



Deer Park School

LEARN ENJOY SUCCEED

Dear Parents, Carers & Friends,

A warm welcome to the end of week 5, and the beginning of December. Richmond's streets are adorned with festive lights, and not one but *four* Christmas trees (also replete with their own sparkly lights) have sprung up on our first-floor landing. Suffice it to say; the yule tide cometh.

Along with these glad tidings, the Marine Conservation Society also cometh-ed last week, visiting Deer Park to discuss the crucial importance of protecting our oceans. After an excellent assembly to other year groups, the society supported our Year 2 children in their geography fieldwork; collecting litter in Marble Hill Park and forming data on decomposition and type. It was excellent, and our grateful thanks go to Mel from Year 3 for putting the day together for us.

The regular scheduled learning at Deer Park has been eclectic, with topics from Central American surrealism, to OS map creation, to coding sequences, to the use of a 'canon' in modern dance. Excitingly, this week saw the first meeting of the Gender Equality committee, and the Inclusion Committees. Both groups were created by and composed of our families, and we're delighted that both meetings were so productive and open in their first get-together. If you'd like to know more about either committee, do email the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Group on diversitygroup@deerparkschool.org.uk

In recommended reads this week, we begin with our adult readers. 'At Night All Blood is Black' is a writhing, shifting account of a Senegalese soldier's descent into madness. From author David Diop, this is a novel of violence and tragedy. It's also a novel of considerable

authorial quality; it won the International Man Booker this year, and – frankly – it deserves the prize.

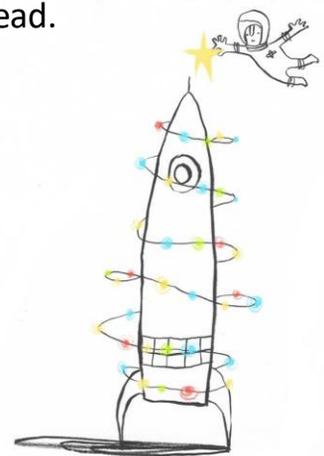
For our Key Stage Readers, this week's book recommendation was found by one of our families. 'The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh', by comedian Helen Rutter, is the tale of a young aspiring comedian finding his voice, while managing his pronounced stammer. An examination of dreams, and of the voice within each of us, the idea for the book comes from Rutter's own son and her desire for books that included children with a stammer like his.

For our youngest readers we recommend 'Miro's Magic Animals', by Antony Penrose. This is a fabulous book for two reasons. Firstly, it's focused on Joan Miro's artwork, which is (completely subjectively) some of the greatest artwork in the last millennia. Secondly, it's a lovely introduction to the idea that art can be simple, can be bright, can be wonderfully strange, and can be done by everyone.

Do remember to wrap up warm this weekend, enjoy your time together, and don't forget to read.

