

Dear Parents

I can't believe it is now February, time just seems to fly by!

It is good to be back in the Falklands, after spending last week in the UK with time at Defence Children Services Headquarters sharing more about our unique school and our strengths and areas for development. It was good to see the work of the whole staff team recognised.

We look forward to welcoming you to our sports afternoon on the field this afternoon at 1400.

Please bare with us over the next two weeks as Mr and Mrs Hill have had to return to the UK and staffing is incredibly tight.

Plover Class:

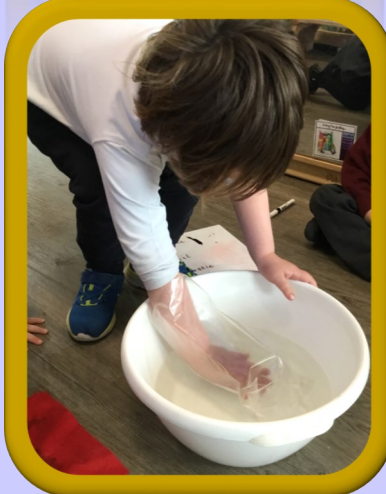
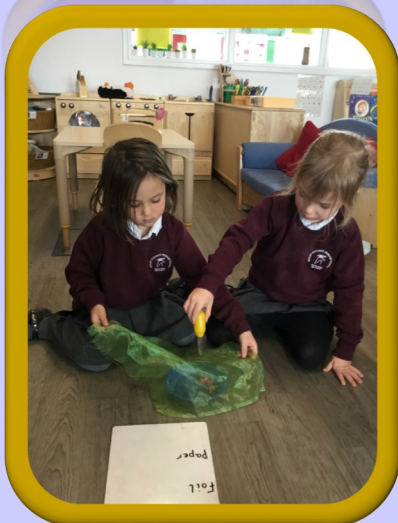
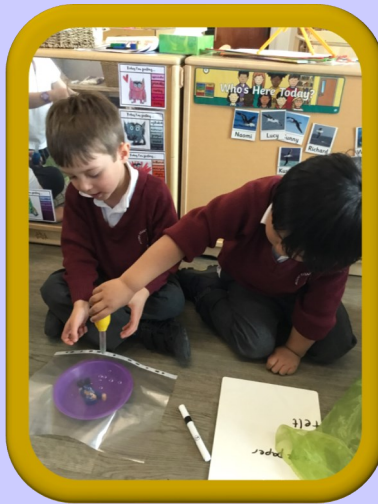
Alice has been making a stained glass window this week, so she's had fun with lots of tearing paper and sticking. We've been looking at counting and shape sorting in maths, and there's been lots of fun outdoors in the mud kitchen too!



Albatross Class:

The superhero theme continues in our class this week. We have been enjoying lots of story books about superheroes, as well as creating our own role play around the theme of goodies and baddies with plenty of rescuing and saving. On Thursday afternoon we were very engrossed in our science experiment (so much so, we did forget the library visit!). We were testing different materials to see which one was the most waterproof and which ones were not waterproof at all. We wanted to find out which material would be best for a superhero's costume, especially if they were in the Falklands where the weather can change to rainy very quickly. We tested felt, fabric voile, paper, crepe paper, plastic and tin foil... although some children kept calling it oil or even soil!

Our results showed that foil and plastic were the best at keeping our superheroes dry and further testing decided plastic was the clear winner! This led us on to testing our outdoor suits and we are pleased to say they are waterproof against 'gentle rain' and 'heavy rain' - these results are based on rain from pipettes though and not the actual Falkland showers!

