



Stogursey C of E Primary & Pre-School

Tower Hill, Stogursey, Somerset TA5 1PR

Tel: 01278 732389

www.stogurseyprimaryschool.co.uk

Head Teacher – Mr G Tucker, BA (Hons) NPQH



Weekly Newsletter No 44

20.10.2023

As we enter the half term period, I would like to thank the team that puts this newsletter together on a weekly basis – the teachers, Mrs Burghes (our co-chair of governors) and Mrs Nicholls in the office. I hope you find this really enlightening. I certainly look forward to reading it every week. I am pleased that as well as news articles, we are adding in useful information and once again from this issue, raising the profile of attendance.

I wish you and your family a restful week off and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 30th October.

G Tucker

Gary Tucker
Executive Head

Beacon

It's the last week of term and although we are all feeling ready for the half term, we are still working our hardest. In Science, we are investigating the size of craters on the Moon. We were wondering what affect the size, distance and speed of an asteroid would have on the width and depth of the crater it creates.

Today, we are going to use flour as a 'Moon surface' as it has a similar texture to the real surface of the Moon (probably?!), then we will drop asteroids (balls of Blue Tack) from different heights to see what effect it has on the flour (Moon dust). Of course, we have considered variables so we will keep the asteroid size the same for each height change. If we have time, we will follow up with further investigations by changing a different variable (the size of the asteroid) but keep the height the same.

In Art, we each have got a professional canvas to begin applying our learnt painting techniques to a final piece. We have been inspired by Chesley Bonestell's works. We are going to recreate one of his pieces (Saturn) and a piece of our own design which was influenced by his style. We will invite everyone to enjoy our work in our gallery just before Christmas.

We have nearly finished writing our letters to Liam in English. Hopefully he will be persuaded by our very persuasive style of writing and stop telling all those lies!

In Maths, we are developing our addition and subtraction skills. We are spending lots of time on multi-step problems as they are the most challenging.

It's been really nice that Casey M has brought in a book from home which she finds particularly interesting. It is a really detailed instructional book on drawing lots of different things like: sharks, peacocks, rockets, portraits. Casey decided to set a whole-school challenge (to include the staff), here is what she said, "We should all work together as a team, the whole school, to create a piece of art. We could make a peacock and everyone could create a feather in a different style."

Casey has led this project which will be displayed in the school hall after half-term. It will be fantastic!



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'Grow in the Grace and Knowledge.'



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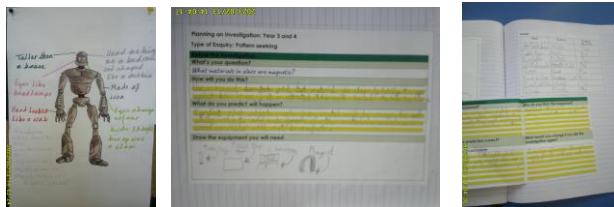
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Alfoxton

This week, Alfoxton class have been investigating magnets and magnetic forces. We have looked at how magnets can attract and repel, along with conducting an observation into what objects in class are magnetic. We discovered that not all metals are magnetic. During English this week, we have been writing up our narrative about our Iron Man character. Miss Mold is looking forward to reading them over half term.



Triscombe

This week Triscombe Class had a lovely walk in the village to look for signs of autumn. We were very lucky to have a dry morning! The children were extremely well behaved, and keen to spot signs of the changing seasons. They noticed fruits, berries, seeds and autumn leaves on trees. Saxon remembered that the silver birch tree on Vicarage Road had daffodils growing around it when we visited it back in the spring. We stopped to listen to the birds singing, and watched as a group of starlings swooped around over the houses. We also visited the park, where the children had a lovely time playing together. The children are now drawing on their experiences and observations to write a diary entry about their walk.

Triscombe Class are enjoying having friends from Alfoxton Class join them for PE on Tuesdays. This week, the children worked really well together across the age groups to develop different balances. Children worked in small groups, taking turns to take the lead and to mirror each other's movements. The older children helped the younger children develop their ideas, and perform their balances for the rest of the class. It is wonderful to see the children working together so effectively!

In Phonics this week we have been evaluating the children's learning. It is great to see how much the Reception children have already learned in such a short time. Thank you to parents and carers for helping the children to practice their sounds and reading at home - we can see it really makes a difference!



Stogursey Adventurers

In Beacon, we have been designing a vehicle that can transport a cup of water down the slope of the school field. As part of the design process we have been thinking about suspension and how the children can build that into their final design. We had great fun making springs out of paper and card and then trying to make cushioned wheels. We even tried balloons!

We're sure, in due course, the children may ask for materials such as bubble wrap, foam, maybe even springs for their design. If you have anything you think might be useful please save it so the children can bring it in after half term.

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Reading Corner

This Friday is going to be so exciting as we are building a reading den in the classroom! Everyone was inspired by Lilly's dens at home so we thought it would be a great idea to create a fun reading environment to enjoy our magazines, comics and books.

Attendance

We are currently performing at a record high for this time of the year. We set an ambitious target of 95% and we are currently at 96.5%. It shows what we are doing with attendance is working. In the verbal feedback from the OfSTED inspection, the inspector was very clear that our actions as a school on attendance was robust but also supportive to families. As the winter season gets closer and the threat of more COVID cases looms, we are sure the NHS will change the guidance on what can and cannot be authorised in terms of illness so we will keep you posted on that. In the meantime, congratulations to Stogursey School on such an amazing achievement.

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| Target Attendance |
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| 95% |
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|---------------------------|
| Current Attendance |
|---------------------------|

| |
|-------|
| 96.5% |
|-------|



Important Dates

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|---|---|
| Friday 20 th October: | Last day of term |
| Monday 23 rd October-Friday 27 th October: | Half Term |
| Monday 30 th October: | First day back |
| Tuesday 31 st October: | FOSS Lantern Making |
| Thursday 20 nd November: | FOSS Fireworks gates open from 6.00pm |
| Friday 10 th November: | Flu Vaccinations |
| Monday 13 th November- Friday 17 th November: | Anti-bullying week |
| Tuesday 14 th November: | Parents Evening (long) |
| Wednesday 15 th November: | Parents Evening (short) |
| Thursday 16 th November: | School picture day (siblings and individuals) 8.30am-9.00am |
| Friday 17 th November: | Inset Day |
| Friday 8 th December: | Christmas Jumper Day |
| Friday 15 th December: | Christingle at the church at 2.00pm |
| Friday 15 th December: | Last day of term |

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