

Year 4 Autumn Term – Excerpts from Learning

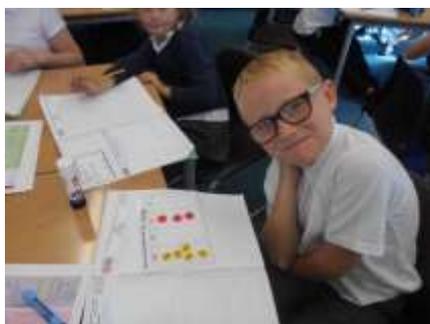
English

The children have been exploring fantasy fiction, through the story "The Spiderwick Chronicles," by Tony Di Terlizzi and Holly Black. During this unit of work, the children have started to 'unpick' the narrative structure through the use of drama, visual literacy and descriptive writing. The children have looked at the key features of diary entries, and have written their own diary entry as the main character in "The Spiderwick Chronicles."



Children have also been practising, and refining their skills of descriptive writing. The children have included fronted adverbials in their writing, as well as higher level vocabulary. They are learning about similes, metaphors and personification, and are doing their best to include figurative language in their writing.

Maths



The children have started Autumn Term revising their knowledge of place value.

They have learnt about the value of each digit in larger numbers and have also learnt about negative numbers, rounding and much more. They are practising the column methods for addition and subtraction, using the 'calculator buddy' to check their own work. (This means they can instantly see if they are going wrong and ask for help; keeping learning focused and purposeful!)

Children have been developing their problem solving and reasoning skills at every opportunity and challenging themselves by choosing the activity. They have also developed their independent learning skills by moving themselves up or down in challenges, as appropriate. In class, children take part in a times table challenge once a week, whereby they answer as many multiplication questions as possible in 3 minutes (including using the inverse) to improve fluency of times tables.

Science

In science this term the children have been learning about changes of state. They have sorted various items and pictures into the categories of solids, liquids and gases and are now able to explain the properties of each of these states of matter.

They have carried out experiments and investigations that have allowed them to see the effect that temperature has on different materials and how it can change the state of matter.



Geography

In Geography this term, the children are studying Europe. They are working towards answering the question, "What makes Europe such a diverse continent?"

The children have used "stand up, hand up, pair up" at the beginning of each Geography lesson to learn new, interesting facts about Europe.

Children have used atlases to locate the capital cities of countries within Europe, as well as comparing two of the major cities in Europe; London and Paris.

