



ST LEVAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



REVIEW OF SPRING TERM 2 2018-19

Welcome to our Spring Review of some of the activities that have taken place. From wet and windy kite flying to modelling their own terracotta army, Class One have continued their learning about China. In Class Two, they have put their knowledge of forms of communication to good use outside of the classroom, using their communication skills in a football rematch with Trythall School and to create fantastic routines in Capoeira. We hope you look forward to reading their accounts.

Class One

China cont.

Kite flying trip

Wrapped up in gloves, hats and scarves we braved the elements on Sennen Beach and flew our glorious kites. Most flew surprisingly well and, although the wind was chilly, it helped to whip them up and fly high. It was also fun to build The Great Wall of China out of sand and splash about in rock pools. Thanks to all the Mums, Dads and other helpers who toggled their waterproofs and came along to lend a hand.



Report by Tildy

On a windy Friday morning, we went to the beach to fly our kites. First of all we went to the toilet and then we got our stuff together and hopped onto the minibus. When we got to the beach, we got out of the minibus. It was cold! When we got down to the beach, I flew my kite and it ripped! Oh no! Then we built the Great Wall of China. It was fun!

"I got soaking socks and my kite got drenched," -Summer

"When I flew my kite it kept on spinning round and round and it was really nice but then it kept on drifting through all the pools so it got really wet," -Martha

"We made the Great Wall of China and my feet got really wet so I had to borrow a pair of Tildy's socks," - Chloe

Gymnastics

This term the children in Reception and Year One have been attending gymnastics classes with Penzance Gymnastics club.



The children report they have had a brilliant time at gymnastics!

"We walk on the balance beam," – Alice.

"We holded onto those bars and walked our legs on backwards and forwards," -Summer.



"We jumped in the foam pit and we got to hide ourselves in the foam pit," -Sadie.

"There was a thing like a balance beam but it has two poles and you put your legs on it. It was fun!" – Calum



Terracotta army

We used clay to make soldiers for our very own terracotta army.

"I made a terracotta army soldier and it went wrong so I had to do it again. It was really messy!" -Sorrel

"When I made my soldier, I did it really fast. It looked quite good. I used a tool to do it quickly," -Morvy

"In my bag, the arm of my terracotta soldier broke off! They're really fragile!" -Lailani

"My head broke off my soldier because it was lying in the car," -Holly.

"When I was making my terracotta army figure, I wasn't sure how to do the legs but then I used a tool and I made the legs for the back and the front and I made it symmetrical," –Martha



Class
One's
terracotta
army

Panda reports

We found out oodles of facts about pandas and wrote some awesome reports about them. Here's a few extracts to give you a flavour!

Pandas



Introduction

Do you want to find out more about pandas? If you do, please read on. In fact, males are boars, females are sows.

Habitat

Pandas are native to China. A little known fact is that pandas live on their own.

Diet

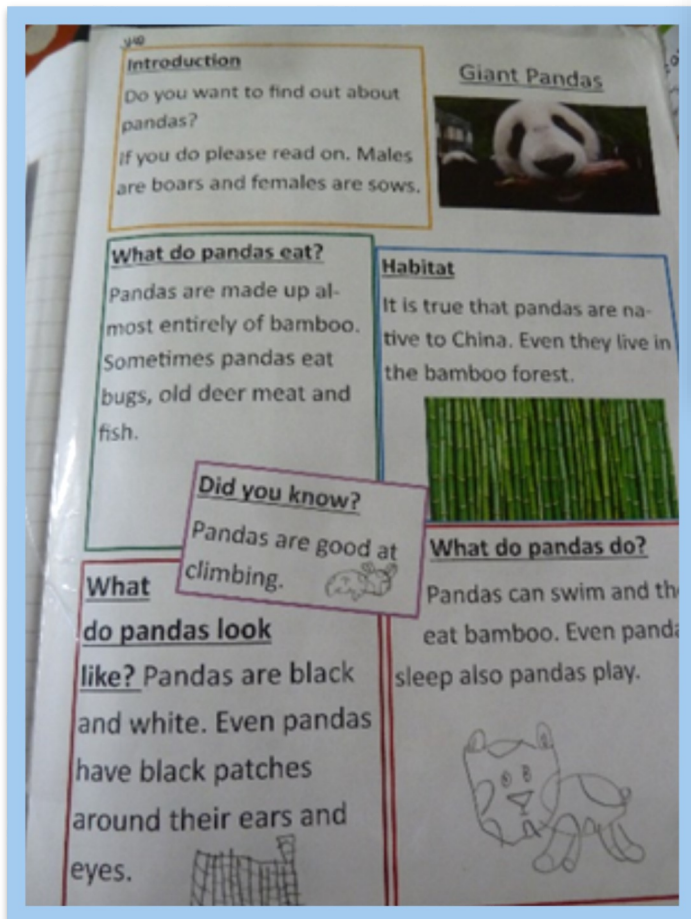
Most people know that pandas mostly eat bamboo but, did you know, that they also eat fish, bugs and old deer meat. That's why pandas are omnivores.

