

Term 2 – Week 4

Literacy

This week in writing, we looked at good examples of instruction writing. We read them together in groups and looked at how instruction writing is different from story writing. We used post-its to record the features of instruction writing so we could include them in our instructions. Ms Clunie demonstrated making toast and described what she was doing so the children could start thinking about their instructions and what steps would need to be included. Children then wrote their own set of instructions, making sure to include some of the important features. On Friday, children used an assessment grid to identify which features they had included and which were missing. The children then made toast using their instructions. This really helped them to identify missing steps or steps out of order. Ms Clunie was on hand to give feedback and to help children know what they needed to do to improve. Next week, we will use netbooks to re-draft children's writing and make changes if needed. There was no-one who didn't need to make any changes. We discussed how this is an important part of the writing process.

Numeracy

This week we have started developing our understanding of fractions. Children know that to split a whole into fractions, we need to split ALL of the whole into EQUAL parts. We have spent time looking at diagrams, deciding if it shows even fractions or uneven parts. We have looked at the recording of fractions and what the numerator and denominator really means. We described the denominator as the TOTAL number of even parts, and the numerator as the number of parts you have, or number of parts shaded. In $\frac{1}{2}$ there are two equal parts in the whole thing and each $\frac{1}{2}$ is one part of the whole. We have looked at splitting collections of objects into halves, quarters, thirds or fifths and how, the more parts you split something into, the smaller the part will be. Next steps will be to order simple fractions by size and look at the fractions created when you split the same size object into different fractions. Some of us have been finding fractions of quantities by using our knowledge of division. Some children will do this next week using concrete materials to help them understand the concept of fractions.

PE

This week we have continued learning in hockey. We used beanbags to play a game in the hall. Some children had to aim and throw their beanbag into the diamond, the two hockey players had to defend their area by 'sweeping' the beanbags out again! Everyone got a turn at being the 'sweepers'! Next week we will try using the push pass outdoors with large and small balls – weather permitting, of course!

Topic

We have discussed what we need to learn in our new topic, space, and things that we know already. One thing we have not done is research a personal interest connected with space and present information found to our class. This will be given as a homework task, with instructions, on Monday.

Children are looking forward to building a model to show how the moon orbits the earth. One learner described clearly how there is one side of the moon that we never see and one side that we see all the time. We will build on this and also look at the changing appearance of the moon as we see it from Earth. We will also refamiliarise ourselves with the names of the planets in our solar system. Although this has been covered, I think we need a re-cap!

French – This week we shared a French story and children listened out for specific vocabulary. The Story was La Chenille Qui Fait Des Trous. It is a well known and well loved story, but the name has a different meaning from its name in English. Ask your child to explain!

Play 31 will end this Friday! The children are excited to be able to have the Playground Leaders teach them some games. Playground leaders from P.4 will be leading games during break time, for anyone who wants to join in.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!