

## EYFS

In Reception this month we have been learning about animals we can find in our country including animals that hibernate and animals that are nocturnal. We have also been thinking about winter weather including snow and ice. The children were excited to find some strange objects made from ice in our outdoor area. They enjoyed investigating them and exploring them using all their senses.

During November we also spent time considering Remembrance and thinking about the celebration of Bonfire Night. During Anti-Bullying Week we shared stories about being a kind friend and discussed who we can talk to if we are worried.



## **November Newsletter 2020** **Early Years and Key stage 1** **News**



## Year 1

The children in Year 1 have had a very successful November. We launched our new topic of: 'Toys and Technologies' with the children sharing pictures of a whole range of toys and technologies from the past that they found at their house. The children have been able to build a 'Toy and Technology Museum' and handle a range of sources from the past.

Preparations for our learning video for parents are well under way and the children have planned a number of lovely surprises.

The children also had a wonderful time during 'Anti-bullying Week', wearing odd socks, competing in a poster competition, and taking part in a range of other activities.

## Year 2

In Year 2 we have really enjoyed our new topic 'Toys and Technology', we have been looking at toys from the past 100 years and ordering them from which we think is the oldest to most recent. We really enjoyed 'Anti-Bullying Week', we really liked wearing our odd socks and making anti-bullying posters.

In Maths we have been learning about money, we have learned how to recognise different coins and make amounts using various different coins. In English we have been reading a great book called 'Lost in the Toy Museum', all about a toy cat who goes on an adventure to find toys who have become lost! Finally, we have been learning the song 'Truly Scrumptious' which we can now sing and play part of it on the glockenspiel, we are looking forward to performing it in a few weeks.

It has been another busy month in school and as you read this newsletter you will see how much the children have been up to. I have loved popping into the classrooms this half term and seeing the great teaching and learning that happens at Gillibrand. I was amazed at the singing in Year 5 and Year 6 recently. Did you know they can sing a Christmas Carol in German? I even joined in and sang a verse of "Stille Nacht" to each class!

I recently sent home a letter about Christmas and how we have lots of things planned for all the children across school. I know it is not quite the same as last year, but we are doing everything we can to ensure all the children remember Christmas 2020 at Gillibrand. Videos of the children singing will all be shared with parents on Seesaw. I hope you all enjoy our Christmas songs now playing in the morning? It has definitely brought a smile to all our faces.

As always, if you need anything or any support at this difficult time, please feel free to contact me or Alice at school.

## Year 3

This half term we have been learning about Anti Bullying and how we can unite against it. We wore odd socks to highlight how different we all are. We have also started looking at World War 1 and Remembrance.

As part of this topic we created pieces of art using Van Gough's 'Poppy Field' painting to inspire us. Whilst looking at the history and geography of WW1 we have learnt how it started and the countries involved in it. We also looked at the history behind the poppy and the significance of the Poem Flanders Fields.



## Year 5

This term has introduced our new topic of World War One. The children entered the Year 5 classroom to a World War One trench. The children were amazed. They explored what trenches were like and how they would feel if they had to have been there during the war. The children have really been enthused by this topic and over the next few weeks we will be learning more about what happened in the war and what it was like back home during this time. In music lessons, we have been creating our own pieces of music inspired by World War One and the Unknown Soldier. If you would like to listen to this, please log on to Seesaw to see some of our performances.

The week beginning the 16<sup>th</sup> November also brought us Anti-Bullying Week. We celebrated being unique on the Monday with odd sock day which was lots of fun. Then during the week, we thought about what bullying is, what to do and how to support others. Remember STOP – Bullying is: Several Times On Purpose.



## Year 4

For our English, we have been looking at fairy-tales but with a twist and have learnt about lots of different features, which need to be included in our writing. The children have done a fantastic job writing their own story called Little Red which is based on Little Red Riding Hood they have changed the characters and have used lots of different features to ensure their writing is interesting. In our maths lessons, we have been taking part in some practical maths and have been looking at perimeter of shapes, using measurement tools to measure objects around school. The children have been learning about why we need to find out the perimeter of shapes and have enjoyed our practical work. In Science, we have started our topic on light and have investigated what light and dark is. We have also looked at different light sources and found out that the moon is not actually a light source! During Anti-Bullying Week, we have been taking part in united against bullying and have all made a promise to put a stop to bullying by doing simple things like being kind, making sure everyone is involved and that no one is left out.

## November Newsletter 2020

### Key Stage 2 News



## YEAR 6

Year 6 started the new half term with a bang! Arriving to a scene from World War 1 and having to crawl their way through the trenches under heavy artillery fire to get into the classroom. We have been learning about the reasons behind the start of the war and the impact this had on Britain and the world. We have been mapping key battles across Europe and corresponding cities. The class spent time looking at foods available during this time and had a great time recreating Trench Stew in our DT lesson.

We thoroughly enjoyed odd sock day to start Anti-Bullying Week. We focused on the choices we can make to stand united against bullying.