



NEWSLETTER

January 15th 2021

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A welcome message from Mrs Normanton



Welcome to the first newsletter of the new term and my first as Head Teacher of Lakeview School. I have to admit, that when I was appointed as Head Teacher, I did not anticipate that my first two weeks in school would be quite as eventful as they have been.

I would like to start by thanking you all for the wonderful and continued support and feedback you have provided to the team. As teachers, we understand that home schooling can come with significant challenges, and is in addition to managing your own personal employment responsibilities and being a parent.

We know how difficult it is for families and it is appreciated that, where possible, you are keeping your children at home so that you and your families stay safe. We thank you for continuing to do this.

On a personal level, it has been delightful to meet some of our Lakeview families in person and online, joining daily live sessions. Additionally, whether the children are learning in school or on-line, it has been wonderful to see how many children have been completing their work; the quality of the work completed has been of an excellent standard. I know that all teachers are awarding a significant number of house points in recognition of the in school and on-line learning.

One of the first goals I have set myself is to learn every child's name in school. Having chatted with the girls in school in year 5, Ava thinks it will take forever – at this point, I certainly agree with her. I will keep you updated with my progress!

Please continue to encourage and praise your children for their efforts and resilience, as these are also challenging times for children and their learning and social experiences are very different from what they are used to.

I look forward to meeting you all in person at some point in the future.

Jackie Normanton



Supporting your child to read at home



You can access a variety of links on our school website in the 'Reading resources and stories' section under the 'Learning' tab. In this section you can also find a list of questions to ask your child when reading which are specific to the year group they are in. Parents/carers can sign up for free to the Oxford Owl website where you can access eBooks in line with the colour band your child is on <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>



Can you donate a device?

As you have no doubt seen in the media, there are a number of families without adequate technology at home, making remote learning very difficult.

We are working closely with those families, to support children to access the work. Should you have any unwanted devices that you would be willing to donate to the school, we are able to reset them, clearing all data, before preparing them for use by the children.

We would like to thank Mr Owen, Mr and Mrs Cox and Miss Koujan who have already very kindly donated digital devices to the school.

What we are learning at Lakeview

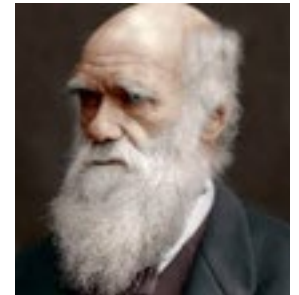
At the start of each school term, each year group will share what they are going to be learning in class. In addition, in subsequent newsletters, two year groups will be sharing what they are learning in a little more depth, with comments and photos – this week it's the turn of Year 2 and Year 4:

Year 6

The children in Year 6 have started their 'Blast from the Past' topic where they have been learning all about the ancient Mayans. So far, they have explored primary and secondary sources of information before mapping Mesoamerica, comparing modern cities with ancient examples.

Swans and Cranes have also used their English lessons to write instructions on how to make Mayan hot chocolate; a bitter, darker version of what we know today.

The children also made a fantastic start on the science unit 'Evolution and Inheritance' where they are learning about different ways of understanding the past including understanding Charles Darwin's theory of evolution and the fossilisation process.



Charles Darwin

Year 5

Well done Year 5! We have been so impressed with how you have settled into the home learning routine and have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the work that you have completed.

In Year 5, this term, we will begin our exciting exploration of the life of Vikings during our topic 'The Vikings are Coming!' We will discover who the Vikings were, how they travelled and why they invaded Britain with a focus study on Lindisfarne. As the Vikings came from Scandinavia, we will be working in the style of an artist to create a Nordic scene using watercolours to replicate a painting in Art.

“There was once only the sound of bees and the wind in the wiry grass, the low murmuring of moles in the cool dark earth and the song of birds in the high blue sky.” These are the first words mentioned in the extraordinary picture book called ‘Varmints’ which is the focus of part of our English unit of work this half term. Within this text, we will discuss key themes, characters and write setting descriptions by creating powerful imagery in our writing.



This half term, in Maths, we will develop our understanding of measurement, properties of shape and begin to apply this to reasoning and problem solving questions.

In Science, this half term, Year 5 will be learning about animal life cycles and we will conduct our first research task to find out about the life and discoveries of primatologist Jane Goodall.

Year 4

These last few weeks have really shown us how amazing our children in Year 4 truly are. They have adapted to online learning incredibly well and have put smiles on both of our faces each morning by joining our live sessions. “Even though we are not at school I enjoy the home learning and the fact we get to see each other every day” – Ava, Herons.

We have been thrilled with the quality of work that has been sent to us via Google classroom and through our class email accounts. We have received lots of photos and videos to show us what the children have been doing which has been fantastic.

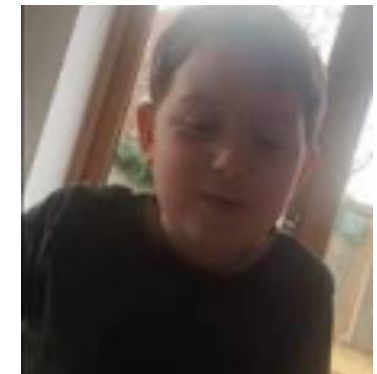
In English, we have been looking at play scripts. We were mesmerized by the fantastic and confident actors and actresses we have in Year 4. We had some great impressions of the wolf with great expressions and some very scared old ladies.

