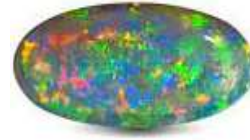


Opal Class News



29th September 2023

Things to note:

Next week, we shall be celebrating the Harvest. During this celebration, the children have the opportunity to sing and read poetry to the rest of the school. Normally, this would take place in the local church however, due to Reverend Russell's retirement, we shall be celebrating within school. We are certainly still accepting food donations which shall be passed to food banks for those in need. Thank you in advance for your support. We aim to take photos of the event so hopefully, you might be able to see photos of your child singing to the rest of the school next week! The song year 5 have chosen to sing is 'Harvest Time'. This is a well-known song to the children as it is practised regularly in singing assembly.

Next week, it is also National poetry day (06/09/23). It would be lovely if you could talk your children about their favourite poems or perhaps look some up if they aren't sure what they prefer. Here is a link that may help <https://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/poems/>

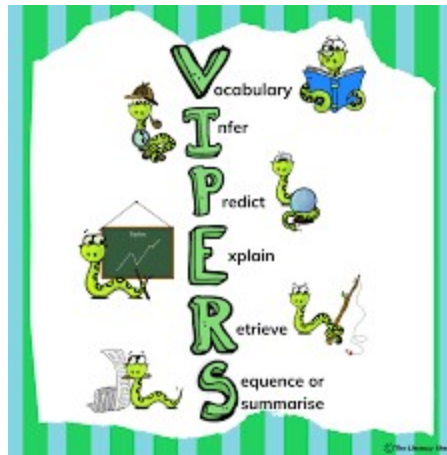
As of October, it is also Black History Month which focuses on 'celebrating our sisters'. We are hoping to look at a range of influential black people who made a difference in history which will lead us through to our learning on 'Hidden Figures'. I have attached the link if you would like to have a look through. Perhaps you could look together with your child – I'm sure they would find some of it fascinating.

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

This week:

In Maths this week, we have been reasoning and problem-solving with decimals as well as sitting a Maths test. These types of tests will be given 3 times a year to the children which enables us to see where there may be any gaps in their Maths learning within the year 5 curriculum but it also shows us how the children cope under test-like conditions which will allow us to prepare and work with those children on strategies way before those inevitable SATS hit them, in year 6.

In English, the children have undertaken a reading test to assess their reading level again year 5 expectations. This test will challenge a range of their reading skills, in line with the 'VIPERS' approach we use in school, not just their ability to 'decode' the text. VIPERS stands for the following:



We have also started writing our persuasive speeches on climate change. It is amazing how passionate the children have become about this and I am so proud to see the wonderful speeches that they are creating. Once these are completed, I may see if we have time to record them reading them out and I could post them on Google Classroom so you can see how motivated and dedicated the children have been in persuading others to make changes to help prevent climate change.

Within our project, we have made links with earlier learning within our geography. Two weeks ago, we were looking at Biomes and Climate Zones around the world. In this week's learning we were looking at the impact of climate change and how it would actually change our climate zones. It was lovely to see the children make the links between Climate Zones and Climate Change. In geography, we have learnt a little bit about industry – what it is and why we need it. The children have touched on 3 areas of industry (primary, secondary and tertiary). This has also helped them to see why industry is making an impact on climate change.