



REEDHAM READ IT

This term, we have been learning about WW1 and WW2, to commemorate the centenary of Armistice Day. We have been exploring various artist's views of poppies. We explored these using watercolours, oil pastels and charcoal mediums, using different techniques to create our own versions of famous paintings by Monet and Van Gogh.

We learnt about World War 1 before half term; after exploring life in the trenches, our first piece of writing was to write a letter from the perspective of a world war one soldier on the Western Front. Miss Spaul our class teacher said, "I am really proud of all of you, for working so hard on the letters - they are really authentic."

We learnt about animals and the roles they played in World War 1. So many animals helped on the front and were lost; some dogs were medical dogs helping soldiers. They carried a medical kit to help the soldiers who were injured. Once the dogs found the injured soldiers, they would bark until help came. There was a special dog, called Sgt Stubby who could even smell gas and warn the soldiers of an attack - he was even awarded medals.

We also explored life on the Home Front for women - we wrote a diary entry of our first day doing our duty for the war effort by working as a nurse, munitions factory worker, railway worker or in the Women's Land Army.

Using the War Poets as inspiration, we created our own poems. Our work was displayed at Reedham church in memory of all the brave fallen soldiers who fought so heroically during WW1 over Armistice Day weekend. We also went to Reedham Church to help tend to the graves. Whilst we were there, we looked for the memorial graves of the brave soldiers from Reedham. We made rubbings of their headstones.

On the 13th of October, we had two special visitors, Mr Browne and Mrs Ellerbrook. Mr Browne was ten at the start of World War 2; he told us about his experiences. He showed us some photos of our school. His brother painted a picture of searchlights at night over Norwich and German bombers flying. He told us that our village hall field was called Searchlight Field. He also showed us some WW2 magazines; the first

magazine had a picture of an evacuee on it. The second one had five hurricane aeroplanes on it. Mrs Ellerbrook showed us some pictures of her father and family. Her family lived on Ferry Farm, two people who were evacuated to Reedham from Yarmouth died in a bombing on the farm - the only major damage to the village.



On the 5th of November, we went to Gressenhall, the first person we met was Warden Smith, he showed us the air-raid siren and shelter. After seeing the siren, we went to the farm. We went to clean tack, made food for the cows, and even tried milking. We met Captain Morgan and he introduced us to bayonet training; we learnt how to stand 'at-ease', 'on guard' and 'lunge'.

Captain Morgan took us out to attack bags on trees. After, we met Mrs Watts who made chocolate potato truffles; we went shopping with Granny to find out about rationing - it was such an interesting day - we all dressed up as evacuees.

On the 7th of November, we had a blackout day, we all dressed up, we had special blackout curtains on the windows in the otter's classroom; the whole school was in otter's class for the whole day, where we re-enacted the bombing of Reedham on the 30th September 1942. We had special blackout books filled with puzzles for us to do throughout the day. First, Miss Spaul took us into the hall to do some drills; we marched up and down the hall in lines. We learnt what it was like to be in an air-raid shelter. We took cover under our desks - just like the children had to do on that day. We baked some rationed wartime recipes; semolina, cheese frizzles, eggless cake and cabbage and beetroot soup - we even tried herrings and Spam! We played some games from 'The Black-out Book' - charades and held a spelling bee. It was a fun and interesting day, enjoyed by all - even the teachers dressed up!

On the 9th of November, we went to the Reedham war memorial; Reverend Lorna led us in our service to remember the fallen soldiers of Reedham, before the two-minute silence. We should never forget the soldiers who fought for our country. This term's topic has been a brilliant opportunity for children in Otters and Owls class to learn about our history.



Left: Our display at Reedham Church

Above: Dressed up on Blackout day.

REPORTED by: Chloe and Lana

Heron's News

Heron's class have had a fantastic start to the academic year. Term 1 has seen the children exposed to lots of brilliant learning opportunities both inside and outside their classroom environment. Miss Blake, a trainee teacher, became part of the Heron team in September - we have all enjoyed working with her.

