Otters Class – End of Half-term Round-up

What a fantastic start to the school year we've had in Otters Class! Everyone has settled back into school life so well, and we couldn't be prouder. Our Year 1 children have done an amazing job settling into their new class and routines, and our Year 2s have really stepped up to being the older role models in the room. Well done, Otters!

We wasted no time getting stuck into our learning. In English, we completed two exciting learning journeys. Our first was *The Three Little Pigs*. The children loved joining in with repeated phrases like, "Not by the hair on my chinny chin chin!" and enthusiastically retold the story using props and character puppets before having a go at writing parts of the story themselves.

Our second learning journey was based on *Rapunzel*. One morning, we came into class to find a mysterious lock of hair on Miss Gibson's desk – she thought it belonged to one of us, but it was actually a clue from Rapunzel! The children were captivated by the story and spent time planning and preparing before rewriting it in their own words. We were so impressed by their creativity and effort.

In Maths, we have focused on place value and addition and subtraction. Year 1 children have worked brilliantly on counting forwards and backwards to 50 and finding one more or one less than a given number. Year 2 children have been introduced to using empty number lines to support their calculations and are growing in confidence using these strategies.

Our topic this half term has been *The Great Fire of London*, and it has been a real highlight! The children have been so engaged and curious throughout. We have role-played being Thomas Farriner (the baker), shared our opinions on why the fire spread so quickly, and explored how firefighting has changed since 1666. It has been wonderful to see everyone so enthusiastic about their learning.

We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked and how well they have settled this half term. Thank you for your continued support at home - it really makes a difference. We're looking forward to another fantastic half term after the break!

Have a lovely and well-deserved rest!
Miss Gibson