



March 2024
22.3.24

Whitegate CofE Primary School

Fortnightly Flyer



As Spring finally starts to emerge, the past two weeks have seen an incredible amount of learning and excitement take place throughout the school. From Elm and Beech's tremendous Sharing Assemblies to trips to Blists Hill and the airport, the children have had a lot of talk about! This edition of the Fortnightly Flyer has been written by class teachers with a focus on Science Week. Please find below a selection of the many activities enjoyed by children over the past two weeks.

Acorns

Last week in Acorns we loved getting involved in British Science Week. With the theme of time, we enjoyed thinking about seasonal change. We sorted pictures into which season they were linked to and also enjoyed using cotton buds and paint to create pictures of how trees change over the four seasons. We also had a great time making our own shadow puppets and exploring how shadows change. At the end of the week we had lots of fun with bubbles. This week we have started our new book in Literacy called 'You can't take an elephant on the bus'. We found it very funny and have written our own sentences about our favourite part of the story. In RE we have continued thinking about the Easter story, in particular we have learnt about The Last Supper. This week, the children also particularly enjoyed making their own bird's eye view maps of a farm which they drew and labelled.



Elm

During World Book Day, Elm loved dressing up and sharing their favourite books with friends. They had great fun imagining meeting their favourite characters and thinking of questions that they would ask them. Science Week saw Elm carrying out investigations related to the theme of 'Time'. We observed colour changing flowers, thought about how different plants can grow in the same environment, observed and measured our cress plants, dyed material using natural resources and made pendulum timers. Last Friday, Elm thoroughly enjoyed a trip to Blists Hill. It brought their history learning alive by taking a step back in time, encountering various shops and meeting amazing shopkeepers from the period, who truly brought the experience to life.



Beech

The children enjoyed a super trip to Manchester Airport Runway Visitor's Park last week. The children have written recounts and recording interesting facts and images in their little black books.



Last week's Science focus has taken them to the field to explore biology: living things and their habitats. The children sorted and classified things they found into



living, non-living and dead. They completed a chemistry experiment highlighting the importance of hand washing with pepper and soap. In physics, they have talked about the four forces of flight: weight, thrust, drag and lift. We explored drag and lift by timing how long it took for a little man to fall to the ground, then with a parachute. We investigated making changes to the parachute to see if impacted the time it took to fall.

World Book Day was so much fun in Beech. Their costumes were amazing and the way they talked about their favourite books was even better. We had lots of opportunities to read for pleasure and share our favourite stories.



Cedar



It has been a busy couple of weeks in Cedar. After a successful sharing assembly where all the children were magnificent, our attentions turned to Science Week. We focused on agriculture and specifically what barriers our local farmers may face including land type, pests, weather, soil compaction, welfare standards abroad and rising prices of commodities. We look forward to sharing what we found in Monday's Science Assembly. This week, we have piloted a new initiative which involves our Daily Mile and reading. Initially it was tricky to coordinate our body and walk without crashing into any obstacles but we have certainly got the hang of it now.

Willow

This week in Willow, we have been exploring the theme of 'Time' in our Science. We began the week by delving into the very distant past and creating a timeline of the History of Time. We learnt about the Big Bang, the formation of the Milky Way and saw how sudden life appeared on earth. We found it awe inspiring creating an accurate timeline in the classroom and seeing how little humans have been around compared with the history of the universe.



We have also observed changes in materials within our focus on chemistry. We have learnt about key words such as dissolving, effervescence, reversible and irreversible changes. Finally, we returned to the universe by exploring the mind-blowing realm of stars and light-speed. We tried to make calculations about how fast light-speed is and how far away stars are from Earth: unimaginably huge distances that made us realise the sheer size of the universe and how complex it is.

Oak



Oak were delighted to welcome a couple of visitors into class last week: one human and one reptile! AK's Mum brought in their pet bearded dragon, Oskar, to meet the class. This linked to our work in Science about classifying animals and learning about their habitats and adaptations to live in them. We were inspired to produce some fantastic work focusing on their life-cycles. We also learned about ice-core detectives in the Antarctic and created bar charts and line graphs to represent the weather data we collected. As well as becoming molecules to learn about different states of matter, Oak also designed and iterated moths that were adapted to camouflage in the school playground.

Thank you also to everyone who came and danced or helped at the Ceilidh this evening. It was yet another fantastic event put together by our wonderful FOWs team. I hope you all have a wonder-

ful weekend.

M Thomas

Dates

Thursday 28th March	10am	School Easter Service in St Mary's Church and break up for Easter
Sunday 31st March	9:30am	Easter Holy Communion—Family Service in St Mary's
Monday 15th April	8:30pm	School re-opens for the Summer term
Wednesday 17th April— Thursday 18th April	All day	Beech Class Llandudno Residential
Wednesday 1st May	All day	Willow Class at Northwich Sings
Wednesday 8th May— Friday 10th May	All day	Cedar Class Residential Cloverley Hall
Monday 13th May	6pm	Beech Llandudno Sharing Assembly
Monday 13th May— Thursday 16th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs Week
Saturday 18th May	12pm	May Fair
Monday 20th May— Thursday 23rd May	All day	Oak Class Residential
Thursday 23rd May	3:15pm	Break up for half-term