

22.10.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Buckfastleigh...

There has been so much going on in the last week or so at school. The children have been coming to the end of their sequences of learning and we have had a number of visitors in school doing activities and workshops with the children. On the last page of this newsletter, I have added some photos to give you a snapshot of what has been going on.

On Wednesday, the whole school took part in a dance event organised by Rob Pepper and Becky Mason from South Dartmoor College. All the children learnt a dance choreographed by Becky. It was amazing to see so many children enjoying dance and being energetic!

Today was Roald Dahl day. The children have enjoyed creating Willy Wonka inventions, dressing up, sharing books and ending the afternoon with popcorn and a movie. I hope you liked the staff picture that was sent out!

Reception have been worked with a parent volunteer to make some super collages of their names and experienced a sensory pathway. They have been making soup and bread and taken part in a science workshop which focused on reducing plastic waste. They also had a visit from our school dog.

Year 1 have made some wonderful wind socks in science. In maths, they have been representing their number facts in lots of different ways using the bar model, part-part-whole and also their hands. They have been teaching each other how to read using our new Read Write Inc resources and giving each other rewards for good behaviour, being kind and hard work.

Year 2 have been super busy building bug hotels in our school garden. They loved doing this! In addition, they have completed a fantastic piece of writing for display and decorated crowns linked to their Kings and Queens history topic.

Year 3 took part in an interesting composting workshop today. They have also made some amazing clay pots which you can see in the picture on this newsletter. The children in the class earned a class treat for fantastic behaviour and hard work and enjoyed a class party with games for an afternoon.

Year 4 have really impressed us with their shields, swords and soldier collages. They also really enjoyed making a bug hotel which now sits proudly in our school garden. Earlier in the week, Year 4 finished off their castle drawbridges in DT. I popped in to see how they were doing – you would have been proud to see how well they were collaborating together.

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Year 5 have really impressed me with how they have been collaborating and getting on. They have completed some exciting science experiments using marbles and drawn self-portraits in art. This was particularly challenging and the children had to show resilience to complete their work. Year 5 also took part in the composting workshop today and enjoyed the dance workshop.

Year 6 wanted to write their own entry for the newsletter – thanks to Elsa and Mason for writing these...

'On Monday, our class went to the Valiant Soldier. There were lots of rooms including the kitchen and living room. All the furniture was in a different style to ours now. We had so much fun and learnt a lot about what life was like in the 1940s.'

'On Wednesday, we baked cakes in 4 groups. We used ingredients as if we were in the 1940s. We had no sugar. The cakes were for VE day – Victory in Europe. It was fun and we ate the cakes today. Each cake was cooked in the oven for 45 minutes. They were yummy and delicious.'

Remote Learning

Don't forget our Remote Learning offer which was shared with you on last week's newsletter. You can find all the details at the following link. Further information about this will go out after half term.

<https://www.buckfastleigh.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=Remote+Learning&pid=175>

COVID-19 Update

Buckfastleigh Primary School has had **no positive tests** this week.

Parent Meetings

We will not be having face to face parent meetings this term. However, we would still like to organise an opportunity for parents to speak with class teachers about how their child has settled back into school and the progress they are making. This has been planned for the weeks beginning 9th and 16th November. Meetings will be done either over the phone or virtually using Microsoft TEAMS or Zoom. Further information will be sent out after half term.

School starts again on Monday 2nd November.

Have a great half term,

Turn over to see a collage of pictures from the last few weeks

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