

# d'Auvergne Weekly Update

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## Head Teacher's Comments

We have had a very busy final week of the half-term, in-class and out.

On Tuesday, we went on a Bear Hunt – I am sure you've heard all about it!

On Thursday, all the Island's Head Teachers and senior colleagues from the Education Department and wider Government Departments visited us for the afternoon. They genuinely could not have been any more complimentary about the School Ambassadors who looked after them. Well done, and thank you, to **Kaya, Elsie, Leighton, Liliana, Victor, Noah, Cooper, Eva** from Year 6. You did yourselves, and d'Auvergne, proud.

Ending the day yesterday was another very successful PTA disco. This Valentine's event was a triumph, with everyone thoroughly enjoying the night. My thanks to all involved in volunteering to provide the opportunity for the children.

## World Book Day

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, we shall be celebrating World Book Day. Whilst any book-related costumes are welcomed, we are focussing on the many characters created by **Julia Donaldson** this year.

Julia Donaldson has written very many children's classics, including Stick Man, The Gruffalo, The Snail and the Whale, The Highway Rat, What the Ladybird Heard, A Squash and a Squeeze, The Smartest Giant in Town, Room on The Broom, The Paper Dolls, Charlie Cook's Favourite Book – to name just a few.

Reception and Key Stage 1 have been enjoying many of these over the last few weeks, they are likely to have some characters in mind!

Have a great half-term everyone. Please consider a trip to the Town Library – keep the children reading!

Kind regards,

Mr Cooper

## Year Group Updates

### Futures

Half Term break already!

We have thoroughly enjoyed our chilly Winter topic over the last six weeks. We have explored (amongst other things), polar animals, all things icy, the weather, winter activities and winter clothing. However, we are now ready to move on and hopefully warm-up a little!

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Our topic for the second half of this term is animals. We will split the topic into two halves – pets and wild animals. The final two weeks of term will be given over to Easter activities.

As part of our PSHE sessions we are going to be looking at how baby animals grow into adult animals. It would be lovely if you could email us some photos of your child as a baby so we can look at how we've grown.

Finally, we enjoyed taking part in the Bear Hunt on Tuesday afternoon. Some of our children chose to join the rest of the school down in the woods and for those who preferred not to we created our own Bear Hunt around the grounds of the school. Lots of fun was had by all!

Have a great half term break

The Futures Team

### **Nursery**

Well, that's a wrap! 6 chilly, wet and slightly wild weeks ticked off for your little super stars. I feel that the entire team (kids and adults!) has been pushed to the limit with both weather and illness this term, but we have come through smiling and are looking forward to Spring 2 and the next layer of getting the children Reception Ready. It has been a super successful first half of the year and the reason for this I firmly believe is the superb support we have from home. All the adults who drop off and pick up are always so positive and it genuinely makes us feel super supported in maximising our year with your learners. **Thank you.**

It is worth taking a minute to celebrate the first 6 ReadWriteInc sounds that have been digested in Spring 1: **m a s d t & i**. This week we have celebrated i-i-insects and I have had 2 special pals helping to learn this bouncy sound. I will send home some photocopies of the sounds we have covered and moving forward will be popping a sheet in the lunchboxes every week or two. This is not homework! However, it is aimed at keeping you informed at home as to what we are learning and if your child can say the sound or picture and begin to notice the phonics within words then this is fabulous preparation for September. The mark making element could also be a fabulous extension. As always if there are any questions – please let me know.

Finally, we have a **partnership** at d'Auvergne called *Every Child Our Future*. It is a working partnership that delivers *Story Starters*, a volunteer-led programme that promotes a love of reading while supporting early communication and language development. Trained

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volunteers work within the nursery setting, sharing stories one-to-one with children to encourage enjoyment of books from an early age.

As part of the programme, families will also be supported through a **lending library**, making it easier to share books at home, read together, and continue enjoying stories beyond the nursery day. This will get up and running after Half Term.

