

Dear Parents,

It's been another busy week! The children were visited by a few different people on Monday. First of all, Mr Dickinson came from Outwood Academy Easingwold to answer the children's questions about moving on to secondary school in the next couple of years. After this, there was a special whole-school assembly delivered by two representatives from the Dogs' Trust, LJ (a human) and Winnie (a 2 year-old pug). This was followed up with an upper key stage 2-specific session that covered safety around unfamiliar dogs, as well as teaching points on how to properly care for our canine friends.

In Maths, the children have continued their work on place value and have been working on rounding skills. Through a range of different problems, they developed their ability to round numbers up to a million (and beyond!) to the nearest, ten, hundred, thousand, ten thousand or hundred thousand. We then investigated the attendances for Premier League matches last season and thought about the different ways we could round the attendances at home games to group the teams.

On Wednesday, the children continued thinking about Wonder. The focus was the scene in which the characters are asked to choose two things about them that nobody else knows, and share them. We learnt lots of insightful things about the children! The children were then tasked with finding someone who has overcome a disability to achieve something great, which they carried out as group research.

On Thursday, we linked grammar and writing together to create some exciting writing based on a video of Danny Macaskill, a trails bike rider who was on a journey to ride along the top of a knife-edge ridge on the Isle of Skye. Our focus was creating embedded clause sentences, and we used a 'Noun, which/where/who' format to help to remember the structure. There were some really descriptive sentences which then became part of the free writing the children felt inspired to create. As with all of our grammar learning, the aim is to make this valuable and useful for the children when creating fantastic writing, so we will be trying to include this sentence structure in more pieces of writing in the coming weeks.

To link with our topic, we are going to have a science fair! We've asked the children, in groups of three, to pick a topic of their choice, and to design a display that demonstrates the theories and ideas around it. They will be working on these in groups outside of school. We realise that it may be difficult for children to get together outside of school to work on the projects, so if they want to split tasks up to do independently at home to then share together when they get into school, that is fine too. Even though we won't be having our science fair until the end of this half-term, there are lots of exciting ideas for displays and demonstrations already.

Hope you have a great weekend,

Tim Easton.