

Dear Parents,

In English, we've been doing some writing inspired by 'Wonder'. Through a combination of reading the book and watching scenes from the film, we were thinking about the friendships in the book. One of the reasons that the book is so brilliant is the discussion it inspires about empathy, kindness and understanding the challenges that everyone faces, whether they're obvious or not. We discussed a key scene in which August is betrayed by a friend, and tried to see it from different points of view. The children then wrote emails between the characters, conveying their emotions and thoughts at that point in the book. The class will be choosing their 'writer of the week' on Monday.

In maths, we've been working on place value. The class carried out some practice on recognising the place value of large numbers, before solving problems using these skills. The problems they tackled were challenging, as they approached the topic in so many different ways, and required the children to reason and explain their thinking in simple terms. We also practised some rounding and estimating using large numbers, and will consolidate this skill next week before moving on to calculating with powers of ten and some negative number problems.

In science, the children have been learning about solubility, and the difference between solutions and suspensions. They've planned a practical investigation into soluble and insoluble materials and come up with some hypotheses which we'll put to the test next week.

The children have been working on some artwork linked to our 'Wonder' topic. We took inspiration from the quote 'we're all wonders!' and thought about the different ways that we're each individual and special. The children wrote lists of positive vocabulary they associate with their classmates, and then turned their own words into a typographical self-portrait in the style of the book cover. We're hoping to get these on display early next week.

On Monday, the children will have the chance to make a speech to explain why they should be elected to be part of the school council. Although this is optional, it is a great opportunity to be a part of decisions made about the school and represent our class. If children do want to apply, they should prepare a short speech explaining to their classmates why they should be chosen to represent them.

Have a great weekend,

Tim Easton