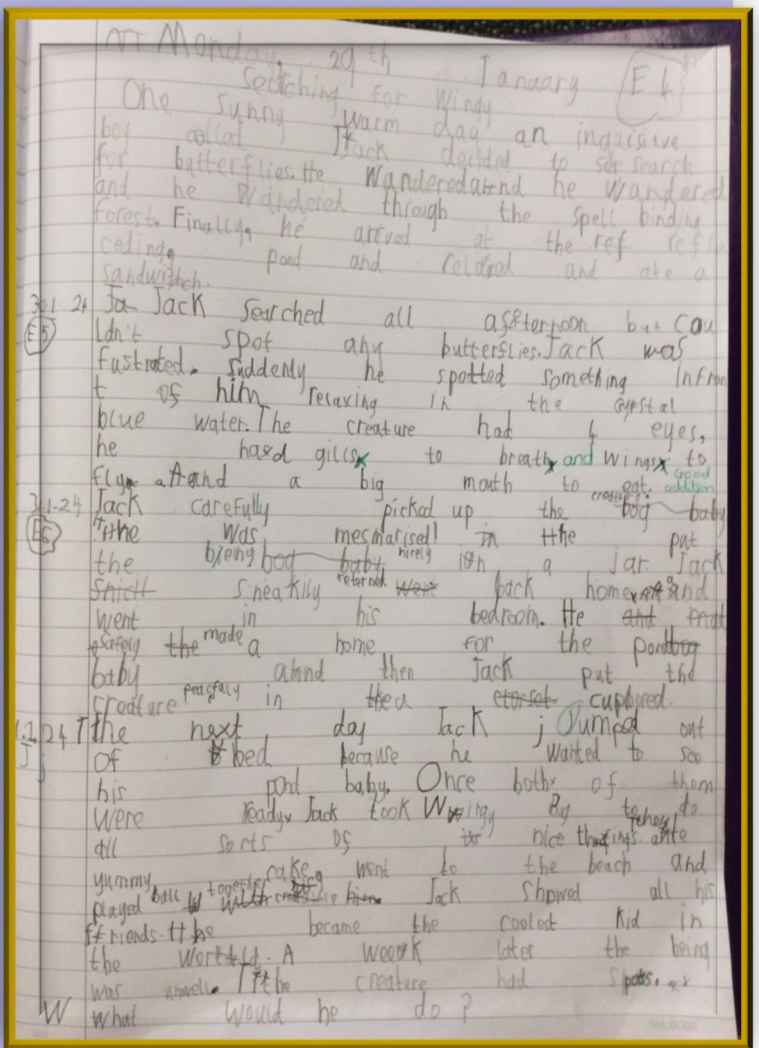
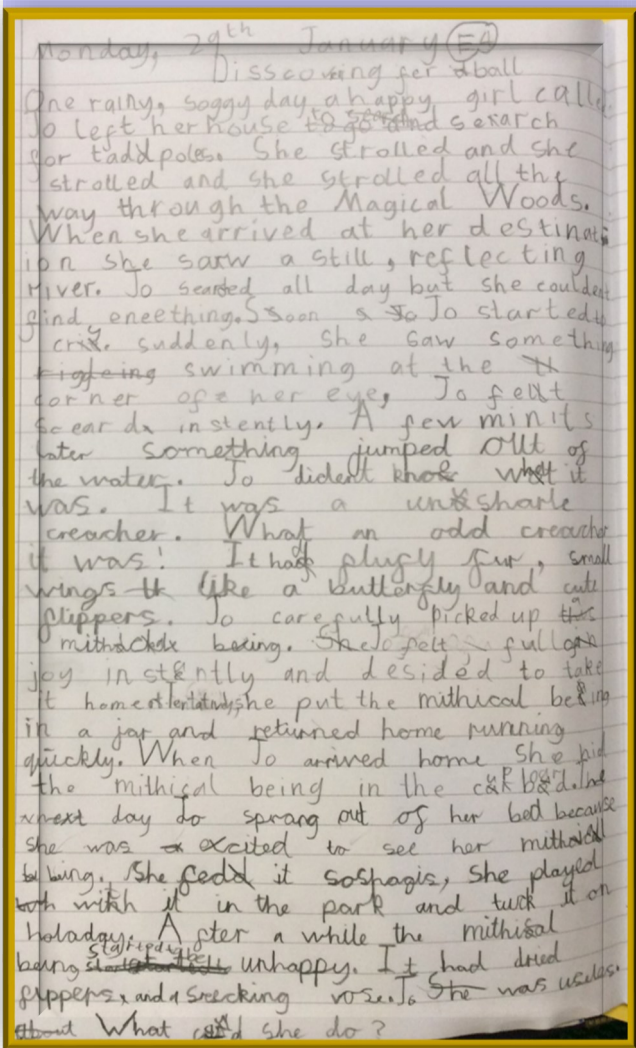