Have a lovely week off with lots of adventures and plenty of **rest** (!) with your awesome children. We will be recharging our batteries and ready to attack the Spring!

Take care,

Mr du Feu & Team

### **Reception**

This week we enjoyed our final celebrations of Chinese New Year. The children have had a wonderful time learning about the festival and how it is celebrated around the world. We made colourful lanterns and festive hats, created beautiful themed artwork and even enjoyed a special Chinese feast! We also read *'The Magic Paintbrush'* and painted a special picture for a friend.

In Maths, we have been exploring part whole numbers from 6 to 10. The children have been working hard to understand how numbers can be broken down into smaller parts and put back together again.

We also joined the whole school for an exciting *'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'* adventure! The children loved walking with Year 6, and we even found a friendly d'Auvergne bear on our travels.

Outdoor learning has continued in all types of weather. We've been jumping in puddles, building dens, and cooking up delicious imaginary feasts in our mud kitchen. The children have shown fantastic teamwork, creativity and resilience while exploring outside. If your child doesn't have a puddle suit or wellies in school, please can they be brought in for after half term so the children can make the most of all the provision.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely half term 😊

Mrs Rachel Lutkin-Clarke and Mrs Susie Wilkinson (The Reception Dream Team)

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## **Year 1**

Update to follow.

## **Year 2**

We have had another fantastic week of learning in Year 2!

In **Literacy**, we have continued to develop our instruction writing skills. The children have been working hard to ensure their instructions are written in chronological order, using time connectives, verbs and adverbs. We have even challenged ourselves to include some exciting adjectives to make our instructions more detailed and engaging. As a result, the children are now experts at explaining how to use a trebuchet (a medieval type of catapult)!

In **Maths**, we have been learning how to read and create pictograms. The children thoroughly enjoyed conducting their own class surveys about favourite fruits, drinks, sports and more. They created their own tables and pictograms and confidently interpreted the data, identifying which categories had the highest and lowest totals.

In **Science**, our focus has been on how to keep ourselves fit and healthy. We discussed the importance of eating healthy foods and taking part in regular exercise. The children then designed their own healthy food plates, drawing and labelling their favourite nutritious foods.

This week, we also took part in **Internet Safety Day**. The children watched a BBC Bitesize video about staying safe online and completed a class quiz. They demonstrated a good understanding of how to stay safe online and know what to do if they see something that makes them feel sad, scared or uncomfortable. Please continue to have conversations at home about staying safe online.

In **RE**, we explored two more of the Five Pillars of Islam. We learned about **Zakat**, the belief in giving to charity once a year to help those in need, and **Sawm**, which refers to fasting during Ramadan. The children reflected thoughtfully on different ways they can help others in their own communities.

### **Reminders:**

Please continue to read with your children daily and record this in their homework diaries. Homework diaries should be brought into school every day, as they are used regularly.

Well done to all of Year 2 for another brilliant week of learning.

Have a lovely half term!

Miss Aubert and Miss Crocker.

## **Year 3**

This week brings us to the halfway point in the year! We thoroughly enjoyed our Bear Hunt in the woods on Tuesday too.

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In writing we had a last practice of the skills before we then complete our independent writes based on the story Escape from Pompeii. We can't wait to compare these to the diary entries we wrote in January to see how much we have improved and how successfully we have used the skills we have been taught. Next half term the focus of our writing will be around poetry and will be linked to a portal story called Elf Road by Pie Corbett and the poem The Magic Box by Kit Wright. The aim is that we will learn the skills to be able to write our own poems about a place that you can find through a special door.

We have been very impressed with the children's commitment to learning their spellings this half term and hope that this is something that we can build when return from the Half Term break.

We continue to read a variety of texts for pleasure, the children are definitely enjoying being exposed to different text types, especially when they are invited to ring in the book of the week on a Friday. Next time our teaching focus will be on applying the skills of retrieval, inference and exploring vocabulary to non-fiction texts about natural disasters and volcanoes.

