

PRIORY SCHOOL

Peek At The Week for Resource Base



Issue 14

Week Ending Friday 26th January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

We have had a busy week in Resource and I have enjoyed spending time in the different classes. From planting seeds to creating clay models for the project aquariums the children have continued to be busy with the topic of Under the Sea for this term.

Next week is the closing date of the drawing competition. Please ensure all entries are with Mrs Hicks by Wednesday 31st January.

Please can I remind you that earrings should not be worn on Thursdays and Fridays as these are our PE days.

Have a lovely weekend

Hannah Goldsmith
Assistant Headteacher – SEN Resource



ORF and ORP Classes

Teacher: Anita Fulop

This week we have seen a lot of fantastic communication from children across both classes. Socialising and communicating can be challenging for many autistic people. Many really do want to make friends and form relationships but find it hard. There may be difficulty reading social cues and knowing when to speak or listen, and facial expressions can be impossible to read resulting in social isolation. Therefore, communication is the base of everything we do in lessons because if students are not ready to tune in to what we want to teach, or are not ready to communicate their responses, we will be unable to assess their progress academically.

Staff was really happy to see the progress this week. Some pupils has started to use PECs (Symbol exchange communication) for the first time, some have shown improved verbal communication e.g. naming objects related to our story or using more complex sentences like 'I want red block'.

In Literacy many children are focusing responding to 'Who?' and 'Where?' questions and some have started to learn to ask these questions as well.

When we are communicating with children we make sure that all information is broken down and supported by visual cues e.g. Makaton signs or symbols.

There is never pressure to talk, although that is the ultimate goal for most of the children, but staff accept other ways of communication like picture exchange, looking, gesturing and children are praised to give positive reinforcement and to encourage more and more communication.

To encourage communication at home, you can find many useful tips on the National Autistic Society's website: <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/communication/social-children.aspx>. Staff are also very happy to answer any questions and provide resources for you to use at home. Please just come and ask.

Page 2

ORR Class

Teacher: Jane Robb

In ORR Class this week, the children have really enjoyed working on their new Topic 'Under The Sea' and they have been learning lots of new vocabulary in English, learning about sea creatures in Science and Geography and making paper lanterns in RE for their end of term Chinese New Year party.



In Maths, they have been learning about 'Full' and 'Empty' and measuring amounts for Capacity and in PE this week, they have been doing Gymnastics, (which they all seem to enjoy very much).

Next week, they will be going to TVAP for the last time this half-term.

ORS Class

Teachers: Lorraine Spiers and Hannah Goldsmith

ORS has really got into its topic of Under the Sea now and has enjoyed our new story "Sharing a Shell", a heart-warming tale about 3 creatures who live in a rock pool together.

The children have also watched and discussed clips from "Blue Planet 2" and have experimented with ice and salt in their science lesson. Maths has been a big hit this week, with the pupils learning about fractions through pizza and chocolate bars (pictures and playdough only though!)



We had a lot of fun at the Thames Valley Adventure Playground and some of the children did lots of artistic work there including kite making. In Art and DT, the class is really engaging with their shoebox projects showing life Under the Sea.



Next week we continue with our text and start writing a story about our own choice of 3 sea creatures making friends.

In maths we will continue with the idea of sharing objects taken from fractions, but we will be dividing as well.



Star of The Week?

Well done!
Keep up the good work!

Class ORR: Soraya for clear speaking and focusing really well during lesson time

Class ORF: Ama for using symbol exchange to communicate and Younes for fantastic talking and listening

Class ORP: Amaan M for fantastic reading

Page 3

Parent Notes / Dates for the Diary

RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

This weekend is the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

It would be wonderful if you could find an hour to watch a space – it could be your garden, a local park or a piece of woodland – and count the different birds you see.

If you search the link below there are lots of resources you can download, including identification sheets (colour printing may be helpful!) as well as a sheet to help you identify different birds by focusing on their beaks, feet, colour, plumage etc.

There is a data sheet to help you capture your findings and then you can submit this information online.

Over 500,000 people took part in last year's Birdwatch. This event is now one of the most important nature surveys that takes place in Britain, as it can monitor the health of both birdlife and their food supply. It is also great fun for the children and whole family to get involved in.

Please help preserve wildlife for the next generation by taking part.

More more information please visit:

https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/?channel=paidsearch&qclid=EAlaIqobChMlrJ2YoLLi2AIVaLXtCh2tQw0ZEAAYASAAEgJF7_D_BwE

