

Our Values
Respect, Kindness,
Resilience, Integrity, Honesty
and Trust



- Our Pledge**
- Listen and Learn
 - Do our best
 - Look after each other

Year 2 Newsletter

Spring 1 2024

What an amazing half term we had! We participated in the National Literacy Trust's 'World of Work, Dream Big' project. We kicked off the project with a number of volunteers coming into school to share their occupations with us. We had a fantastic time interviewing the visitors and learning about their jobs. We were given many resources to enhance our weekly lessons. Learning about a range of different careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) was fun. During the term, we had a taste of what it feels like to be: doctors, engineers, artists chefs, architects, journalists and shop assistants to name but a few. Dressing up and using the props provided a stimulus for our daily reading and writing lessons. Through our written work, we produced: fact files, reports, descriptive writing and interviews. We enjoyed learning about the various skills that come with each career. Our pupils realised that there are new careers for them to aspire to in the future.

This term, we focused on multiplication and division in **Maths**. Pupils enjoyed using a range of manipulatives to show equal and unequal groups, describing equal groups, repeated addition, multiplication expressions, arrays as well as factors and products. We also revised mathematical vocabulary associated with multiplication and division and practised our times tables using chants and songs. Pupils continue to use Emile at home learn and consolidate their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.



Through fun activities and investigations, we explored the properties of materials, such as **wood, plastic, metal, glass and fabric** and how we use them in everyday life, in **Science**. Did you know that some materials can bend, twist, squash and stretch? Well, we had fun exploring these properties and explaining why it is useful for materials to change in various ways. It was a wonderful term of science learning!

In **PSHE**, we focused on Health and Wellbeing. We have been learning about how we can achieve better wellbeing. We looked at how being active can improve our overall well-being. We practised relaxation techniques and discussed how beneficial they are for our memory, managing out anxiety as well as lowering our stress levels. To conclude our learning, we looked at the steps to success and how we can achieve growth mind-set (the way we overcome out challenges and setbacks.).



In **Physical Education**, we made some cross-curricular links with PSHE and incorporated physical activities and meditation. We demonstrated a number of ways in which we can be physically active using different resources such as: hoops balls, beanbags, cones etc. Children had lots of fun with these games. Some relaxation techniques were also done to demonstrate how this can improve our wellness. We will continue our Gymnastics lessons further on in our learning journey.



Over the term, we studied the Nature of God in **RE**. We examined the creation story in Christianity, learnt how God created the world in one week, and rested on the seventh day. Through this topic, we realised that Sundays are very special to Christians where they look forward to worship and rest. Did you know that Harvest Festivals are important to Christians? This is a wonderful celebration to show the amazing creations. Further, on in the learning we also looked at how the Jews celebrate Sukkot and how they use this as an opportunity to rest and reflect.

In **History**, the children enjoyed learning about Seaside Holidays in the past. Throughout the unit, they compared what seaside holidays were like in the 1950's with modern holidays. Pupils learnt the differences in time and appreciated how things have changed. It surprised them to learn that there were no public toilets at the seaside during the 1950's and people had to use a travel carriage. The learners enjoyed writing postcards in the role of a 1950's child. It was fun looking at different souvenirs and discussing in detail what we can learn from them about a holiday. To sum up our learning, we had a visitor in class to share her experience of her seaside holiday in the past.



In **Art**, we created a number of designs using different techniques. We have built repeating patterns and recognised patterns in the environment. We got very creative when we used the repeating pattern printing blocks to create our own designs. It was fun using a range of media such as coloured pens, pencils and paint.

To reflect our wider curriculum at school, we visited the Stamford Hill Library every week. We listened to stories being read to us by other adults and enjoyed the experience of being in a public library.