

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



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

Year 2 Newsletter Autumn 2 2024

This half term, we studied the text **George Patrick Mkenessy, The Boy who was Always Late and Dear Teacher**. Based on these two stories we were inspired to write letters of excuses to our teacher. We enjoyed being creative with our ideas and wrote many fun excuses, giving reasons for being late. The children had an opportunity to annotate the features of letter as well as ordering the text with the correct layout. A great deal of focus was placed on oracy, which gave the learners a chance to articulate and develop their writing ideas.

In **Maths** this term, our focus was on addition and subtraction. We used a range of methods: using objects, pictures, diagrams and symbols to solve addition and subtraction problems. Using the correct mathematical vocabulary such as add, subtract, altogether, total, sum and difference, more, fewer, enabled the children were able to deconstruct word problems, making them easier to solve. They also used various strategies to demonstrate the concept of adding and subtracting with and without regrouping. The children understood our question stems and were able to calculate the missing numbers in a range of problems. In addition, they used Emile to practise and consolidate their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.

As **Scientists**, we focused on Life Cycles. During the lessons, we explored the different stages in the life cycles of: humans, a chicken, a butterfly and frog. We used a number of scientific skills, which included sorting, classifying, comparing and evaluating. It was interesting to see how the pupils were able to identify the similarities and differences in the cycles. Year 2 also enjoyed Science Day 2024 where pupils had an opportunity to handle a range of exotic creatures at the Zoolab workshop. It was a wonderful experience for all our pupils!



In **Physical Education**, we learnt different skills in Gymnastics. We practised some basic floor movements, which included: forward rolls, side roll, dish, and pencil. Throughout the sessions, we developed flexibility in strength, technique, control and balance. We aimed to improve our skills in every lesson. The children enjoyed these lessons and they were willing to share their techniques with their partners. Additionally, they gained a lot from their weekly rugby sessions and look forward to learning new skills in the coming weeks.



The children enjoyed learning about Seasons in **Geography**. In this unit, they explored the different seasons we experience throughout the year and how they change. They were also interested in observing the various weather patterns that they noticed in one day. They learnt and used a range of key vocabulary associated with weather. The children enjoyed describing the weather conditions in other countries in the UK. Moreover, they had fun demonstrating the different directions the wind blows and how these can cause changes in weather. At the end of the unit, pupils discussed and named the different compass points, East, West, North and South.



In **PSHE**, we continued to look at family and relationships. From this topic, the children developed a better understanding of friendships; they learnt about positive and negative friendships. They were able to recognise that it is important to have good manners in order to foster meaningful friendships. They also learnt how people can be affected by the loss of loved ones as well as pets. From these lessons, they reflected on how families and friends can support each other in difficult circumstances.

To reflect our wider curriculum at school, we went to The Picture Palace Theatre in Finsbury Park and watched Paw Patrol; it was a wonderful experience for our children. We were also pleased to have a visit from Gemma Jackson, our Primary School Liaison Officer, who spoke to us about keeping ourselves safe. She brought in some samples of her uniform and we all dressed up like a policeman/woman: it was great fun! To top off the term, we had a wonderful Christmas Show where we thrilled our parents, carers and loved ones with our wonderful singing of 'It's Magic in the Air'. Overall, it was a great term filled with lots of fun and learning.