The children have made a great start learning about our new topic ‘When in Rome’. In our live session, the children discussed how Italy looked like it was

kicking the island of Sicily. The children have been able to identify where Italy is on the world map and have created Power Points or posters to share facts they have found about the capital city Rome.

In Science, the children have started to learn all about electricity. They have had great fun experimenting with balloons and finding out that static electricity makes them stick to walls! We have been really impressed by some of the children going above and beyond to write up the findings of their experiments.

Here are some pictures: Izzy (Mallards) identifying Italy on her globe and Thomas (Hérons) performing his play script.



Year 3

We are extremely proud of the way in which the Year 3 children have adapted to the changes in teaching and learning this term. With their parents, they have shown fantastic resilience as they have got to grips with issues with technology and have been working extremely hard on their daily English and Maths lessons, listening to their teacher present the day's learning before demonstrating their understanding in the independent tasks.

So far this term, in English, the children have been using their imagination and the features of a recount to write about the earthquake that struck Lakeview School on the first day back after the Christmas break and have then begun to write recounts in character, based on a silent movie stimulus.

In Maths, this week, they have been learning about the different types of lines and angles they would find in our Geometry topic

During the afternoon sessions, the children have been investigating different types of rock in Science while discovering the different layers of the Earth in our Geography lessons.



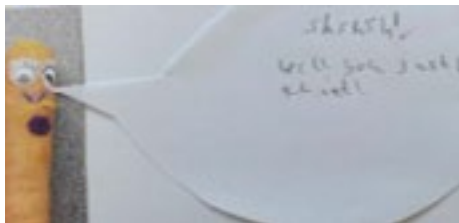
Some of the children's comments include "I liked feeling the igneous rock samples to see whether they were rough or smooth" and "I loved rounding to 100 as it was a little bit difficult. It's good seeing my friends."

Year 2

Kitchen Disco

Year 2 have absolutely blown away Mr Morrison and Miss Channing these last few weeks with their home/school learning.

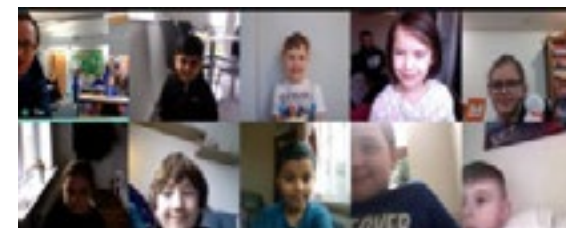
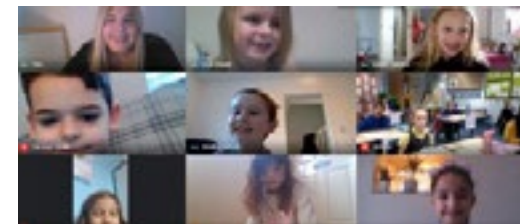
We kicked off our topic 'Food Glorious Food' by reading 'Kitchen Disco' as our literacy focus. The children especially enjoyed thinking of what their fruit and vegetables would say by writing excellent exclamation sentences! Here are a few examples...



In Maths, we have worked hard on securing our place value, addition and subtraction. When set a challenge of using objects around our houses as tens and ones, Year 2 did not disappoint...

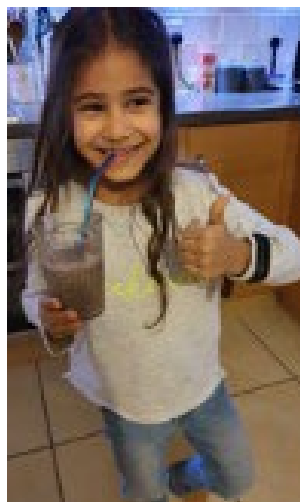
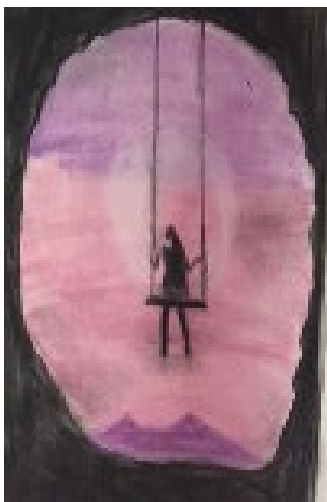


One of our favourite parts of the day has to be when we all get to see each other on Google Classroom for a story/show and tell or class assembly!



We have loved you sharing all of your creative learning with us as well, such as Chloe's pastel drawing, Esme's geography song and lesson about all the continents and oceans, Charlotte's smoothie making and so much more!

Keep up the good work Year 2 - we are SO proud of you all!



Nursery and Reception

In Nursery and Reception, our main topics this half term are Winter and Traditional Tales along with the children's interests. We have loved seeing all of the children busy learning in school as well as at home.

Their alternative endings to the Gingerbread Man were superb and we are so impressed by the sign language the children are practising too!

We are so glad that you have enjoyed the videos and I know the children were overjoyed to see each other on the live session.

We are looking forward to next week already and remember to pick a song and dance your hearts out tomorrow for our Friday dance, we will be doing the same at school.



Forthcoming Events this term - February

W/C 1st February 2021 – Wellbeing Week

Virtual Literature Festival – a two week online festival where you can listen to authors sharing and speaking about stories they have written.

Further details will be published by class teachers shortly.