



Westleigh Methodist Primary School

Year 4 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

We have loved reading our two class books this term, 'Escape from Pompeii' and 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. We wrote our own recounts of the story of 'Escape from Pompeii' and then created our own super cinquain and kenning poems about to describe the fiery volcano! We wrote adventure narratives in the style of 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' and wrote diary entries from the main character Lila's point of view. We also enjoyed writing a set of instructions on how to wash Hamlet the elephant. We thought very carefully about how to set out our instructions correctly and used lots of fantastic imperative verbs so the reader could follow our instructions clearly.



Mathematics

In mathematics this term we have focused on place value, addition and subtraction and area. We have enjoyed using maths manipulatives and various concrete resources to help us to understand place value and how to write, order and compare numbers correctly up to 10,000. We have learnt how to use mental and written methods to solve addition and subtraction problems and we have applied our knowledge solve mastery problems. We have also learnt how to find the area of shapes.

RE

Our first RE enquiry for this term was 'Can religious teachings help us decide the best way to live?' For this enquiry, we considered different sets of rules that we follow in life (such as the law and school rules) and discussed the reasons why they are important. We also learnt about the story of Moses and the 10 commandments. Our second RE enquiry was 'How is Christmas celebrated in other cultures?' For this, we learnt all about Christmas traditions in other parts of the world including Australia, Nigeria, China, India and Mexico. We enjoyed



researching about these traditions and customs using the computer and presented our findings in a fact file.

Science



Our first science topic this term was 'Animals including humans'. We learnt about the different types of teeth and the parts of the digestive system. We conducted an experiment to see the effects of different liquids on a tooth-like substance (we used an egg for this because the egg shell contains calcium like our teeth do!). We left the egg in different liquids including Coca-Cola, orange juice, water and coffee for a week and then examined what happened to the egg shell. We were surprised by some of the results! We concluded that the more sugar that was in the liquid, the more damage it did to the egg shell. Our second science topic this term was 'Sound'. For this, we learnt all about

how sound travels to our ears via vibrations. We tested a range of different materials to see which material was the best at insulating sound. We then designed and made our own ear defenders using what we concluded was the most effective material to defend against sound.

Music

We have loved our music sessions with Mr Parr and Mrs Beatty this term. In our sessions with Mr Parr, we learnt how to play the samba drums. We enjoyed learning all about the history of samba music in Brazil, and we built up our skills over the term to play a variety of different rhythms on the samba drums. We loved having the opportunity to share our learning with parents in our showcase performance at the end of term! In our sessions



with Mrs Beatty, we learnt all about pitch. We listened to a range of compositions including different Canadian folk songs and 'Carnival of the Animals' by Camille Saint-Saëns and discussed how the pitch changes within the compositions. We also started to learn how to play the glockenspiel and experimented with changing the pitch on a glockenspiel.

Design Technology



This term we created our own shell structure gift box. We began by evaluating existing examples of shell structures, thinking about their shape, design and use. We then planned our design by deciding who we would make our gift box for and what it's purpose would be. We also thought about the decoration and colours that we would add. We then constructed our gift box by creating a net which formed a cube. We were very proud of our results!

History

This term we have learnt all about the Romans! We began by learning the story of how Rome was founded by Romulus and Remus. We linked our history learning to our geography learning and investigated why Rome was a good location to build a city. We discussed how Rome had excellent travel and trade links due to being near the coast. We learnt about the Roman invasion of Britain and considered the ways in which life in Britain was changed by the invasion. We learnt that the Romans invented lots of things that we still use today including roads and aqueducts and they popularised the use of books and the calendar!