Yours as ever,

Alex Lee



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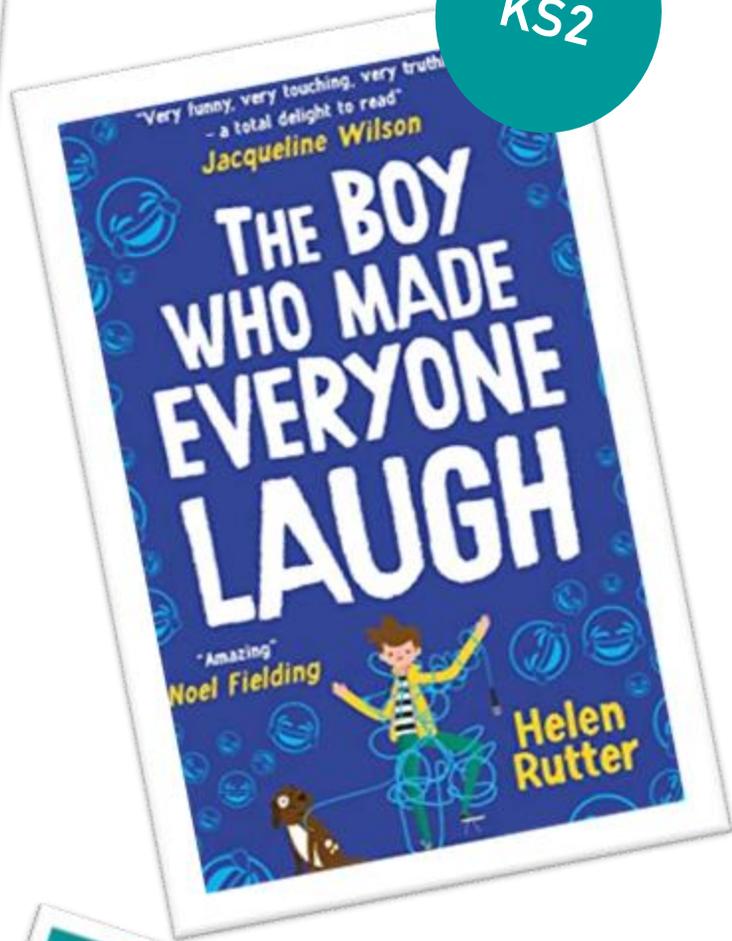
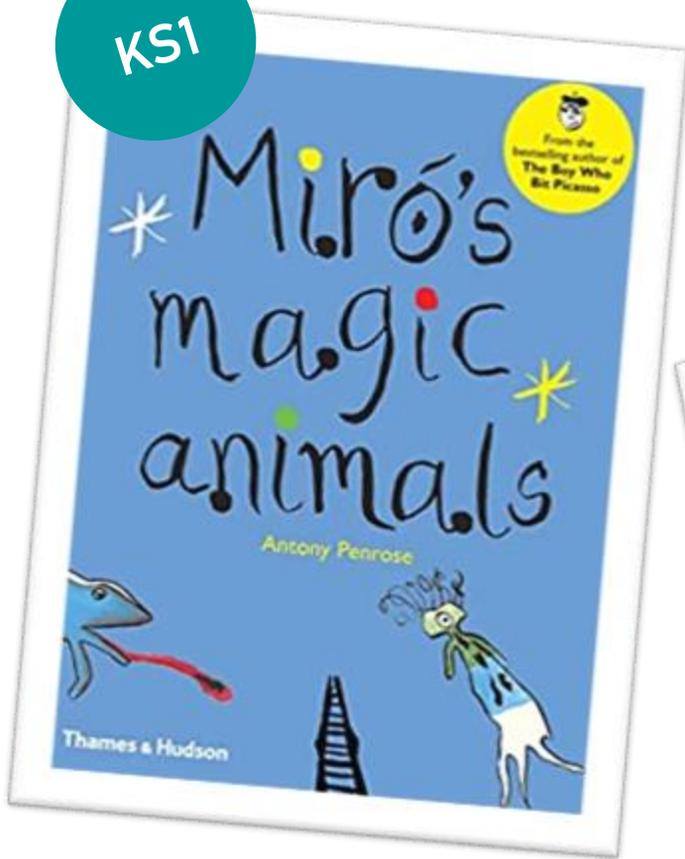


Recommended READS

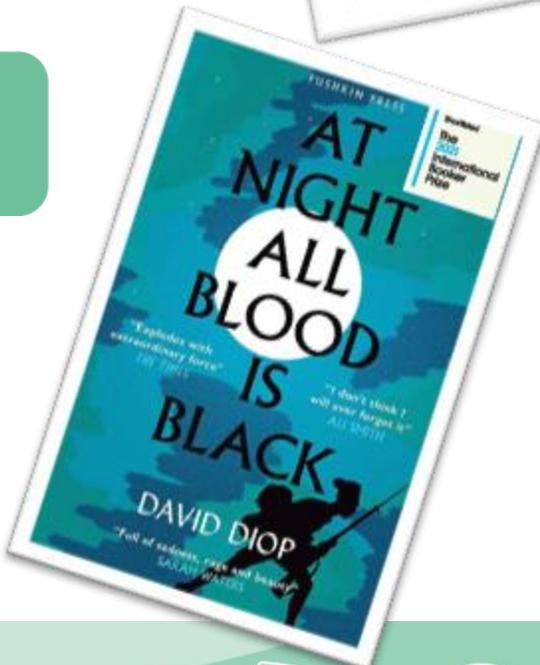
KS1

For Children

KS2



For Adults



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Class Updates



Sambar Class

We have had another busy and exciting week of learning in Sambar class. The colder weather that we experienced at the beginning of the week, brought us new and interesting learning opportunities involving ice in our outdoor classroom. The children's inquisitive minds made for many great conversations! Over the past two weeks the children have enjoyed learning about different celebrations and festivals that take place around the world. This week our focus has been on Hannukah and the children have really enjoyed finding out about how Hannukah is celebrated. In Maths we have consolidated our learning of 'one more' and 'one less' and have also been learning about different shapes and their properties. Our Art task this week involved looking at a Jackson Pollock painting and thinking not only about how it had been made but also how it made us feel. One of the many highlights of our week has been learning all of the words to the songs for our Christmas performance. We can't wait to share more details about this with you all soon!



