



## Westleigh Methodist Primary School – Year 2 Autumn Highlights



**With God, all things are possible – Matthew 19:26**

**Love Teamwork Thankfulness Generosity Peace Forgiveness Equality Justice**

What a fantastic Autumn term we have had together learning and growing realising 'With God, all things are possible'.

### English

In English, we have enjoyed exploring two fantastic books. We began the autumn term with George's Marvellous Medicine and we followed instructions to remake his marvellous potion! It was very messy, especially when it began to bubble and fizz! We created our own list of ingredients and wrote instructions to explain how to make our medicines. We created a medical leaflet to explain what our medicine was, how to take it and most importantly, it's crazy side effects! We had lots of fun reading George's Marvellous Medicine and finding out happened to Grandma. We won't spoil the ending for you but we'd definitely recommend it!



In the second half of the autumn term, we began reading The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark. We met Plop who was afraid of the dark, especially when his parents left him to go hunting at night. He visited many different people and animals to find reasons to like the dark. Throughout reading this book, we enjoyed writing many different texts. We particularly enjoyed created a non-chronological report about different nocturnal animals. We researched what they looked like, where they lived and what they ate. We used excellent presentational skills to organise these in our English books.



## Mathematics

In Maths, we have consolidated our knowledge of place value. We explored the place value of two-digit numbers and used a place value chart to represent this. We have also explored how to partition numbers flexibly, how to compare numbers and how to order numbers. All of these skills became transferable when we began practising addition and subtraction strategies. We have focused on adding and subtracting two two-digit numbers and we have used practical, pictorial and abstract methods to do this.

## RE

In the first autumn term, we thought about who we are as an individual and what makes us unique. Inspired by Queen Elizabeth 11, we identified our talents and explored how we could use them to help others. We learnt about the work of The Salvation Army and Banardos, exploring the history of each charity and how they support so many people. We also explored how Sikhs and Muslims show that they care for others within their religions too.

In the second half of the term, we explored different festivals that are celebrated all over the world and in different religions. We learnt about the true meaning of Christmas and retold the bible story which underpins this. We also explored the symbols of Christmas, which Christians display in their houses and churches. We explored the religion of Judaism and how Jewish followers celebrate Chanukah. We listened to and retold the story behind Chanukah. We completed the topic by comparing the similarities and differences between the two festivals.

## Science

In Science, we have explored the topic 'Animals Including Humans'. We began by looking at the meaning 'offspring' and how humans give birth to their own offspring because they are mammals. We enjoyed a 'Guess the Baby' game and matched our teachers to their children based on their similarities. We progressed to exploring the human life cycle and we ordered our teacher's life cycle. We didn't have a picture for elderly though, I wonder why? We looked at the offspring of animals and how these have different names. We also ordered the life cycle of a butterfly and frog.

We explored the basic needs of humans and animals and how these are necessary to survive. We explored the food pyramid and learnt that we need certain amounts of different foods to stay healthy. This is why you can't have too many sweets! We analysed Marcus Rashford's food diary and identified all the unhealthy elements of it. Did you know he enjoys a Big Mac?!

## History

In History, our topic has been 'Down the Pits'. We explored the Industrial Revolution and how the pits were needed to fuel the factories and mass production of materials. We explored what coal is and how it is formed underground. We enjoyed using an old map to locate local pits in Leigh, Astley and Howe Bridge. It was amazing to think that some of our relatives probably worked down the pits! We explored the typical jobs that people had down the pits, even children! We ended the topic by exploring how Margaret Thatcher closed the pits because it was such a dangerous job.

## Art and Design

In Art, we have studied the work of Peter Randall-Page. He is a sculpture artist who creates pieces based on the natural environment. We expressed our likes and dislikes about his natural sculptures. We took inspiration from his work and decided to create our own poppies using clay. We explored how to squash, press and roll clay and how to use a range of tools to add specific details. Once these had dried, we added colour using paint. They looked amazing on our Remembrance display!



## Design Technology

After we learnt about how the pits closed, we explored renewable energy and how wind turbines are used to produce energy now. We researched how a windmill operates and we decided to have a go at making our own. We followed a brief and designed a windmill of our own. We then made our windmills using a template, scissors and split pins. Once we had made them, we had fun testing them in front of the fan! We finalised our topic by evaluating our windmills.