Miss Blake implemented a variety of learning areas as part of our continuous provision, within the classroom. The following areas were made: maths, phonics, funky fingers (focusing on small, fine-manipulative movements), creative, playdough, sand, water, role-play and the messy tray. The children have the opportunity to explore and learn through these areas.

September saw the introduction of teaching using Mastery Maths, in Heron's class. Adopting the Mastery ethos enables greater continuity throughout the school. Mastery Maths has a huge focus on using resources to support our learning. Children are encouraged to show and demonstrate their learning through concrete objects prior to continuing their learning in a written form. The children have successfully

adapted to learning in this way. The children say they love their maths learning!

Every day, the children are introduced to a new phonic sound. They are encouraged to say the sound, ensuring their articulation is correct. The children are invited to write words on the board that contain the sound being taught. Following this, Mrs Bethell draws a phonics alien, with the help of the children. The alien is given a name, dependent upon the phonic sound being learnt.

Our topic focus has been World War 1. We have accessed this through focusing our learning around the book, Archie's War. The children are in the process of creating their own scrapbook about the war. The children really enjoyed creating a drama piece to show their learning.

Miss Spaul has been teaching music in Herons class on Tuesdays. The children regularly learn new songs and use the instruments to accompany their singing. Miss Spaul makes music exciting

for the children, especially with her choice of music related games.

Mrs Bethell and Miss Blake recently introduced a 'Reading Race Track' in Herons class. The children are invited to move their racing car race along the track each time they read at home. The racetrack was implemented in order to promote more reading at home. When the children complete 1 full lap of the track, a reward is given - keep up your racing Herons!

PE: This term, Heron's class have been learning how to pass the ball effectively in a variety of sports. The children have also had regular Well-being lessons to teach the children about: eating well, drinking well, sleeping well, and exercising well.

George, Eva, Finley and Lacey were recorded by BBC Radio Norfolk presenter, Anna, performing a poem called 'Twas a night before Christmas'. They were very pleased to take part in such a brilliant opportunity.

Researched by Freya and Tommy

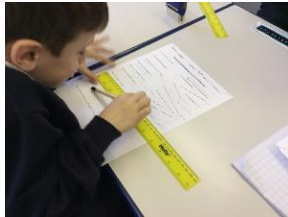


Parts of our Continuous Provision:
Outdoors, funky fingers and maths mastery

OWL'S NEWS

Owls and Otters have been working on the foundation subjects together; but the Owls have been working on their core subjects (maths and English) with Mr. Edwards.

In maths they have been working hard on multiplication and division with some going on to learn the formal methods like the bus stop method .



Rehearsing in class



Performing in assembly

In English, they have been learning about the Hindu story of Rama and Sita, the Ramayana. They used Pie Corbett's method of learning actions to help them remember the whole story off by heart. They have really enjoyed doing this and are writing their own story based on Rama and Sita, using their own characters and settings.

Otter's News

We have been working hard on various tasks in English this term. We have used our topic to write what we have learnt about WW1 and WW2. During the first part of the term, we explored the trenches of the western front and what it was like to be a soldier in WW1. We wrote a letter home from a soldier. We also learnt about what it was like for women – we wrote a diary entry about our first day working on the home front. We read some of the famous poems from WW1 like Flanders Fields and Dulce Decorum Est. We then created our own poetry.

We moved onto WW2 in the second part of the term. We have been reading Goodnight Mr Tom and learning about life of evacuees. We are now researching rationing, the holocaust and the battle of Britain. This has been an interesting and thought-provoking topic to explore. So much learning has taken place this term

and so much reflection on how lucky we all are to be alive in this century.

We have been exploring all sorts of topics in maths this term from place value to multiplication and division. We have also been working together on our problem solving and reasoning strategies and skills.

Year 6 have been having some great experiences at Acle Academy on their transition days – they are all very excited about the prospect of moving on. Before that, we will be working hard towards achieving their best in SATs; we will start revision for this at lunch times next term.

Our amazing work...