Fawn Class

Dear Fawns,
What a busy term it's been! We have been working on the first sounds in words as well as reading and writing CVC words. We have looked at different celebrations around the world and learnt how to appreciate other cultures. Earlier this month, Ryan's mum kindly paid us a visit and gave us a wonderful insight into Diwali. A big thank you! The seasons have grabbed our attention and we are learning about the changes in the environment that come with Autumn.

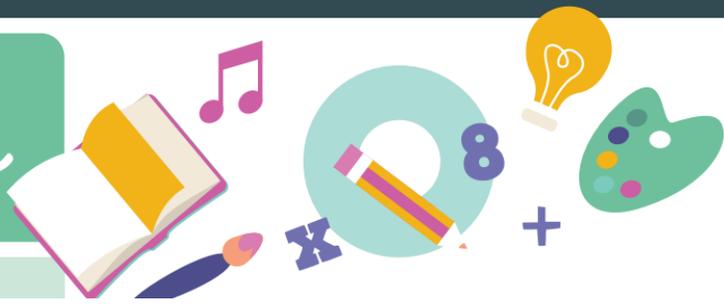
In Maths we have deepened our learning of numbers up to 5. We are looking at the concept of 1 more and 1 less. We are also exploring groups of 4 and 5.

In PE we are having fun practising different moves and rolls.

Have a lovely weekend!



Class Updates



Roe Class

It has been another fun filled week of learning! In Science we have been learning to categorise animals into herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. In Geography we have continued to learn about the area around us and identify key symbols on a map. In English we have started to look at a new book '10 Things I Can Do to Help My World' and have been learning about climate change and how to look after the world. In Maths we are looking at numbers between 11-20 and learning that numbers are made up of 10s and 1s – twelve is the same as 1 group of ten and 2 ones. The class have found it a bit tricky to count backwards, this could be a great way to support your child at home. Start a number between 11 – 20 and ask them to count backwards from that point or fill in missing numbers on a number line.

Brocket Class

Brocket have had another great week. We have been incredibly busy learning about ways we can help to save the world, and I have been so impressed with not only the knowledge the children have, but also their enthusiasm to make a difference.

The rehearsals are underway for the winter production and everyone had been involved in singing and dancing which is wonderful to see.

Art has involved us looking at colour wheels and responding to the work of van Gogh and in science we have been categorising animals into different groups depending on what they eat.

It has been busy but great fun!



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Class Updates



Marsh Class

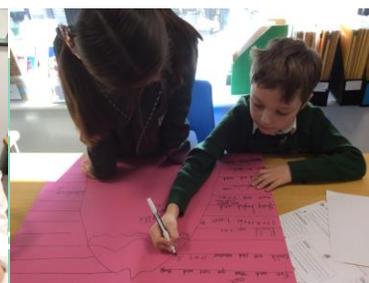
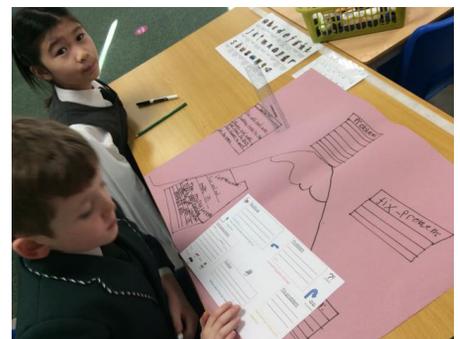
Marsh have been busy mathematicians this week. They have been recognising coins and notes and have been able to put them in the correct order of value. The children have also been making an amount using different coins or notes to show their understanding of coin value.

In science we have been learning and Earth and Space. The children have been amazing at identifying the planets and recalling facts about specific planets. Last week we investigated the composition of Earth and were able to identify the core, mantle and crust using boiled eggs!



Fallow Class

Fallow class have been investigative learners this week in school! In Geography, they explored and distinguished the difference between physical and human features between the county of Cornwall and the city of London. In English, they created a suitable character that would become Fox's new friend in their own version of 'The Fox and the Star' story. We all enjoyed our litter picking excursion to Marble Park where we learnt lots about the damages caused from leaving litter on the ground, however we also understood lots of interesting ways we can use it after recycling! In dance, Fallow have been learning what the canon technique is, they found out that each dancer must take it in turns to perform a movement while the others watch and repeat afterwards. We are working towards showing our sequence to each other next week!



