



Woolpit Primary Academy

NURTURE • RESILIENCE • INSPIRATION • RESPECT

We have been consistently working hard at embedding our school values. Here are some of the examples of the things we have been doing to demonstrate them:

NURTURE:

We are always heavily focussing on **Nurture** throughout the school. PATHs lessons have continued to support all of our children with building emotional resilience by giving them strategies and coping mechanisms for dealing with uncomfortable feelings. Children are supporting each other with this all of the time.

RESILIENCE:

We have had a whole half term back in school, with no bubbles and having many times throughout the school day where we are together as a whole school community again. This has been a wonderful experience but at times has needed some resilience as we find a way to manage some situations together.

The expectations in our curriculum have been high and we have been discussing some really challenging topics around 'Human Rights' throughout history. Children have been able to reflect really well and debate coherently their views and ideas around how resilient some of the characters we are studying were.

INSPIRATION:

Throughout out 'Human Rights' learning in class and in assemblies, children have learnt about some really inspirational characters and been able to explain why they inspire them. It has been Black History month this month and we have celebrated people such as Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and how they were resilient and brave to change the rights for many people.

RESPECT:

We have been looking at respect on a wider scale and not just how we show respect to each in school; how this has changed for many people throughout history. One of the human rights we have all been focussing on has been equality and freedom and how this does not show good respect.

Dates for your diary

Monday 1st November– Back to school
Wednesday 3rd November– KS2 sports club starts
Friday 5th November– Flu Vaccinations

Monday 13th December– Church Event
Wednesday 15th December– Hedgehog and Bumblebee Nativity
Friday 17th December– Last day term

Wednesday 5th January 2022– 1st day back at school

THESE WILL ALL DEPEND ON THE RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE

SCC are advising that the following measures be implemented from Monday 1 November 2021:

Staff in education settings (specialist, primary, secondary, further and higher education) to wear face coverings in communal areas outside of the classroom, unless exempt for medical reasons.

Specialist, primary, secondary, further and higher education settings to restrict entry to their site to essential visitors only. Essential visitors would be those from Health, Social Care and Specialist Education teams delivering direct support to children and young people and visits focussed on safeguarding. It is important that these activities continue.

Any visitors to wear a face covering while on-site, this includes adults collecting children in the playground.

These measures will be reviewed during the week commencing Monday 15 November 2021.

We also strongly recommend that all staff and students test before returning to schools and settings after half term.

Please be aware that new restrictions are in place after half term. A letter was sent to all parents outlining these on the 21.10.2021.

Residential visit

In September, some of the year 5 and 6 children went on a residential visit to Bawdsey Manor. Here are some of the photos to show you some of the exciting things we did.



Hedgehog Class

Hedgehogs and Squirrels have been incredibly busy in their learning time. Our Power Of Reading story, 'On Sudden Hill' has really caught our interest and we have been engaged in making our own cardboard box designs following the story. We have linked this to our writing and have written instructions, as well as creating a design for our creations on the computers. Following this, Squirrels have taken on the role of one of the characters and have been writing in role to their friends. Hedgehogs have completed their first piece of writing in the form of a letter as well. We have been incredibly proud of how well our new Hedgehogs have settled into school; adjusted to their routine and learnt their phonics so far.

In Maths we have been focussing on 2D and 3D shapes in Hedgehogs and spotting our 2D shapes within the faces of our 3D shapes. In Squirrels we have been using Part-Whole models to explore how multiple parts can make up a whole. Our mental manipulation of number is really coming along! We are now using this information within work on 'addition'. In our 'Human Rights' topic, we have been discovering how rights have changed for people over the years. We have been finding out about some of the rights we have as humans; and have linked this to Science work about what living things are.

In PE, we have been working on indoor units for Gymnastics; creating short sequences of work involving balances, high and low. Our PATHs learning has reintroduced us to our 4 animal characters. Our Squirrels have been showing Hedgehogs how to discuss our feelings and identify them; whilst knowing that all feelings are OK. What a busy half term!!

Bumblebee Class

What a great start to the new school year we have had! The class have settled in brilliantly and have produced some fantastic work in all subjects.

We started the term concentrating on our science skills and observing the life cycle of caterpillars/butterflies. We were amazed at how big the caterpillars got and then had to wait very patiently for the metamorphosis to happen whilst they were chrysalis'. We set the butterflies free and we hope that they were able to start the life cycle all again.

We have since moved onto our new overarching theme 'Human Rights' and in Bumblebee class we are concentrating on looking at democracy and it's importance. The class have been shocked to learn about the inequalities in voting throughout History and are confused as to why only certain groups of people were allowed to vote. We will, after half term, be concentrating on our significant person Emmeline Pankhurst, and how she helped change equality in democracy.

In English, we are carrying on our theme of equality and Human Rights by looking at a retelling of Rapunzel. The children are enjoying writing about Rapunzel's determination, resilience and courageous spirit. Hopefully, her spirit will inspire all of our children to have these attributes too.

Nightingale Class

Nightingales have had a busy half term and have really enjoyed getting immersed in our human rights topic. We have explored the Windrush through our Power of Reading text 'Coming to England'. This has led to some incredibly detailed information texts and beautifully descriptive letters.

In our art lessons, we have been studying the work of Paul Gauguin and how the impressionist was inspired by tropical landscapes. We then looked at the beautiful Suffolk landscapes and created our own paintings in this style.

We have also been challenging ourselves with lots of place value work in maths and it has been really wonderful watching the children build resilience and determination when faced with tricky problems.

Fox Class

It has been a great half term in Fox Class, I have loved getting to know the children and they have settled into year 4 fantastically. We have enjoyed reading the book Jemmy Button by Jennifer Uman and Velerio Vidali. This is the true story of a young boy from Tierra Del Fuego who was brought to London in Victorian times with the aim of making him a civilised gentleman. The book has inspired some really deep thinking and discussion. It has been interesting seeing how the children's attitude has changed over the half term, from universally agreeing that a move to London would be the best thing for Jemmy Button, to doubt over whether this was actually morally or ethically correct. The book has tied in with our overarching topic of Human Rights. We have also looked at the role of children in Victorian Times. Again, opinions changed quickly from thinking that some Victorian children were lucky to not attend school to horror at some of the jobs they had to endure!

The class have worked hard and impressed me everyday with their bright and sparky ideas. Wishing them all a well earned rest and a happy half term.

Owl Class

Owl class has been working very hard getting used to new routines and responsibilities of year 6. Many children from Owl class have been supporting younger children at lunchtime play as Bees Buddies- organising and overseeing playtime games: they have been doing a great job. In class, the children have been becoming very involved with the biography of Floella Benjamin and her family's move to the UK in the 1960s. This links with our topic based on human rights, learning specifically about the slave trade, and the wind rush.

One of the most important and fun aspects of this half term was the residential trip to Bawdsey Manor. The children were all amazing and behaved fantastically: something which was commented on by one of the group leaders. Many of the children achieved something they didn't think they could.

Earlier in the term, we visited Thurston Community College with a group of other feeder schools. This was part of the transition programme Thurston put together and although this year we weren't able to mix with the other year 6 groups the children took part in a range of team activities and sports challenges.

Other News

Staffing:

We are really happy to welcome Mrs Platt-Nolan back to Woolpit. She is working on interventions and covering classes as an HLTA.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Ms Wilde and Ms Wright. They are moving onto other career choices and wish them the best of luck. We hope that they come back to visit us.