

Year 3



Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the highlights of this week have been our fun performance poetry workshops with Cath Howe, who is a published author and who has been working with children at Fern Hill from time to time over many years. The children were very enthusiastic and many were inspired to challenge themselves to take part in our own Year 3 'Fern Speak' performance session coming up in a couple of weeks. If your child has brought home a poem, please support them in learning it 'off by heart'. Cath is coming back next week to give some further coaching in how to perform a poem to an audience.

English

In English, we have practised and consolidated our skills in using correct speech punctuation (remembering to always start a *new line* for a *new speaker!*). We have experimented with placing the reporting clause in different positions in the sentence and have noted how this alters the choice of punctuation. Immersing ourselves further in *The Song of the Dolphin Boy*, we have spent some time responding to this exciting story, discussing words and phrases that capture our imagination. Next week, we will start our work towards producing an information leaflet regarding the problem of plastic pollution in the oceans.

Maths

We have come to the end of our fractions unit this week. We ended the topic by adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. We secured our understanding of the generalisation 'If the denominators are the same, we add/subtract the numerators'. We deepened our knowledge by solving calculations such as $1 - \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{6}$. We know that 1 whole written as a fraction is when the numerator and denominator are the same, therefore we could solve this as $\frac{6}{6} - \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{6}$.

Foundation Subjects

Our geography this week, we delved into the ocean environment. We looked at the different layers of the ocean and could name all the zones. We also looked at which sealife animals lived in each layer and why. We are drawing nearer to the end of our topic in Science on Animals incl. Humans and all classes have now learnt of how skeletal muscles work in pairs, taking turns to contract (get shorter) and relax (become longer) to *pull* on bones, enabling movement.

Notices & Reminders

An overview of the topics we will be covering in RSE (part of our PSHE curriculum) this term will be posted in the Google Classroom this evening. Next week, our lesson is entitled *Body Space*.

Diamond Work Award

In the week before half-term, we were particularly impressed with the efforts of:

Sarah and Yicheng (Beech)

Rei-Green and Shano (Elm)

Marley and Mia (Rowan)