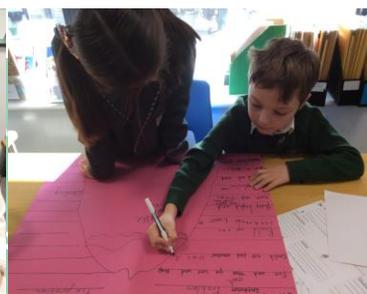
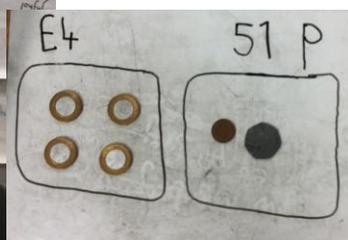
Class Updates



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Muntjac Class

We have had a fantastic few weeks in Muntjac class learning all about our active planet, light and shadow, the Stone Age and particularly pondering on the secrets and mysteries of Stone Henge. This week we have participated in a 'conscience alley' offering reasons for and against our characters, from the Stig of the Dump, going to a fancy dress party, without adult permission. In Art, we have been studying the impressive portraiture of Hans Holbein the Younger, while learning a wide variety of water colour techniques in preparation for our final piece of landscape artwork which we shall be composing in the coming weeks. In science, we have been exploring light and shadow, experimenting how transparent, translucent and opaque objects reflect light and the impact that their transparency has on how shadows are formed. We have enjoyed learning about the key teachings and beliefs of Islam and looking at religious artefacts to explore how and why they are used. In Geography we have been exploring the formation and location of volcanos and earthquakes, in particularly the Eyjafjallajokull eruption in April, 2010. I am, as ever, incredibly proud of the Year 3 children's enthusiasm for learning over the past few weeks and I look forward to the upcoming weeks of festivities and learning as we come to the end of the Autumn term.



Sika Class

Sika class have had an amazing start to Autumn 2! In English, we've been reading the incredibly imaginative journey of Oliver and the Seawigs, and we have done all kinds of inspiring creative writing. In maths, we have focused on multiplication and division. Art has been all about the outstanding work of Mexican surrealist Frida Kahlo. In RE, we have had the opportunity to learn about the key beliefs of the Sikh faith. We have been practicing how to introduce family members and converse in French. In football, we have been learning about capturing and evading. In music, we have been playing the glockenspiel and will soon begin singing Christmas songs. Our scientific learning has been all about how biologists classify animals.



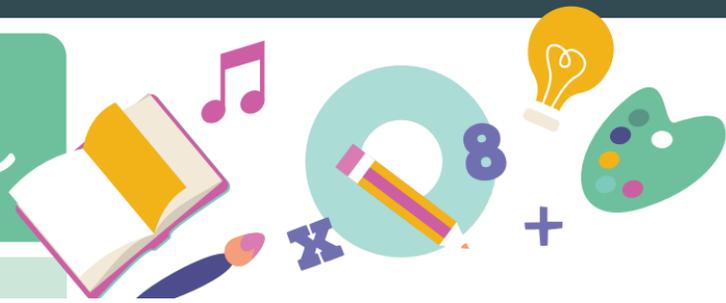
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Class Updates



Elk Class

These last couple of weeks Elk class have been working hard in school.

In maths we are working on our perimeter and area unit. Our English book, 'The Journey', is closely linked to our geography topic – migration. In science we are exploring space and on Friday we have the author Colin Stuart visiting us to tell us more about it. A couple of weeks ago we measured the ratio between the planets using toilet paper(!) During our art lessons we have been exploring the world and art of Henri Matisse and soon we will be painting our own abstract version of Richmond Bridge. We are getting ready for Christmas by practising Christmas songs together with some jazz in music.

In the beginning of this half term we said goodbye to our Elk member Scarlett who has started a new school.

Next week, on Monday, we are going on a trip to St Elizabeth Church.

Take care (and let's hope for some snow)!



Red Class



As we have seen the days getting shorter and the temperatures drop, Red class have continued to work hard and make the most of our time in school. Those who had to return to home learning for a short period did so with determination and enthusiasm, but we were very happy to welcome you back to school upon your return.

This term in Science we have been learning about light. Experiments, which have included building periscopes and exploring the effect of lenses on light direction, have allowed us to draw our own conclusions about reflection and refraction.

Geography lessons have seen us discussing trade links between countries and the subsequent reliance we have on each other. The discussions of food supply chains and trade partners have also raised very recent world issues such as the impact of Covid, and the Ever Given on trade.

Year 6 continue to work hard in the lead up to Christmas, however we still have much to look forward to, including the beginning of the new girls and boys football leagues. Good luck to all those involved!



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