Babies

A fact about their babies is that they are born pink and their black and white patches come later. A cool fact is that at seven months old they can climb trees. Wow! They are the size of a stick of butter.



By Sorrel, Chloe, Morvy and Martha



Fabulous learning Class One!

Class Two

Football: St Levan vs Trythall

It was a cold and windy day at Trythall School; the trees were going CRAZY and the animals were sheltering. St Levan vs Trythall was minutes away and the players were just arriving. One by one they got out of the car and were raring to go. Morgan (the captain) lead them on to the pitch. There weren't many players so we had to not use much energy before kick off.

Our front four were Tonsley in the middle, Joby in strike, Will on the right and me (Rufus) on the left. We could never forget our fantastic three at the back, Amos and Elyssa in defence and Morgan in goal. We were all amazing!

Once the kick off was taken we were passing the ball to each other to see how good they were. After five minutes, we knocked our first goal in. It was Tonsley! We all celebrated. A boy came up to me and said, "There are going to be a lot of these middle kicks," and I said, "Yes! A lot!"

After 15 minutes we had scored 6 goals and it was only half time!



The second half began and we scored 3 more to make it 9-0. With 5 minutes to go, Joby scored the last goal and in the end we won 10-0. Will scored 2, Joby scored 2, Will scored 3 and I scored 3. Elyssa and Amos made some great tackles and Morgan made some amazing saves!

Well done everyone!

Report by Rufus



Racing Ducks

As is the annual tradition at St Levan, on the final day of the spring term, the Easter bunny visited. Amazingly it came during our assembly and everyone was able to then go hunting for eggs around the school grounds. We worked in pairs and helped each other to find as many as possible then shared our finds out so that it was fair. Thank you to the Easter bunny for visiting us again! In the afternoon we raced our ducks and had more entries than ever before. The rain just about held off and were able to hold both races as well as eat cake (thank you Hugh-Jones'!) without getting too wet. For some of us however, getting wet is the best part and it was a good job we had our wetsuits on as the water was rather chilly this year! Well done to our winners. Thank you to everyone who supported this year, we managed to raise nearly £200!



Pippin

Pippin has now visited school on several occasions. What do the children have to say about his time with us?



He's helped me overcome my fear of dogs.

He's a very calm dog.

I love it when he comes in because he makes us laugh!

I really enjoy Pippin coming in because he always makes me laugh and he always "flops" beside me. It helps me with our learning because he just pads around with a smile on his face.

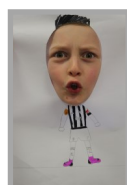
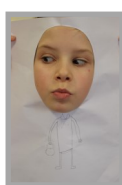
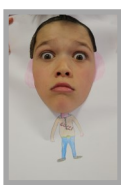
I really enjoy Pippin coming in because he's relaxing and makes me giggle which is really good.

Pippin makes us smile and is so funny. I'd love it if he could come every day!

