

Good afternoon,

It's been another whirlwind two weeks in Class 3 as we've started new topics and really hit the ground running with a new half term.

In Maths, we've been working on Fractions, including comparing fractions with the same denominator/numerator. This is a tricky concept as it's the first time in Maths when a bigger number can mean a smaller thing! For instance, one hundredth is much smaller than one fifth even though 100 is a bigger number than 5 - the children are starting to recognise the reason for this in terms of the number of parts that make the whole. We've also been learning about fractions and number lines as well as fractions beyond 1. The class have been loving the introduction of Kahoot interactive quizzes this term too and these have been a great way to assess understanding in Maths whilst having lots of fun and light-hearted competition too!

In English we've begun a new class novel - the classic Charlotte's Web which is a brilliant novel, just perfect for this age! In writing lessons, children have begun a unit inspired by Paddington in Peru (it's also a cunning way to cover a few of our Geography objectives about South America!) and have produced some brilliant writing. We've also begun a new Science topic about Living things and their habitats and in Geography we have begun learning about mountains, including topographical map work to identify mountains in the UK.

A clear highlight of the week was World Book Day yesterday - there were some truly amazing costumes and it was a really enjoyable day! Mrs Miller took lots of photographs of the children and will share these on Tapestry over the weekend so look out for those! Other recent highlights have included a trip from D:side Dave, who came to speak to the children about the dangers of smoking and alcohol, plus exploring nets in design and technology as part of our shell structures topic!

Pupils have been given weekly spellings to learn as usual and should continue to keep plugging away on TTRS too as well as reading regularly at home. Many thanks for your continued support with this - reading at home is one of the most valuable ways you can support your child at home and time tables practice is so helpful at this age too - by the time pupils reach Year 5, it is expected that they should know all of their times tables so this is a reason this homework is ongoing in Maths in Class 3. The website is tailored to your child's exact level and will start removing tables once pupils have secured them as they start to learn new ones so please encourage five or ten minutes per day if possible (a little and often is by far the best approach).

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Sturgess and Mrs Miller