Using charcoal to create no-man's land during WW1 by Freya

Using oil pastels to recreate Van Gogh's poppy fields by Joyce



Using watercolours to recreate Monet's poppy fields by Stephanie





IN

WORLD WAR 1



Deep in the trenches, near No-Man's-Land,
soldiers are struggling terribly, as no-one lends them
a hand.

How will this end? Winning looks slim.
One soldier is wounded, but no-one helps him

"Gas!" Someone yells, and masks are gloomed on.
While surviving the gas, they don't notice a bomb!
When the smoke and gas clears, soldiers feel relieved.
But when they go over the top, hundreds of lives have
been claimed!



After time, the battles come and go,
the war never ends, the soldiers know.
Women hope their husbands will heal,
but doctors know and they feel -
That theirs are growing, as poppies, in a field,
and now the war is over, uniforms forgotten, guns
that men no longer need.

and, although, they thought this could not repeat,
world war two happened, soldiers facing greater death.



- by Ellis



The Street
London
NR12 3175

France, Tuesday 13 September 1916

Dear Phillip,

I am writing to you from the front line
, no further forward since the last time I wrote.
Lucky I survived through 'no man's land'.

I have been worried about you ever since you
left. The weather is awful, it is making the
trenches wet and muddy. Some of the men
have suffered from dreadful trench foot and
have been sent home after amputation.

The food is not going well the Germans keep
firing at our food supply. Only two or three trucks
make it through a day. The soldiers have very
poor rations a day.

I have some questions for you; How are mother
and father? How is your injury? How do you
like it here?

So you can see life is pretty hard here; please can
you send me a letter back soon. I hope you get well
and are happy back at home.

Yours sincerely
Jack

By Tommy

December 9th 1946

Dear diary,

What a day!

I am positively exhausted I must say. It was rather difficult work, a far earlier start than my usual day. There was no breakfast in bed for me this morning. The maids were all sleeping deeply. Cook had put me some food before I left. William had just arrived to drive my carriage. It was a rather cold journey - it was quite a long one. The streets were covered with inches of snow, only the street sellers were setting up for the market. My employer is a man named Mr. Hambley. He was really strict. I arrived at the factory. As the other women came in, the employer snapped, "come in now!" He was obviously one of the few men who had stayed behind or he was just too old he was in his late 60s. The reason I came there was because I saw some propagandist posters, and decided I must do my duty for the cause.

There were some frightening awful smells coming from the chemicals we had to use. When I arrived to work, the factory was large. There were tons and tons of gunpowder (what they used to make weapons and ammunition). I am so glad mother and father made me feel this patriotic. I have to supply ammunition for the war.

It was really hard work and extremely frightening because a German plane could turn up any moment and drop chlorine gas onto our factory or blow up all of the gunpowder. I was scared and was wondering what would happen if the Germans would invade our country.

School Sports News

By Lily-May and Jack

We have had a busy term in P.E. Mr Rose has been working with the children to support their ball skills and their team playing and sportsmanship has been improving recently. Mr Baine has been supporting the children to learn about their wellbeing. They have been learning about how to stay fit and healthy.

We have been lucky to be able to use some of our precious P.E money to purchase some sports equipment to benefit all children. We have invested in yoga mats for each child – this has been brilliant – the children really enjoy this every week. We have also been lucky to have new outdoor fitness equipment installed. We are enjoying the cycles, and steppers at break and lunch times. We have been using our new balance benches for gymnastics – we are very impressed that they are so soft under our feet!

We have been participating in cluster events; it has been great for the children to be part of the Reedham team competing with other schools in our cluster.

Netball Tournament

On Wednesday 31st October, at the netball tournament the goals were 10 feet high! First Reedham played Cantley and won against them. Next, we played Acle; first Freya scored a goal but in the last three minutes they scored three goals (most of them were tall and fast). There were five positions in the netball tournament they were goal attack, goalkeeper, goal shooter, goal defence and centre.

After playing Acle, we played Freethorpe and they won a very close game - they were pretty good players. It was a great experience for our team.

