Cotsford Primary School Summer 1 - Year 4





Burps, Bottoms and Bile

Subject/area Subject Summary	
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English/ Literacy	This half term children enjoyed learning the actions to our new story, Poppy, Waldo and the Giant. The story is all about a young girl, Poppy, who sees a giant in her town and only her best friend Waldo believes her! We created story maps as a class and individually to help us tell the story. Then, we focused on all the important features we need to include in a story to build suspense. Children also enjoyed practising writing a gripping opening for their own suspense story. At the end of half term, children wrote their own exciting suspense stories based on the ideas we had gathered together. In Vipers guided reading sessions, children have really enjoyed reading Giant by Kate Scott. This book is all about a boy called Anzo who is much shorter than the rest of his family, who he finds loud and annoying. The children have loved getting to know the characters and improving important reading skills, such as exploring story vocabulary or predicting what might happen next. They particularly enjoyed thinking of weird and wonderful meal choices for Uncle Miles who calls himself a 'creative cook'! We also enjoyed a visit from author Adam Bushnell to complement our topic. We came away with lots of fantastic ideas for our topic writing and also had the chance to meet a special visitor!
PSHE/SMSC/RRSA	Our topic this half term has been Relationships. We have learned about the importance of different kinds of relationships such as family or our friendships, and linked this to our right to be safe. We have also talked about ways we can help feelings of jealousy if we are feeling sad about our friend spending time with other people. We then looked at different ways of mending friendships if we have fallen out with somebody close to us. The children also shared thoughtful ideas on loss and how we can remember people that are special in our lives. We read a book called 'Badger's Parting Gifts' to support us in this topic.
Maths	We have been working hard on the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables, focusing on both multiplication and division. We have used lots of different strategies to help us remember the patterns of each one, such as using concrete objects and hundred squares before moving on to problem solving. We have also talked about how multiplication and division are the opposite of each other and how this can help us remember more number facts for each table. We then moved on to look at different ways of multiplying a two-digit number by a one-digit number. Children have also had lots of opportunities to solve problems which challenge them to think in different ways.
RE	This half term our topic has been 'How do people show care?' We talked about the importance of good deeds and what it means to do a good deed. Then, we looked at examples of how people can show care, sometimes through a job they may do or a kind gesture to someone in their life. We also explored how Jesus told his followers the parable of the Goats and Sheep, and how it relates to Christian beliefs in doing good deeds.
Art	N/A
D&T	Year 4 have really enjoyed exploring pneumatic systems in DT this half term. We began by looking at different examples of pneumatic systems and how they work.

	Children then recreated two different pneumatic systems to test out. It was very important to make sure no air escaped from the tube, or the system would not work! We then had the opportunity to make our own pneumatic toys using different recyclable materials.
History	Our topic this term was 'Why did the Romans leave Britain?' and Year 4 have really enjoyed finding out what happened at the end of Roman rule when the Anglo-Saxons invaded. We revisited the timeline of what happened when the Romans were in charge and what made them leave Britain. Then, we explored primary sources from the Anglo-Saxon period - our favourite part was trying on the traditional costumes! We moved on to investigate the burial mound at Sutton Hoo. There were lots of interesting artefacts found buried with King Redwald. We explored how rich people were often buried with their belongings and discussed what we could find out about the King from the objects he was buried with. We also looked at Anglo Saxon life in Britain. We found out about the jobs that Anglo-Saxon men, women and children had to do on farms. It was also really interesting finding out about the different items of jewellery the Anglo-Saxons made themselves!
Geography	N/A
Music	In Music, we have been exploring civil rights as part of their topic 'Blackbird'. We have enjoyed listening to music by The Beatles and talking about the reasons why important songs like Blackbird were written. We listened to the song carefully and tried different ways of tapping the pulse using body percussion. We also enjoyed discussions about what thoughts and feelings we had when we heard the song, or if it reminded us of anything. We enjoyed learning another song by The Beatles, Yellow Submarine. The children also practised playing along to Blackbird on the glockenspiel using 3 notes - C, D and E.
Computing	In Computing the children have enjoyed exploring how to use logic to complete Gibbon challenges on Purple Mash. These challenges involve thinking carefully about each step and making sure we give the right instructions to the programme. We also researched the human digestive system using our iPads to find out the function of each part. We used this information to create a flowchart diagram showing all of the different parts within the digestive system and how they work. When children finished gathering the key information, they created their fact file using the Publishing Tools template on Purple Mash.
MFL	We have been amazing in Spanish this half term! The children have learnt, used and understood the classroom instructions given. They have learnt different hand actions to help them remember the vocabulary. Great work!
Science	We have really enjoyed our topic Burps, Bottoms and Bile, all about the human digestive system and what happens to our food and drink after we have eaten! We started off the topic by researching specialist dentist vocabulary and the importance of looking after our teeth. We then explored the different processes of digestion and researched what each part of the digestive system does. Then, we created a flowchart diagram using our information to show what happens in the digestive process.
PE	In PE we have enjoyed Zone Cricket. We have learned how to set up the pitch and make sure the batting team have zones to score points in. Some of us got very competitive trying to score points quickly! Children also really enjoyed perfecting batting and bowling skills, whilst taking turns fielding and intercepting the ball. We also really enjoyed working with Joey from SAFC this term for Tennis. He helped us practise good ball skills, such as balancing, bouncing, throwing and catching. When we were confident we moved onto using the racket correctly, on our own and in teams. We had to work hard to communicate with each other and we enjoyed the challenge of trying to hit the ball through a hoop!