They have used a fantastic variety of adjectives and list sentences. In maths, the children have practised their dividing skills. The children have also been busy drawing beakers and shading to make them look 3D, which is rather tricky. Some parents even had a go too which was lovely. Well done, Year 2. You have worked incredibly hard this week.

★ **Star from near: Matthew Duff - For extremely neat work in English and maths. Your handwriting is fantastic!**

★ **Star from afar - Finnley C - For impressing me with your online learning. You complete everything and always try your best. Well done!**

Year 3

Year 3 have been very busy this week. In English, the children have started their new piece of writing. After identifying the features of a non-chronological report, they have been learning how to conduct their own research and make notes about emperor penguins, which they will use to write their own reports. In maths, the children have been continuing to use the grid method for multiplication. They have also been developing their own pieces of music through body percussion. In science, the children have started their new topic all about light. They have been exploring different sources of light and have considered what causes things to be dark. Miss Bass has been incredibly impressed with Year 3 this week. Well done!

★ **Star from near: Joel - For finding lots of facts to use in his non-chronological report about emperor penguins.**

★ **Star from afar: - Joshua for his determination, enthusiasm and fantastically**

positive attitude towards all of his online learning. Keep up all your hard work, Joshua!

Year 4

In year 4 this week, the children have enjoyed exploring Pompeii through writing and geography. They have created some beautiful setting descriptions about the city of Pompeii, before Vesuvius caused complete destruction. The children have also been mastering the grid multiplication method in maths. In computing, Year 4 have been exploring some of the cool effects on an online photo editing program. In school, the children really enjoyed PE with Sports Coaching North West; during which, the children practised their skills in archery! The children also completed a yoga marathon on Wednesday afternoon which made them feel very relaxed. What an exciting week Year 4 have had!

★ **Star from near: Bea. For beautiful presentation and a fantastic attitude to work all of the time!**

★ **Star from afar: Emily for putting in all her effort to everything and challenging herself at every opportunity!**

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been learning how to multiply using formal methods. The work has been a challenge, but they have all persevered and have achieved well in their learning. In English, Year 5 have been introduced to a new piece of writing which has been based upon the short animation - Lune et L'autre. The children have been exploring various ways to make their writing more descriptive and appealing for a reader. In History, the children applied what they had learnt the week before regarding the events leading up to World War 2. The children considered the question, "Did WW1 cause WW2?" Learning all about the Treaty of Versailles helped to inform the children's answers. In Computing, the children applied the skills of using quotation marks and the Boolean operator, 'AND' to carry out research on a WW2 leader of their choice. The children then presented their research in a fact file. What fabulous learning, Year 5. Well done.

★ **Star from near: - Tom - For putting 100% effort into all of your learning this week. Well done!**

★ **Star from afar: - Riley - For really pushing yourself and working to the best of your ability from home. Well done**

Year 6

This week in maths, our Year 6 children have been securing their understanding of algebra through an array of reasoning and problem-solving questions. In English, in addition to comprehension and guided reading, they have written a narrative piece from the perspective of a character in *the Invention of Hugo Cabret*. It has been wonderful to read their engaging pieces of writing throughout the week. In other subjects, Year 6 have been busy comparing Charlie Chaplin and the Lumiere Brothers - iconic pioneers of the silver screen. In PE, they continue to practise their juggling skills - they are aiming to learn to juggle by the time they return to school. In art, the children have worked on their understanding of perspective, in preparation for drawing the backgrounds of their own comic-style artwork. To further develop their understanding of human anatomy, the children looked at the structure and function of the heart muscle, and how it pumps blood around the body. Well done, Year 6 - another great week of learning. Keep up the good work.

★ **Star from near: Graysen for settling in well and showing a superbly positive attitude.!**

★ **Star from afar: Ava for showing effort and determination to improve in every area of the curriculum, and making superb progress as a result.**

And finally

We are keen to get our remote learning provision right for our children. Please continue to provide us with any feedback that you would like to share on contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk

If you require any further assistance in any other matter, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Mrs Jones
Head Teacher