

11th September 2020

Cartwright: Such a wonderful start to our autumn term in Cartwright class. The children in reception have transitioned and settled in so beautifully and shared some lovely new learning experiences together. We have been settling into new expected school rules and routines, and the children have shown wonderful manners and enjoyed exploring our indoor and outdoor classroom environment and resources. We have begun to tackle new challenges within maths, and put our counting skills to the test to record numbers 1, 2 and 3. As the term continues we will be exploring lots more exciting topics and learning new phonic sounds to support our reading and writing development. Such a lovely first week back at school, we are looking forward to more excellent learning and behaviour, well done Cartwright class.



Star of the Week: Reuben

Star Writer: Awande

Star Reader: Lamisa

Kandinsky: WOW! What an amazing start to the term. The children in Kandinsky class have been amazing. They have taken each day within their stride, tackling new asks head on. All children have settled into the year 1 routine extremely well. The children all shown excellent speaking and listening skills during 'getting to know you' and 'what I did over summer' activities. As a class the children discussed school and classroom rules and the children came up with their own classroom rules. They then signed a class contract with their painted finger print, agreeing to always try their best. The children have done some work on the 'Zones of Regulation' to help them identify and label their own emotions and feeling. The children have also been taught about the beauty of mistakes. Mistakes are how we learn is our moto and it is important for children to know this. We have started our reading first class story in English 'Little Red Riding Hood' and for our 'hook' activity, children made character masks. In maths, children have been looking at the comparison of quantities and measures. The children showed excellent communication skills and teamwork as they ordered themselves into height order. I could write a lot more about how fantastic our first week has been! I am extremely proud of each child in Kandinsky this week and I am very excited about the year ahead.

Star of the Week: Dexter

Star Writer: Clara

Star Reader: Mia



Seacole: On Monday it was great to see everyone wearing their P.E kits to school. We were developing our multi skills by throwing and catching different sized balls as well as focussing on counting how many times we could keep the bean bag on the parachute in our houses. We had a great start to our P.E lesson and finished it inside developing our co-ordination with Go Noodle dances remembering our 'chicken wings' for social distancing. In our Literacy this week we have started to read the story of Rapunzel and have been developing our predicting skills by discussing what we think will happen next. We have drawn pictures of what we think Rapunzel looks like and the tower that she has been taken to by the wicked enchantress. In our Fluency we have been making ten using numicom and writing number sentences as part of our morning routine. We are thinking about how many ones are equivalent to ten and using different equipment such as dienes, numicom, money and tens frames to represent this in Maths.

We have been reflecting on our Votes for School question How can you make people happy by giving? We talked about what makes us feel happy and what can we do to make others feel happy too. Practising our Oracy skills we then presented our work in front of the class. In our SMSC lesson we have been discussing the Zones of Regulation and identifying tools we can use to help us move between the zones. We also have designed our own Worry Monsters and have written letters to them. What a fantastic start to the term!