Caracaras:

Caracara Class have been writing their stories this week. The stories follow a similar example text so that we can learn the structure of different types of narrative. However, the children create their own characters, select their own vocabulary and are encouraged to add more to the skeleton of the story. As you can see from the two stories below this enables children to follow a scaffold yet have ownership of their writing. The children still have the ending to write and to carry out the editing, for example spelling corrections. After each session, sentence construction is discussed so that each sentence has the correct punctuation.

Caracara Housekeeping

As I am away for the next few weeks, keeping on top of 1-minute maths will be difficult. For maths homework, the year 2s can carry out tackling tables (I will send their logins home) and year 1s can try different 1-minute maths levels to find one that challenges them but can be achievable or go back and refresh and improve on what they have already done. Thank you for your understanding.



Falcons:

I can't believe how fast this week has gone and we are now all preparing for the weekend. The children have had lots of practise using their balancing, throwing and jumping skills in preparation for their sports day today, and thank goodness the weather has been kind to us. In maths the children have been dividing with remainders and using partitioning to help them solve more difficult questions. In English, we have been focusing on using subordinate conjunctions to create complex sentences, ensuring that they place the commas in the correct places. The children have honed their skills with a glue gun whilst placing their mosaic pieces carefully onto their plates and now have a true appreciation of the patience and skill of the Roman mosaic artists. In science, the children have learned about the different types of erosion and how this affects the rocky cliff faces as well as the landscape here at MPC.



Meadowlarks:

In English, Meadowlarks have been drafting, editing and writing their 1st person diary, based upon Shackleton's adventures. The children did an excellent job of bringing the crew and Shackleton to life. They also gained an understanding of how courageous Endurance was, battling across the South Pole and eventually breaking up and sinking in the Weddell Sea, on 21st November, 1915.

We have been researching the scientist Carl Linnaeus and learning about this work based on the 6 kingdoms—very interesting! In maths, fractions are here again for Y5 and decimals for Y6. We are loving our 'Ancient Greek' topic and have been looking at evidence to help us decide if the Minotaur was real or a legend - the decision is split and yet to be decided. We also learned more about how life for women and people was very different in the Athenians and the Spartan societies, with more on that to be learned.

PTO to continue

Meadowlarks Continued



Dear Diary

A severe blizzard hit our camp. I felt it shake! I am not sure how we are going to survive this bitter weather, but we must live through it. Endurance's grave is now many miles away, she did well!

My men are exhausted. I do not know how long until the bitter grip of frostbite appears. To keep the spirit of my men high, I have introduced dog races...but still the men suffer. We have to bear the pain to survive this eternal winter and food is running low!

I must brace oneself to shoot the remaining canines, since we will not have room nor food for them. But, I will not be deterred from my goal so will endure the hardships presented.

E. Shackleton

Meadowlarks Residential

We are delighted that Meadowlark class have been invited to join the Infant & Junior School in Stanley for their residential at Fitzroy again this year. This residential will be for 1 night from the 14th February-15th February. Parents of children in Meadowlark class are invited to join Mrs Summers and Mrs Stobart for a **residential meeting at 1515 on Monday 5th February 2024** in Meadowlark classroom.

Dates for your Diary

- **Monday 5th February- Meadowlark Parents Residential meeting at 1515 in Meadowlark classroom**
- **Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February - Half Term**
- **Monday 26th February - 2nd Half term starts for children**
- **Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - details TBC**
- **Wednesday 27th March - Parents Evening 1515-1730**
- **Thursday 28th March - School finishes at 1300**
- **Tuesday 16th April - School starts for children**
- **Monday 6th May-May Bank Holiday - No School**
- **Monday 27th May - May Bank Holiday- No school**
- **Monday 3rd June - Friday 7th June- Half Term**
- **Wednesday 24th July - Last Day of Term- School Finishes at 1515**

Enjoy the weekend of wind, sunshine and showers-typical Falkland Islands weather!