Cross country

On the 12th of October some children from the school went to cross country at South Walsham. In year 1, Bradley, Summer and Kaden ran for us. Year 2 was represented by Erin, Finely and Eva. In year 3, Shay, Harry, Sarah and Isobel ran and in year 4, Alyse. Year 5 runners included Jack, Kazen, Jaiden, Joyce and Lana and in year 6 Jayden, Archie, Ashton, Lily-may and Jasmine ran. The top 3 positions were Jayden with 16TH. Lily-may with 12th and Alyse came 1st; well done to all those who represented our school and a fantastic effort and performance from Alyse!



Yoga

By Kaleb, Jaiden and Kazen.

We have been lucky enough to be invited to join in a scheme in Norfolk to encourage yoga in schools. We are really excited about this as we have been enjoying yoga with our teachers but now we have the chance to learn with a very special lady – to help us learn how to be more relaxed and calm at school.

What is yoga?

Yoga helps us to organise the body and mind to make sense and enhance information processing. We work on breathing, movement, mindfulness and relaxation.



About our teacher

Gemma is a teacher that also teaches yoga, she specialises in children's yoga. She comes in to our school every Wednesday morning to work with us.

What are the benefits of yoga?

The poses improve your strength and balance and helps to reduce anxiety and stress, which will lead to better sleep, improved concentration and boost self-confidence.

Why is breathing so important in yoga?

Breathing effectively will either wake up or calm down your body. Deep regular breathing helps your mood, wellbeing and ability to stretch. We are learning to breathe in through our nose and out through our mouth. We have also been learning to hum/om when we breathe out which



helps to clear any blocked energy, which helps your focus and attention.

Yoga poses

Yoga is an ancient Hindu system of meditation and self-control, with physical

exercises.

These are some yoga poses: disco cat, downward dog, cat poses, child's pose, simple seated twist and boat pose.

To do disco cat you need to be on all fours and move your body. In addition, to do downward dog you have to be on all fours again shaped like a pyramid.

The cat pose is like the disco cat but there are two poses happy cat and sad cat. To do happy cat you need to shape your back like a smiley face and to do sad cat, you do the exactly same thing but you shape your back like a sad face.

Relaxation in yoga

Relaxation in yoga helps the body to absorb the benefits of the movements, poses and breathing.

We lie quietly on our yoga mats, on either your front or back, while Gemma speaks to us quietly helping us to relax



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Otter's Exciting Maths Project

Miss Spaul is finishing her Masters in Education, at the University of Suffolk; in spring term, we are looking forward to taking part in her research for her dissertation. We will be helping her to find out if working with a growth mindset can help us to be more confident mathematicians.



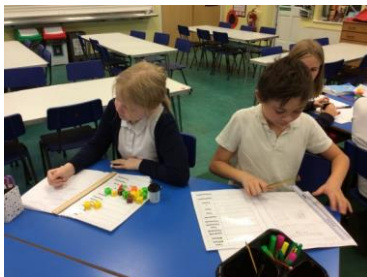
The whole school has been learning lots about growth mindsets and we hope this will help us to



mastery approach draws on Singapore Maths; the UK have been working with them to learn how we can develop our young people's mathematical thinking to improve our maths results at GCSE and beyond.

be more resilient and to keep on trying. Miss Spaul thinks that if we practise our numeracy skills, especially if we find them challenging, we can become better and more confident. She says,

"Practise doesn't make perfect - because we can always improve but we have to keep on trying."



We aim to not only improve our confidence in our maths ability but to work on our problem solving and reasoning skills (problem solving helps us to be tactical and strategic and reasoning helps us to explain and deepen our thinking). The research in Otters class will initiate in spring term.

As part of our research, in Otters class, we are following a new approach to mathematics. We have joined Norfolk Maths Hub in the hope that we can learn more about maths mastery. The

Reported by Ellis

REEDHAM PRIMARY PFA

This year, the PFA have contributed to help in lots of different activities in school. We held: a cake sale to raise money for Macmillan, a muffin sale, a Halloween hunt, a pumpkin carving competition and a scary monster competition.

