

## **The Hive end of term update.**

In English we looked at persuasive writing. The children started by looking at how writers use different tactics to convince people to either buy or use products or visit a place. We identify the words that were used as well as using rhetorical questions. The children then used these to write their own piece of persuasive writing. With our main topic being 'Amazing Americas' the children researched Brazil and wrote an advertisement convincing the reader to go and visit the South American Country. Next we looked at formal and informal writing. The children compared words with the same meaning but in the formal and informal form. We looked at when we used the different forms of writing. They used this information to write a formal letter of complaint and a letter a child would write to his mother.

In Maths we started the term revisiting the four functions. We concentrated on long multiplication and long division before moving on to adding and subtracting decimal number. We looked at the rules of adding and subtracting fractions as well before moving onto geometry. In geometry we looked at different angles, their names and their properties. The children were introduced to protractors and how to use them to measure angles. We then looked at lines of symmetry of shapes which introduced the children to reflection. We used y axis and x axis to reflect and translate shapes.

In Science our main topic was living things and their habitats. We started the term looking at the different classes we can put animals and plants in. We looked at how scientists identify species by using a classification key and the children made their own. We went on to look at different habitats and how animals and plants adapt to survive there. We looked at how habitats can be destroyed either by natural causes for example volcanos drought and floods or manmade for example deforestation, pollution of our rivers and seas and over building. This led to deep discussions on what we can do to preserve the habitats for animals and plants. They finished this with posters showing what they had discussed to protect the planet.

In Geography we are concentrating on the 'Amazing Americas'. The children were amazed at how large the Americas were and how many Countries it is made up of. The children got to try 'foods' that are grown in the Americas as well as typical food served there. Apple pie was definitely their favourite! They researched the Americas and found out the hottest and coldest areas, the largest and smallest Country, the highest mountain, famous landmarks and fun facts which they shared with the rest of the class. They then looked at populations in two areas of America, New York and Alaska. They compared them and came up with reasons why they are so different. The last lesson we looked at the biomes of America which linked really well with the class book we are reading which is 'Holes' written by Louis Sachar.

In ICT we are using all our research and the publisher programme to design and write a travel brochure to a place in the Americas.

In MFL we have been looking at family members. The children are now able to say how many brother and sisters they have or not have.

In Design and Technology this term we have been focusing on food. The children started the term by tasting a variety of foods from the Americas- the avocado was not popular! Following this we found out about how to have a healthy diet and used our map skills to research which fruits grow in the Americas. The Hive then designed their own fruit jellies using fruits from the Americas. They explored a range of food advertising and packaging to design their own fruit jelly label. The children really enjoyed making their fruit jellies and, even though they didn't all set, they enjoyed tasting them too!

In RE we have been exploring the contrasting theories on the creation of the Earth. On one hand, we have been considering the story of Genesis and discussing our ideas around God making the Earth. We then have been learning about the scientific theory of the Big Bang and evolution and thinking about how this contrasts with Genesis but also how there were some similarities. The children have had some very in depth discussions about whether a person can be both a scientist and a Christian.

In PSHE we began the term by considering our communication skills and how these enable us to form relationships. In particular we have focused on politeness both face to face and in other communication methods. This led on to learning about how to stay safe online and the pros and cons of social media.