

Term 2 – Weeks 1-3

Term 2 is here! Lots of learning has been taking place in P.3/4 so far this term. Here is what we have been working on this term so far. Apologies for the late/absent over view. I shall try to get this in weekly for the remainder of the term.

Literacy

We have started our new class novel – The Iron Man. We have enjoyed 3 chapters together and are looking forward to The Iron Man An the Space Being. There are only 5 chapters in this novel. Children have listened well and have given their opinion on different aspects of the story so far. Who is Iron Man? Where might he have come from? Why is he eating all the metal? How might the townsfolk manage the destruction? Children listened carefully to the first chapter and drew a scene, writing a description of what they have drawn.

We have continued to ask questions during Newsround each day. This has been very useful for children to focus on the content and reword what they have heard into a question for someone else to answer. The children will use this skill this term in different ways. We will look at creating questions from text that is read, rather than heard. Some groups will practise this orally, while others will use their reading book to create questions for someone else to answer. This means that children will need to KNOW the answer as well as ask the question!

In writing, we have moved from description to procedure writing. We started last week by writing the instructions to make a sandwich. We discovered that we need certain things in place to make sure our instructions are clear and easy to follow. We have already looked at the form of the verb we need to use for commands. Next, we will look at good examples of instruction writing and use these to improve our writing and create our success criteria.

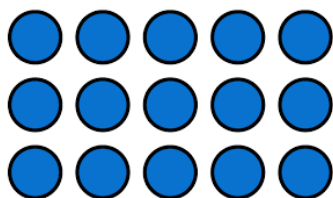
Numeracy

We have worked hard to improve multiplication and division. We have taken part in lots of activities that help us to understand what multiplication really is. We have done some skip-counting and looked at the pattern that this makes on the 100 square. We have skip-counted in groups and as a whole class. We enjoy using songs to help us to remember our number stations – it really helps the numbers stick! Our favourites were counting in 3s to thirty. Use the two links below if you would like to listen to our practice-songs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWxPKnLtnus>

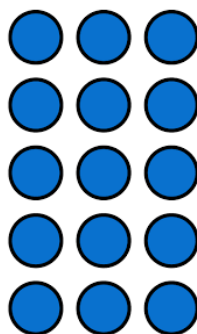
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XzfQUXqiYY>

We looked at how we can lay out an array to help us understand multiplication. We could count each row and each column to check how many in total.



We could see how this array displays 3×5 .

We could view it as $5 + 5 + 5$



We could see how this array displays 5×3 .

We could view it as $3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3$

Viewing arrays really helped the children to 'see' how switchers work.

Some children moved on to look at the link between multiplication and division. They created fact families, each with two multiplication switchers and two division switchers. This group looked at how you might multiply by a

multiple of 10. E.g. $3 \times 9 = 27$ and $9 \times 3 = 27$. So we could also say $30 \times 9 = 270$ and $90 \times 3 = 270$. One person realised that using the same method, 90×30 would be 2700. Some children are really great at applying their number skill!

We were very creative when demonstrating our understanding of multiplication. Some chose to make a game, some made a personalised drawing with the stations of the 3 x table hidden. Some simply wrote a long sequence of 3 x table stations and some wanted to create a chant or a song. We didn't have time that day, but maybe next time!

PE

We started learning some hockey skills this term. We have looked at how to properly hold the hockey stick, how to control the ball with the stick and how to push the ball with the stick instead of whacking it! The children have taken part in some activities to practise these skills.

We have also taken part in dance activities and yoga. This was in class with Ms Clunie and Ms Hamilton. The children love following the organised dances on the SMARTboard and will use some of the moves they see to make up their own dances to perform to each other.

Task board learning

This week we have had lots of activities to choose from. In music, we were challenged to write the rhythm of some names in the class. In science, we were challenged to fill empty jars with different amounts of water to see how the pitch changes when it is empty and when it has water added. Some children tried to match the jar to tuned percussion. In numeracy we were playing a game to practise our times tables. In ICT, we had to copy and paste 3 pictures into a word document and print them out. We were able to guess from the pictures who had made each one. In STEM, the challenge was to create a den from the straws and jacks. This has been particularly popular with the children in class. For art, children had to use only the primary colours to create a rainbow. They needed to use their knowledge of colour mixing and did very well. Harris inspired the Lego challenge this week. He made a few Lego flags so I supplied a visual with flags and some labels and we soon had many more! Other play is still offered in class and children still have opportunities to play freely, however, these tasks are linked to the curriculum and provide more structured challenge.

Topic

This term's topic will be Space. We will be looking at how the light shines from the sun onto the moon at night and how this provides moon'light'. We will look at the changing appearance of the moon and how this is created. Children will also have the chance to research something they are interested in connected to space, to prepare something and show it to their class, presenting their research. This will be given as a homework task on Monday 20th November.

Although reading will be sent home on a Thursday or Friday after it has been done in class, homework will be given out on a Monday until further notice. It will be a worksheet related to learning in maths or literacy.