



Curriculum Newsletter

April 2021

Welcome

Welcome back to a new and exciting term. In this edition of our curriculum newsletter is a round-up of some of the wonderful learning children enjoyed towards the end of last term when we were able to have everybody back together in school. Each year group has included an activity they wanted to share and celebrate with you. The wonderful array of activities gives an overview of what our 'Menston' curriculum is all about.

Foundation



Foundation came back to school with a BANG! To celebrate British Science Week, we experimented with water and looked at reflections using mirrors. We learnt about the weather from a scientist, who made us a tornado and a cloud and we made wind catchers too. An ecologist told us about how acorns become oak trees. We investigated colour with Skittles, felt tips, crayons, tissue paper and paint. It was a wonderful week

Year 1



In Year 1, we simply love being outdoors! We have enjoyed learning about spring and have planted beans, potatoes, beetroot, tomatoes and spring onions. We learned lots about pond life when we went pond dipping. We saw frogspawn, may fly larvae and pond snails.

Year 2



Year 2 have been very busy! To celebrate British Science Week, we carried out a Science investigation to find out which were the best conditions for seed germination. We discovered that our cress seeds grew best when they had soil, water and light. We have also been very artistic. We have created some beautiful oil pastel pictures of Maasai people in the style of Martin K Bulinya. We thought carefully about the dramatic poses and emotions of the characters when creating our colourful artwork.



Year 3



Year 3 have been working very hard and learning all about what life was like in the Stone Age. We have had lots of fun outdoors, learning about a Stone Age diet and we have also been getting creative, building our own Stone Age homes and settlements using craft materials.

Year 4



To celebrate British Science Week, we entered the national poster competition based on the theme 'Innovation for the Future'. We had to invent a product/idea which would improve the future in some way and then create a poster all about it. We are keeping our fingers crossed to see if any of our entries win. We have also been learning how to write code to control our programmable 'Probot' cars to make them travel around different routes on maps and around obstacle courses.

Year 5



We have been enthusiastically using Minecraft Education to learn about different parts of rivers. It has really captured our interest and imagination and has helped us develop our understanding of rivers. We had to take virtual flights over the maps and identify features of rivers before using the camera tool to take survey photographs of the features we had found.

Year 6



It has been wonderful to have Year 6 back in school. We had an exciting survival-themed outdoor day including fire-lighting, campfire cooking, building A-frame shelters and wood whittling.

SKILLS BUILDER



This half-term we will be teaching teamwork skills across all year groups.