In maths we are using and applying our number skills (addition, subtraction, division and multiplication) whilst exploring measurement using different units including cm, m, km g, kg and ml, l. Again, we have definitely seen progress in the children's arithmetic, especially in their weekly tests, where they are spending more time thinking about which operation they are being asked to use and checking that their answers are reasonable. We hope that your child is sharing their weekly score with you and that they have the opportunity to practice the questions they get wrong. Please ensure that their tests are returned to school once they have tackled these questions. Next half term the children will be focusing on really understanding the division facts for the 4 time tables whilst still practicing the 2,5,10,3 and 4 times tables.

In Makerspace, the children have completed their Stop Motion animations and have added the finishing touches to them using iMovie. We hope that we will have the opportunity to use the skills that we have learnt in other areas of our learning before the end of the year. Whilst we are on the topic of computing, the children have also been working on creating posters about keeping themselves online. We have saved these on their laptops and so they should be able to share them with you at home.

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Please remember that Library day is on Friday for both classes. There are still a few children that are not returning their books which means that they are not able to select a new book to read for pleasure. If they are reading slightly longer books, then they can be renewed.

And finally... on the 13<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating International Mother languages Day. Our focus will be on the continent of Africa and the wonderful countries within it. If you have any photos, artefacts or stories that you are happy to share, please could you let us know as we would love to have the children involved as much as possible in this day.

Thank you for all of your support this half term, we hope that you have a lovely time with your children over Half Term.

Mrs Davies and Miss Bolton

#### **Year 4**

This week in our whole school assembly we went on an exciting bear hunt! We all gathered in the hall to listen to the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen, and we then set off for the woods next to the Badminton Hall, led by Mr Cooper. After making our way through the woods, we found a bear hiding at the bottom who gave us all a big wave before we headed back to school.

This has marked the final week of our swimming lessons and we would like to extend a big thank you to those parents who were able to come and help. The children have all hugely progressed with their swimming technique and ability, and should all be very proud of themselves.

We are continuing to enjoy our topic of the Vikings, and we will be continuing with this after half term. We are on the edge of our seats to find out what happens next in Viking Boy! In Writing, we have continued to use the story of Beowulf as inspiration for our own story writing.

In RE we learnt about Diwali and created our own rangoli patterns, and in Science we have been learning about classifying animals.

In Maths, we are continuing to learn how to divide a single-digit number by a two-digit number. Please see attached this week's practise sheet.

Please note that next term PE will be on a Monday and Wednesday for 4AB, and on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 4H.

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Please also note that cello lessons will be continuing after half term for 4H, so please ensure that cellos are brought back to school every Thursday.

### **Dates for the diary**

World Book Day is 5th March.

4H parents will be invited into school on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm for a cello concert. More details to follow.

The next parent drop-in session is planned for 26<sup>th</sup> March, more details to follow.

### **Reminders**

-PE is on a Monday and Wednesday for 4AB, and a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 4H.

-Please ensure laptops come into school each day and are fully charged at home.

-Your child will need to be signed up to Year 4 Google Classroom, as we be using this platform to support learning. Logins are in planners.

-Please ensure your child reads as often as possible, and planners are signed. As mentioned in our Meet the Teacher, Bug Club, TTRockstars and Spelling Shed are also available as additional extras.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs AB & Mrs Hyde

### **Year 5**

This week in Maker Space, the children created Lego robots designed to travel into space and collect samples. Using Lego WeDo on the iPads, they coded and controlled their robots, developing accuracy and problem-solving skills as they navigated unknown terrain and collected items.

We have now come to the end of our French experience sessions. The children have been fantastic and have learnt a great deal. They can now hold short conversations in French, including asking and answering questions about their names, spelling them out in French, favourite subjects, pets, and family members. After the Easter holidays, they will continue their French learning with Madame Kruk, with a one-hour lesson each week during the summer term.