Doing Something for Money

This year's Red Nose Day festivities began with a series of whole school races involving balloons.

Many people had dressed up with some St Levan members wearing pyjamas, others with their clothes on inside out and back to front and some had crazy hair! Each class did different silly things throughout the day, Class Two drew tiny versions of themselves and pulled funny faces to create some silly pictures. Thank you to those people who baked delicious cakes for the sale! Altogether we raised £122.21. Well done everyone!



Martial Arts Dancing

If you were to visit St Levan School on a Friday afternoon and happened to walk into the Class 2 Classroom, you would be greeted by some incredible sights, for this is the afternoon each week that Josh visits and teaches us amazing skills... Capoeira was developed by enslaved Africans in Brazil at the beginning of the 16th century. It is known for its quick and complex manoeuvres that predominantly use power, speed, and leverage across a wide variety of kicks, spins, and other techniques. Most recently we have been trying some acrobatic skills including handstands, cartwheels and walk overs. When we feel ready, we then move onto back handsprings and even layouts. Watch this space for a performance this term...

Good Attendance Matters!

At the last Ofsted inspection of our school in March 2018, our attendance was highlighted as an area which school needed to improve. Our attendance objective is to sustain the National Average at 96% for every child and to reduce the number of children achieving less than 90%.

Whilst 90% sounds high, in an attendance context this is a great cause for concern - deemed by the Government as being persistently absent.

As a small school we need your support in minimising absence in order to meet these government targets. We are unable to authorise absence for holidays taken in school time unless there are exceptional circumstances which have been discussed in advance with the Headteacher. As always, we look at each case on an individual basis and take into consideration a number of other factors detailed in our 'Attendance Policy' (available on the website).

Ongoing low attendance is a factor often linked to lower levels of academic success. Many pupils also have difficulty maintaining friendships if they have long or numerous periods of absence. The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year

Excellent attendance! These pupils will almost certainly get the best education they can.

95%: 10 days absence a year

These pupils are likely to do well and have opportunities for college, university or work, but could still improve their attendance, which could improve their overall attainment.

90%: 19 days absence a year

Pupils in this group are missing a month of school per year; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.

85%: 29 days absence a year

Pupils in this group are missing six weeks of school per year; it will be very difficult for them to keep up with work and they are unlikely to do their best.

80%: 38 days absence a year

Pupils in this group are missing a year and a half of school over the 7 years of primary school, it will be almost impossible to keep up with work.

As a school we will again be sending out the 'traffic light' system of letters so you can keep track of your own child's attendance. This means that every parent will receive a green, amber or red letter this term.

Whilst there may be understandable reasons for your child's attendance to fall, we have a duty of care to inform you when your child's attendance is reaching a certain level and to invite you in for a meeting to find a positive way forward to improve your child's attendance. We understand that all families may at times experience difficulties and we are sympathetic to this. It is therefore important that you do keep us informed of your circumstances and seek advice and support from us when necessary.



As part of our topic on communication, Class Two visited Bishop Forum in Penryn. Traveling by coach and crossing our fingers that there wouldn't be too much rain (rather a lot was forecast), we arrived with coats, wellies and full changes of clothing ready to communicate well to complete challenges.

The challenges included:

- Moving us all through a spiders web;
- building a catapult;
- completing a low ropes course;
- fitting all the group onto platforms that gradually decrease in size;
- finding our way across stepping stones that could only be completed in a specific order;
- making our way across a flooded quarry using only planks and small islands.

Each task required different communication skills and we were able to evaluate our success based on how many people achieved each task or...got very wet. It was a brilliant day and everyone worked hard to develop their team skills. Special mention to Tamsyn and Elliot who both fell in to the water but still maintained their fantastic positivity throughout the whole day!

We had to work together or the activities wouldn't work. - Tess

My favourite was getting across the water because it was fun and we HAD to work as a team or we'd all get soaked. - Will

Even though it was raining, it was still really fun!
- Rufus

