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17th February 2022

We have had an interesting half term with lots going on. The children are ready for a break now, as are the staff who have worked hard and with great enthusiasm.

This week we began with some work to follow up on our exciting STEM Day last week. The children carried out the rest of the ice isolation experiment to see which layers would help keep an animal warm the longest – mimicking blubber, fur, feathers and skin.



We also expanded our work into the creative arts through making some wonderful clay creatures to live in the habitats the children had made.

We also welcomed Jaswinder into school to talk to us about Sikhism, how people show they belong to Sikhism and information about his culture, beliefs and his daily life. He also brought some instruments along (a dilruba and harmonium) which he uses to help with meditation. He explained the importance of music and singing to Sikh worship. He kindly allowed the children to have a go on the harmonium too. If you would like to hear what it sounds like we have short videos on our website along with plenty of photos as usual! You can find the page here: [https://www.lowickholysislandschools.org.uk/website/jaswinder visited us to talk about sikhism/596561](https://www.lowickholysislandschools.org.uk/website/jaswinder%20visited%20us%20to%20talk%20about%20sikhism/596561)



Sporting events coming up

We are looking forward to several different sporting events over the rest of this year.

We will be having special events for hula-hooping and Zumba, skateboarding, skipping (including a skipping festival with other first schools), cricket festival for rural schools and beach cricket and also curling!

We will let you know nearer the time the dates for all of these events in the upcoming weeks.

In PE lessons we will be learning about ball skills, cricket and rugby with sports coaches coming into school. We will also be continuing with Commando Joe's which is working very well in helping the children learn about RESPECT (resilience, excellence, self-esteem, passion, empathy, communication and team-work).



Welcome to new staff

We look forward to welcoming Olive Fortune as our new school cook in the new half term. We will be continuing to get meals from Prior Park First School at least for the first week or two to give her time to settle in and receive training. We hope she will enjoy working with us and creating delicious dinners for us all.

Miss Hay is increasing her hours now that Mrs Edmison is leaving and we are recruiting a new TA to begin in the next half term. We will let you know the details when we are back after half term. Before and after school child care will be available the first week back and ongoing as usual.

Goodbye and good luck!

This week we say goodbye to Julie Edmison, who has worked at the school for a long time. We wish her all the very best for the future and hope we still get to see her regularly as a friend of the school. We had a small get together on Thursday afternoon to give everyone a chance to share memories, say a proper goodbye and present her with her card, cake and presents.



Spellings

Year 1—ar, ee, er and ee

Eg car, garden, tree

Year 2—The ee sound spelt ey

Eg monkey, key, donkey

Year 3—Homophones

Eg rain/rein/reign, accept/except, affect/effect

Year 4—Suffix revision —ation

Eg—information, sensation, admiration

Dates to remember:

Next week is our half term holiday and school is closed.

We will be back again on Monday 28th February.

Thursday 3rd March is World Book Day. Children will be allowed to dress up as their favourite book character or just wear their own clothes if dressing up is not for them. Miss Easten is planning a book fair for that day also.

Pippa will be back to do Forest School afternoons on alternative Fridays next half term: children will need suitable outdoor clothing for Fridays **11th March, 25th March and 8th April.**

