

22/3/19

Dear Parents,

Purim has dominated the week's activities. The children enjoyed a SEED Purim Craft Workshop on Monday morning. There was lots of laughter as they all made Purim masks.

Maths

Back in class, Purim was even the theme for a new Maths challenge. The children were given the menu and individual item costs for a Purim meal. They were then set the challenge of calculating the total cost of the meal for 247 children. There was also an extra challenge to see how much money could be saved if we made the chocolate cake rather than buying it in. This word problem effectively combined and provided application for the work we have been doing in recent weeks on addition, subtraction and multiplication.

Topic / English

We have continued with our theme and started learning about the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun. It is a fascinating story and the children will now write an imagined eye witness account as if they had been there on the day all those years ago. This is a new genre of writing for the children but will reinforce many of this year's learning objectives for writing.

Science

There was much excitement as the children completed the 'egg drop challenge'. You will recall that, working in groups, the children designed and made the packaging and a container to keep a raw egg intact when dropped from a height. One member of each team 'launched' the package over the playground fence down to the car park. We are pleased to report that three out of the five eggs survived! We then rounded off the activity with the children writing up the challenge and suggesting ways that they could have improved the design of the protective layers.

Music

Preparations are now underway for the Barnet Music Festival. We are learning six songs set by the festival organisers which will be performed together with children from many other schools in the borough. We will also be selecting a piece of our own. It will take a little while to master the music, but the children are already showing great promise.

Jewish Studies

Our focus this week has been on preparing for Purim and the children have spent time constructing and decorating Tzedaka boxes for Purim to fulfil the mitzvah of Matanot L'Evyonim on the day. They had to work from a paper template, which they traced onto cardboard and then folded and secured with PVA glue before decorating the boxes to look like treasure chests. We had a group of visitors from Jewish schools around Europe spending time in the classroom and they were very interested in the way Jewish Studies and Design and Technology were meaningfully integrated for this project. The children also looked at the similarities and differences between a Sefer Torah and a Megillah and learnt about the dates around Purim,

from Shabbat Zachor to Shushan Purim. The highlight was spending Purim together, hearing the megillah, making mishloach manot for friends, showing off their costumes and giving tzedaka - truly a chag sameach!

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) ברוקולי (Broccoli) פיצצה (Pizza) לימון (Limon – lemon) תה (Te – tea) פסטה (Pasta) חמוץ (Humous) פיתה (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 אפונה וגזר 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=dWaXQpeeGpC>

Reminders

- The attendance this week was 97.23%. 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.
- 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,

The Year 4 Team