Star of the Week: Kelsey

Star Writer: Malaikha

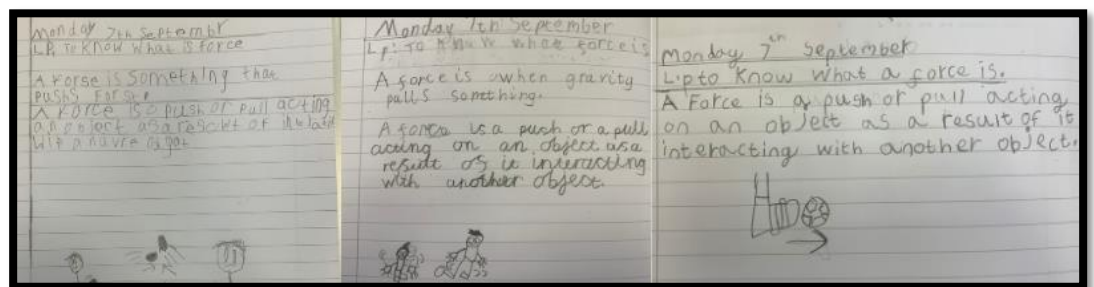
Star Reader: Ruby

Valentina: It has been a brilliant start to the Autumn term in Valentina class. It has been lovely to see the children return to school and to have settled back into a routine so quickly. In English we begun reading The Iron Man, by Ted Hughes. The children are so intrigued to find out what happens next! We have been using this text to identify nouns and adjectives within sentences, whilst thinking about why the author chose to use them. In Maths we have been identifying different ways that one hundred can be composed. So far, we have found out that one hundred can be composed of ones, tens, twenties, twenty-fives and fifties. The children have worked incredibly hard and have been representing these compositions in numerous ways, such as through using part-whole models and bar models. In STEAM we have begun our Maths topic with the question, 'Can I create, carry out an experiment and present my data in a variety of different ways?' We have completed some observational investigations where we looked at the forces required when using different pieces of play equipment and the effects of push and pull forces on different surfaces. It has been a great first week back at school and we are looking forward to seeing what the rest of the term brings. Well done Valentina class!

Star of the Week: Ananya

Star Writer: Jeremiah

Star Reader: Noah



Ramanujan: What a brilliant start to year 4! Well done Ramanujan for settling back into school life so quickly. It is lovely to have you all back and I have been very impressed with your hard work so far. This week we received a mysterious letter from Hogwarts School of Wizardry claiming that there is news of somebody in year 4 with some special abilities and that this person may receive a formal invite to Hogwarts. Whilst we wait to discover more, we have started discussing the purpose of letters and their structure. We have also done some revision on verbs and have practiced identifying and writing verbs in sentences. In our reading lessons we have been focusing on our retrieval questions and defining new vocabulary with our class text 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'. In maths, we have been exploring the different ways that the number 1,000 can be composed of and have been reviewing our 2x table. In STEAM we began by making our own chocolate ice cream in a bag and although it did not quite reach the consistency of ice cream in time, we discussed the science behind it. Later on in the week, we explored the properties of solids and liquids and conducted an experiment to demonstrate how to prove whether a substance was a liquid or not. We also enjoyed our first PE lesson playing various games which helped us develop our fitness levels, control, balance and speed.

Star of the Week: Michelle, Ali and Sami.

Star Writer: Antony

Star Reader: Aimee



DaVinci: I am very impressed by the way in which the children have quickly settled back into school life. It is lovely to see them enter the classroom in the mornings with motivation to learn and engage in every lesson. This week, we have started to read our exciting class story *Brightstorm*, by Vashti Hardy, which we are using in English as a model for suspenseful writing. Our first learning point was to act out the scene to 'feel' the suspense and now we are building up the writing skills we need to do our own piece of suspenseful writing. In maths, we have explored the different ways that numbers up to 1 million can be composed as well as revising what happens to a number when it is multiplied by 10, 100 and 1000. We kicked off our STEAM topic with a (slightly underwhelming) volcanic eruption in the playground. Although we hoped for a bigger eruption, we felt inspired to find a better combination of ingredients for the children's individual working models, which we will start work on in a few weeks. We had fun in PE playing active games to develop our balance, control, reaction times, communication and decision making skills.

Star of the Week: Kelsie

Star Writer: Danny

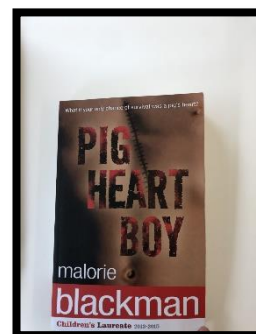
Star Reader: Lusko

Shakespeare: Well done for a fantastic start to Year 6! I have been extremely impressed with how quickly you have settled into the new school year and you have all come back with a brilliant level of focus and motivation. This week, we have started to look at story openings, based on our class novel for the term – *Pig Heart Boy*. We have discussed what makes a good opening and we are now building our skills in order to have a go at writing our own. In maths, we have been looking at numbers up to 10,000,000, thinking carefully about how to break down these numbers and the connections between different powers of 10. We have started our STEAM project by looking at what it means to be a mathematician and thinking about different ways of presenting data.

Star of the Week: Paige

Star Writer: Jasmine

Star Reader: Jesse



Dates for your Diary:

Have a lovely weekend!

Ally Johns and the school team