In RE, the children have continued exploring the religion of Islam and have begun creating a class floor book to record their learning and reflections. One of the ways they are reflecting is by thinking about what different religions do and how these practices might influence our own lives - for example, how we show respect, kindness, or mindfulness. This does not mean

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we belong to that religion; rather, it helps us understand different perspectives and think about how we treat others.

In maths, we have started our Fractions chapter. We have focused on understanding that the denominator tells us how many equal parts something is divided into, and the numerator tells us how many of those parts we have. For example:

- In  $\frac{2}{3}$ , a cake cut into 3 equal pieces gives us thirds, and having 2 of those pieces means we have two thirds.
- For two thirds of 27, we divide 27 into 3 equal parts (9), and take 2 of those parts, giving us 18.

Over the holidays, please continue supporting your children to think about fractions and what numerators and denominators represent in real contexts.

Bikeability will take place during the first week back after half term.

- **5F** will complete their Level 1 session on **Friday**.
- On **Monday**, we will run a **Learn to Ride** session for any Year 5 children who are still developing the skills needed for Level 1.

Letters for this have already been sent out. Please note: children will not be able to take part if the online form has not been completed (Most of 5M and 5B have already completed their level 1 sessions.)

We hope you have a wonderful half term break. Please continue reading regularly – sharing books and the love of reading is one of the best ways to support your child’s learning.

## **Year 6**

In Year 6 this week, the children have continued to show a fantastic attitude to their learning after their ‘KS2 Assessment week’ practice. In Reading, we have continued to dive into our class book, ‘Pig Heart Boy’, and the children have been looking at how Cam’s life is unfolding after his risky operation. In Maths, we have continued with decimals and have looked at converting a range of fractions into decimals using their understanding of both as well as their column multiplication skills. In Writing, we have been focussing on the children’s SPAG knowledge. We have spent a couple of sessions going through the GAPS paper they completed last week, focussing on a range of different question types and how to answer these. We will be continuing to go through similar styles of questions throughout the coming weeks. The children have also started a ‘Revision book’ this week, which they will be using to record and use as we approach the assessments in May.

We have also done another Science Investigation this week, looking at fingerprints and how these are individual to every person on earth. The children have used magnifiers to identify their own fingerprint type. We then shared these with the class and could see which type was the most common for each of the classes. We had our final Gymnastics session this week where the children were able to perform their routines to the class and were given

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some brilliant feedback and praise on their hard work. In Art, we have been looking at colour wheels and using whites and greys to tint and tone a range of different colours. The children will be using these skills to paint an anatomical heart next half term.

A few gentle reminders:

- Our PE days will be **Monday and Wednesday** next term. The children will have a Dance session on Monday with Dragos from Jersey Sport and their regular PE slot with Rob on Wednesday.
- Laptops need to be brought in to school every day fully charged.

Home Learning:

- Reading: Daily for 20 minutes.
- Arithmetic Practice daily for 10 minutes (Google Classroom for supportive videos).
- Daily Spelling practice

Achievers

The achiever in 6G this week is Elsie. It is such a pleasure to have Elsie in 6G, she could be the achiever every week. Her brilliant attitude to her learning allows her to make fantastic progress in anything she sets her mind to. She will often offer to support others in their learning, adding to her caring and supportive nature. She has grown into a mature and independent young person and continues to show me every day that she is ready for the next stages of her learning. Keep up this brilliant attitude Elsie, well done!

The achiever in 6H this week is Liliana. This young lady is an absolute workhorse in 6H! The learning never stops, and the attitude shown by Liliana is relentless. She always wants to get started and strive for her best, all of this being done with a positive attitude. Liliana gives absolutely everything to her learning and is a fully committed member of the 6H community! Fantastic job Liliana, this attitude will take you very far in the future.

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