

15/02/19

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of this half term and our study of rainforests. The children have been wonderfully engaged in this topic. Our display board is full of animal pictures and other artwork that the children have created, mostly at home completely spontaneously from pure enthusiasm.

Well done Year 4!

Topic / English

With the children now well versed in the issues of deforestation, it is a great time for a debate on the arguments which is scheduled for the last morning of the half term. This takes the children's learning off the page and into the realms of reasoning and communication. And as a final challenge on this topic, the home learning task is to write a haiku poem about a rainforest animal.

We have also enjoyed reading some of the stories that the children wrote for Book Week. There were many very imaginative stories and it was good to see how the children are progressing in their creative writing. Some of the children included direct speech in their stories and so this was also a good opportunity to review and practise the grammar rules for using speech marks.

Topic / Science

In our Science this week, the children have been learning about soil and the layers beneath us as well as the different categories of rocks and their formation. We also looked at food chains and explored the producers, prey and predators in the rainforest.

Maths

This week, we finished the topic of using the 24 hour clock. We then completed this half term's work with some consolidation challenges to recap our learning over the last few weeks.

Jewish Studies

Our focus in Jewish Studies this week has been on the naming and brit milah of Yitzchak and we saw how his name was linked to the joy his parents felt at his birth as well as their reaction the year before to the promise of his birth. One of the mitzvot in this week's parasha of Tetzaveh is Shabbat and the first part of the kiddush we say on Shabbat morning comes from this parasha. We learnt about how Shabbat is a sign of the covenant or agreement between Hashem and the Jewish people

and the children did really well spotting some of the keywords we learnt in Chumash in the parasha text.

Ivrit

Year 4 carried on with the topic food and drinks. The children are learning to name different foods and putting them into sentences. Some of the foods the children are learning to name are: תפוז (Tapuz – orange) ביצה (Beitza – egg) רוקוליב (Broccoli) פיצה (Pizza) לימון (Limon – lemon) תה (Te – tea) פסטה (Pasta) חומוס (Humous) פתה (Pitta) בננה (Banana) שוקולד (Shokolad – chocolate) פלאפל (Falafel) חלב (Chalav – milk) גבינה (Gvina – cheese) לחם (Lechem – bread) עגבניה (Agvania – tomato) מלפפון (Melafefon – cucumber).

The class will learn during this topic the songs וגזר אפונה which you can find on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAunFOTWxEg>

As well as the song אוכל קדימה אוכל which you can find on the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWaXQpeePc>

Reminders

- The attendance this week was 97.04%. Weekly attendance needs to be over 96%.
- Please ensure that your child brings in his or her PE kit on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please also make a note in the green home liaison book if your child is unable to take part in PE for some reason.
- Library books can be changed each week during our library session on Monday. Please remind your child to bring in his or her library book.
- Please continue to read with your child and ask them questions to develop their comprehension skills.
- Please be reminded there are lots of photos on the school website photo gallery, where you can see what the children have been doing and learning.
- Barnet have asked all parents to be reminded about children travelling to and from school safely. Please remind your children of the 'stranger danger' rules and to tell a trusted adult if they do not feel safe.
- Your turn! Please come to our **Parents' E-Safety evening** on Thursday 7th March! Book your place at the school office and pop it in your diary.

- Our school is raising money for Bee-Bots and Lego WeDo @ Rocket Fund. Can you help?
<https://rocket.fund/p/etzchaimprimaryschool/> Please donate and share!
- Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. This format has very successfully boosted times tables recall speed for our pupils in Year 2 upwards over the last two years. We are now delighted to announce that we have purchased a subscription to the Time Tables Rock Stars App. This will enable the children to access the resource with ease. If you would like to download the app for free, for use at home with your child's login details (found in their home-school liaison book / diary), please look for the icon below:



Shabbat Shalom and have a great half term break.

The Year 4 Team