Foxes Class

Our first half of spring term has been very busy in Foxes. The children have been transported back in time to the Stone Age!

We have had the pleasure of linking with Wessex Archelogy, who provided use with two 'awe and wonder' sessions to elevate our topic. The children were fortunate enough to handle many artefacts and some replicas to learn first-hand how the stone age people lived. In our second session, we tried out virtual reality headsets to explore a Stone Age settlement to further experience how they lived day-to-day. We finished our topic by making our own replica of a flint arrowhead out of clay.

In PSHE, we have been exploring the concept of difference. We have explored this in a variety of different ways and focused on celebrating all our differences positively. Ultimately, this is what makes us all unique! We also took part in mental health week which the children enjoyed greatly- the 'Try it Tuesday!' origami bookmarks were a hit with many children making more in their own time and using them in class. Our mental health week culminated in a fantastic SCARF Day where the children made their own scarfs and filled them with positive affirmations, things they are proficient in and things from our wellbeing wheel to help with their mental health. We also made some powerful and profound poetry exploring complex emotions such as anxiety, sadness, anger and fear. Some of our class read these out in assembly, which made me incredibly proud of their maturity.

In Art, we have been exploring cave paintings and experimenting with various mediums such as pencil and graphite. As groups we created giant cave paintings to display in our museum (date to be confirmed). We also looked at the famous sculptor Giacometti to inspire us to create our own 'Stone Age sculptures' exploring hunters.

In English, the children have enjoyed delving into the Stone Age further though our study of 'The First Drawing'. The children wrote diary entries from the perspective of the child in the text and published these too! Our final learning journey of the half term was a study into the classic 'Stig of the Dump'. The children worked very hard in compiling a discussion text exploring the ethics behind hunting and debating the question, *'Should Stig be allowed to hunt the horse?'.*

In guided reading, the children have enjoy studying the wizarding world of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. We have been reading aloud each week and experimenting with character voices, discussing the text at length and applying this to skills sessions that have included retrieval, asking of questions, impression of character and inference.

For much of this half term in Maths, Foxes have been exploring fractions. This is a difficult topic, and the children have shown great resilience and perseverance. They have explored the following ordering of fractions, comparing fractions, finding equivalents, adding and subtracting fractions and fractions of amounts. We finished our Maths learning this half term with data where the children interpreted pictograms, bar charts and made their own graphs based on the Trolley Witch, who works on the Hogwarts Express.