

Topaz News

Dear All,

It has been a busy week! There has been lots of interest in dinosaurs and curiosity about spring. We have been painting dinosaurs and making dinosaur lands. We have found out about carnivores and herbivores and making sure that they are they aren't together in the homes we made for them.



In our forest session this week we explored the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. Over the coming weeks we will be looking at more traditional tales. **At home you can support by reading some traditional tales and getting to know the sequence and repeated refrains.**

Making the Queen's wish come true



We have been talking about the Queen, where she lives and what an important year it is for her. She has a wish for lots of trees to be planted in her jubilee year so we worked with our Y6 friends and the Wickwar Environment Action Group to plant a little orchard near our log circle that we use for forest sessions. Next week we will be sending some pictures to the palace and asking if HRH Prince Charles will help us plant some more trees later in the year. We look forward to picking some delicious apples before we leave Alexander Hosea.

Phonics and Reading

All primary schools are required to adopt a systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) program. As our phonic results are so impressive at AHS, we wanted to find something that would build on what we already use. We have now found something that will do just that. It does have different actions for the letters than Jolly Phonics and as soon as we can we will share these with you. The children have started to look at them and are learning fast. We have enjoyed the challenge for our brains!

As soon as I can work out how to share the new resources with you, I will send them across to you. I have been explaining to the children that they can use either action until our brains switch over. It is, however, important for us to learn in the new way because we will be using this program throughout the school.

I plan to use Thursday afternoons to look at reading in the next few weeks so I can't wait to hear them all fluently showing off their practise for the week.

Journal share

I am excited to invite you all into school to share your child's journal and have a look around our environment. We are offering these on 2 afternoons, **28.03 and 29.03**, from 3 until 3.30pm. This was a regular part of our practice until a couple of years ago and the children always loved sharing their learning.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Sally Windmill