



## THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

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Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

We are all hoping that now the evenings are beginning to get lighter and the spring flowers are starting to appear that more of the warmer and drier weather we had last week is on its way! As always, it has been a busy time at Bishopswood with World Book Day, trips to Legoland and the Anvil to see Orchestra Unwrapped, and our SATs information evening for Year 6.

Please find below a brief summary from the different year groups describing some of the learning that has been taking place over these last 5 weeks.

### Year R



This term Year R have been learning so many new and important skills. They have been learning how to share and play with their friends as well as caring for one another. Also we have been thinking about how important bees are and sharing this important information with locals

around school by posting wildflower seeds through 60 letterboxes to create a "Bishopswood bee corridor". They cannot wait to see the wildflowers growing!



They have visited lots of lovely places during "far away Friday's" including Greece, Lithuania and Japan! Everyone particularly enjoyed tasting Lithuanian snacks.

### Year 1



This term Year 1 have been having fun learning about Kings and Queens. They thoroughly enjoyed dressing up as royalty on their special day, which included a bouncy castle. They also enjoyed writing letters and posting them in the letter box.

In Geography Year 1 have been thinking about what there is to see and do in Tadley. They have enjoyed making their very own models of a town or village.



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## Year 2

Year 2 have had a great term and have been working so hard. Our topic question was 'Why was Neil Armstrong a very brave person?' so we have been finding out all about the first man on the moon and space exploration. This started with an 'Astronaut Training Day' where we found out if we have what it takes to be an astronaut. We took part in activities that tested our fitness and ability to react quickly, just like an astronaut would before they



travelled to space. The children loved the challenges and we even tried some space food!



We also had a particularly exciting few weeks when lots of blue things went missing from the classroom. This led us to investigate in the school grounds and we found a Bog Baby! We used our writing skills to write a letter to the author of 'The Bog Baby', Jeanne Willis, to let her know what we found. The children were so enthusiastic about this which was lovely to see. In Science we have been learning about microhabitats and had lots of fun searching for these and having a go at designing and making our own in the school grounds.

## Year 3

Year 3 have been busy this term! They have been enjoying learning all about the Mediterranean. The children have loved working in different groups to locate and research Mediterranean countries. Making group posters for a class presentation has been a particular highlight. Here they explored the key question 'Why do people choose to go to the Mediterranean on holiday?' and researched climate, culture, famous landmarks and more.



As part of music this half term, the children enjoyed going on a school trip to hear a professional orchestra perform a variety of musical pieces from well-known artists and films. The trip was a great way to develop the children's knowledge of musical instruments and broaden their understanding of genres.



Linking dance to the theme of our topic, the children did really well having a go at 'Flamenco' dancing. As part of their dance lessons, the children have been looking at improvising, combining movements, spatial awareness and timing. The children have also been appreciating practical science this half term. They loved exploring how different objects move on different surfaces and particularly liked experimenting with toys cars!

## Year 4

This term in Year 4 we have been finding out about New York and Tokyo as part of our learning challenge 'What makes a great city?' The children loved their trip to Legoland earlier this term, enjoying lots of the rides and exploring the buildings from around the world in MiniLand. We were so lucky with the weather – the sun shone all day!



In our geography lessons we have found out about different features of a city, and then compared New York and Tokyo to where we live in Tadley.



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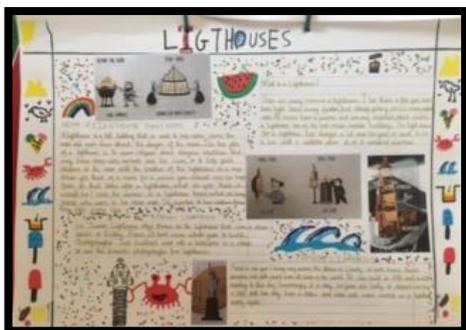


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Last week we turned our classrooms into these cities and the children were able to do a tour of the famous landmarks, taste food and listen to music from New York and Tokyo. Finally we are going to design a bridge for a city which we will make before the end of term.

### Year 5



Year 5 have been scientists and poets this spring term; we have researched and explored all about lighthouses, looking at the text 'how do lighthouses work'. We have created MORERAPS poems and 'abecedarius' poems, inspired by the author Joseph Coelho. Children will also be writing stories based on the book 'letters from the lighthouse'.

In science, we have investigated air resistance and have been exploring the best materials to use for a parachute and what size parachute will land an egg safely. We have also investigated water resistance, exploring materials and their properties. This term we will be composing a piece of palindromic music on a keyboard, that represents the fantastic beasts that they will be creating in D.T, using pneumatic pressure to have a moving feature.



### Year 6



Year 6 have had a great start to the spring term; they have explored Mayan society and discovered why its civilization thrived when the odds against it were so huge. They have also investigated the characteristics of the Mayan society and compared it with the state of Britain at the same time, concluding the unit with the riddle of why the Mayan civilization came to such an abrupt end. In D.T, we created Mayan masks, to protect the wearer on the journey to the afterlife.

Children have also been preparing for their end of year assessments. They have worked

hard in all areas, particularly writing, where they have delved into Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth', writing in character and portraying a variety of emotions. In music, we have been exploring Calypso music, leading to a performance. In art, we are looking at the artist 'Frida Kahlo', a Mexican painter, where we will be creating coloured self-portraits that deal with themes such as identity.



I would like to thank you all for your continued support this half term.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Golding  
Executive Headteacher



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