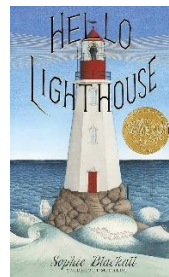


Year 4 Spring 2

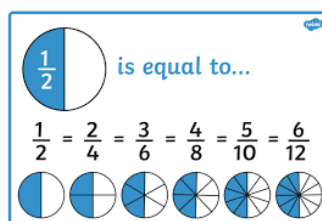
English

We started off the half term looking at poetry. We found out about the features of Haiku poems, Tanka poems and cinquain poems. We read a wide range of these poem types and learned about the different language features such as onomatopoeia, expanded noun phrases and similes and metaphors. We really enjoyed writing these poems and found keeping the right number of syllables a challenge. We have also started looking at our new text Hello Lighthouse by Sophie Blackall. We read the story and learned all about the daily life of a lonely lighthouse keeper. We looked at personification and how we could personify the weather, giving it feelings and emotions like anger and rage. Our vocabulary was amazing! We then did some role play where we acted out a scene from the text when the lighthouse keeper is reunited with his wife. We used speech punctuation and reporting clauses to record what the two characters said. We then wrote an informal letter from the lighthouse keeper to his wife back on the mainland. We will be continuing with this text after the holidays.



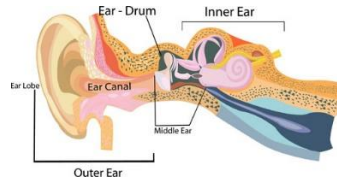
Maths

In maths we have learned how to find the area of rectilinear shapes including those with half squares. We have also compared the areas of 2 different shapes and solved some reasoning and problem solving questions. We have then moved on to fractions. At first we thought they were really tricky until we discovered it is all about multiplication and division and knowing our times tables helps. We have learned the difference between a unit and non-unit fraction. We have identified equivalent fractions and looked at fractions bigger than one. We have also identified the missing fractions in a sequence. We are going to be moving on to adding and subtracting fractions after the Easter break.



Science

Our question in Science this half term has been: Why is the sound that musicians make enjoyed by so many? We have learned that sound is made through vibration and that it can travel through solids, liquids and gases. We have labelled the ear using the correct vocabulary and found out what high pitch and low pitch sounds look like as sound waves. We have investigated the best material for sound proofing carrying out a fair test as well as made our own set of pan pipes to demonstrate changes in pitch.



History

Our history question this half term is: What was it like to be a miner in Whitburn? We began by finding out exactly what mining was. We then looked at old aerial photographs and found out where the mine in Whitburn was located. We talked about what it was like to be a miner in Whitburn and wrote a diary of a miner. We found out that they used to send children down the mines and discovered some of the jobs they used to do. Finally we compared mining then to mining now identifying what has changed and what has stayed the same.

Art

In art we have been finding out if we could draw with scissors. We sketched a simple shape and then used a pencil to make tone and shade to make the picture 3D. We then looked at proportion and how it is important in art. We used charcoal to create a still life image of a set of random objects. This was really interesting because we got very messy! We then used scissors to cut out images and create a collage composition. Finally we created a wax resist background and used sharp tools to scratch out our collage in the wax resist.

RE

In RE we have been researching why lent is such an important time for Christians. We have discussed the traditions of Lent and found out that it originates from the 40 days and nights Jesus spent in the desert before he went to Jerusalem. We talked about the significance of The Last Supper and how it must have felt for the disciples and how the events of holy week match the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion.

TT Rock stars

Keep up the good work with times tables Year 4. You are achieving some great scores on your sound checks. Don't forget to try and do some at home too.

Happy Easter everyone. Have a safe and restful holiday.