WHISTON WILLIS
PRIMARY ACADEMY
WADE DEACON TRUST

Jaguar Class Newsletter

25.09.26

Welcome back

Welcome to Week 4 in Jaguars!

We cannot believe how quickly the first four weeks of Year 1 have flown by! The children have settled brilliantly into our classroom routines, and we are so proud of the positive attitudes, enthusiasm and effort they show every day. They have been working incredibly hard in their learning, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence continue to grow.

In Geography, the children have been thoroughly enjoying learning about the **7 continents and 5 oceans**. They have shown great curiosity about the world around them and have been applying their knowledge during activities in our areas of learning, identifying continents, oceans and different places across the globe.

In Science, we have been exploring the **4 seasons**, discussing how the weather and environment change throughout the year. The children have enjoyed applying this learning in their play and independent activities, talking about seasonal changes and making links to their own experiences.

Throughout the school day, we continue to encourage and celebrate our three important school values: **Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe.** The children are doing an excellent job of demonstrating these values both in the classroom and around the school, and we are very proud of how well they represent our Jaguar class. We look forward to seeing all the fantastic progress they continue to make this year! 🐆✨

English

This half term, we have been enjoying reading *The Bumblebear* in our English lessons. The children have thoroughly enjoyed listening to the story and exploring the characters and events. Through our learning, we have been developing our speaking and listening skills, making predictions, answering questions about the text and retelling parts of the story.

The children have shown great enthusiasm and creativity when discussing *The Bumblebear* and have produced fantastic ideas both orally and in their writing. It has been wonderful to see their growing confidence and love of reading as they engage with the story. The children have even applied their learning within the areas of learning around the classroom, including creating fact booklets about bees and bears and using their knowledge from the story to inspire their independent writing and creative activities. We have been incredibly impressed with their imagination and the high-quality work they have produced.

Maths

In Maths, we have been learning to compare and order amounts and numbers, as well as understanding greater than, less than and equal to. The children have been developing their confidence in identifying which groups have more or fewer objects and using mathematical language to explain their thinking. We have enjoyed using practical resources, games and hands-on activities to help us compare quantities, order numbers correctly and build a secure understanding of number relationships. It has been fantastic to see the children applying these skills independently during their maths lessons and within the areas of learning around the classroom.

Science

In Science, we have been learning about the four seasons and exploring how the weather changes throughout the year. The children have also been learning the months of the year and discussing which season each month belongs to. We have enjoyed talking about different types of weather and identifying the seasonal changes we might see in our environment. The children have been enthusiastic when sharing their own experiences of different seasons and making links between the weather and the time of year.

Geography

Our Geography topic this half term has been learning about the 7 continents and 5 oceans. The children have worked incredibly hard to name and locate them on maps and globes. They have really impressed us with how quickly they have learned the continents and oceans, especially through learning and performing a catchy song to help them remember them. It has been wonderful to see the children confidently recalling their knowledge and applying it during activities in the classroom and our areas of learning.

History
In History, we have been learning about the past and how things change over time. The children have enjoyed exploring chronology by thinking about important events in their own lives and have created and sequenced their own personal timelines. They have worked hard to place events in the correct order, from when they were babies to the present day, helping them to develop an understanding of the past and how they have grown and changed. We have been very impressed with the children's ability to talk about and order significant moments in their lives using language such as *before*, *after*, *then* and *now*.

PSHE
In PSHE, we have been learning about ways to keep ourselves safe in the classroom and around school. We have also been exploring our rights and responsibilities as members of our school community and discussing how our actions can help to create a positive and safe environment for everyone. The children have enjoyed sharing their ideas about how they can be responsible, respectful and safe, and have demonstrated a growing understanding of how to make good choices both in the classroom and throughout the school day.

Computing
In Computing, the children have been learning how to log into their Purple Mash accounts independently and how to save and retrieve their work. They have shown great perseverance as they become more confident using technology and navigating different programs. The children have also been exploring digital art, using the iPads to create their own colourful and creative artwork.

Art
In Art, the children have been exploring a range of drawing tools and techniques. They have been experimenting with different materials, including pencils, charcoal, chalk and pastels, and learning how each tool can create different marks and textures. The children have also been developing their drawing skills by changing the pressure and direction of their marks to achieve different effects.

Music
In Music, we have completed the "Hey You!" unit and have been learning all about finding and keeping the pulse in music. The children have enjoyed listening to different songs, moving to the beat and identifying the steady pulse. They have shown great enthusiasm during singing and musical activities and have become increasingly confident in recognising and following the pulse through clapping, tapping and movement. It has been wonderful to see the children developing their musical skills while having lots of fun.

PE
In PE, the children have been developing their balance and coordination skills through gymnastics. They have enjoyed exploring different ways of moving, balancing and travelling safely, showing increasing confidence and control in their movements. In dance, the children have been using a range of actions, movements and facial expressions to create performances to music. We have been impressed with their creativity, enthusiasm and ability to work together to perform different sequences and express ideas through movement.

News

Daily Reading at home
Please spend 10 minutes reading with your child, and record this in their reading records as this helps them to become confident and fluent readers who can move through the Read, Write Inc scheme. Please speak to staff in class if you require any further support with your child's reading.

Uniform
Please ensure your child's uniform is labelled clearly with their name. This will really support staff in returning any lost uniform.

Food donations

We are collecting food donations for our local food bank. Any food packets, tins etc would be greatly appreciated. Please could these be sent to the main office or to the class teacher.

Healthy eating
As we are a healthy eating school, a gentle reminder to please provide your child with healthy choices for their snack/ lunch options e.g. fruit, veggie sticks and cereal bars etc.

Birthdays
We kindly ask that if you wish to celebrate your child's birthday at school, please send only small individually wrapped sweets/ chocolate instead of a birthday cake. This helps us keep celebrations simple and fair for all children.

Water Bottles
Please ensure your child has a water bottle with them in school each day.

PE
Year 1 PE days are on **Wednesday** and **Friday**, please ensure your child arrives to school in their PE kits on these days**.**

Thank you for your continued support,
Miss Barker