Macmillan Fund Raising



The Macmillan cake sale raised £205.36! The PFA members who helped were: Ann Wall, Charlotte Boxall, Misty Cutting, Kerry Wing and Kirsty Maynard; thank you for

all your help, ladies, we really appreciate it! They worked tirelessly to make our afternoon tea a lovely family occasion where parents and children could enjoy cake and learn about what Reedham Primary do to support our children to learn to read.



Muffin Sale

The muffin sale raised £52.40 altogether! The wonderful people who baked the cakes were Heather Bray and Charlotte Boxall – they baked special Halloween cakes to sell after school.

Scary Monster Competition

The scary monster competition was where the pupils of Reedham School had to draw their own scary monster; Mrs Jones judged the pictures. Esmee won the competition – well-done Esmee your picture of a pumpkin was fantastic!

Halloween hunt

The Halloween hunt was a scavenger hunt that the students at Reedham Primary School had to complete during the half term holiday. We had to find different items around our house and bring them into school. Stephanie Kay won the scavenger hunt – her entry was very well presented and organised.

Pumpkin Carving Competition



The Pumpkin carving competition was where the children had to carve their own pumpkin design at home and bring it into school. Mrs Jones decided who the winner was; in Heron class Erin won, in Owl class Shay won and in Otter class Jack won – well done to all the winners!

Reedham Village Christmas Fair

For the Christmas fair, which will be held at the village hall on the 2/12/18 from 1-3pm, the PFA are going to sell: candles, Santa sleighs, bauble wreathes, Santa sweet cones, reindeer food and lots more exciting craft items and gifts. We cannot wait for it.

Bingo night

Bingo night will be a fun activity for all the family, to help raise money for the school. The money from this will help pay for the pantomime coming up soon. The PFA hope to have more than 50 people arrive to the bingo. Please come along to the Vikings to join the fun on 3/12/18 from 6pm.

The PFA will also be helping to sell tea and coffee at the village hall for our Christmas play.

Thank you to all the members who are doing such a wonderful job raising money to enable us all to enjoy opportunities that raise our attainment and experiences at school even more.

By Stephanie and Joyce

Reading at home - whatever the age - Teacher's advice

What is 'Reading for Pleasure'?

In my class 'Reading for Pleasure' will be the children who dive into their books at every opportunity - without being prompted to do so; it is the children who spend five minutes excitedly telling me about the book they have read before they choose their next; it is the child who will ask to borrow the book we have read a chapter of during guided reading.



How can Reading for Pleasure support wellbeing and why is it so important?

Children who have books of their own enjoy reading more and read more frequently; Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background. Statistics from 2014 show that one in five children in England cannot read well by the age of 11. In England, 36% of adults don't read for pleasure, rising to 44% of young people (aged 16 to 24). Research shows that reading for pleasure can reduce the symptoms of depression, build empathy and help us build relationships with others. Participation in shared reading groups is linked to enhanced relaxation, calmness, concentration, quality of life, confidence and self-esteem, as well as feelings of shared community and common purpose. Children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less often.



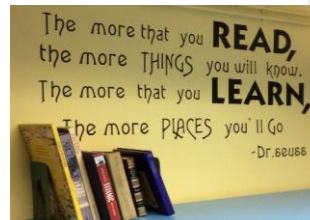
How to promote Reading for Pleasure

We actively promote reading in school but it does not matter what we do if it does not happen at home by families. Having access to resources and having books of their own has an impact on children's attainment. There is a positive relationship between the estimated number of books in the home and attainment. Children who have books of their own enjoy reading more and read more often. Parents and the home environment are key to the early teaching of reading and fostering a love of reading; children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued. Reading for pleasure is strongly influenced by

relationships between teachers and children, and children and families.

What you need to do at home

- Read in front of your child - model it!
- Discuss books you are reading - talking is important to helping your child's literacy.
- Read with your child regularly - model reading to them and hear them read - asking lots of questions.
- Have regular routines for reading.
- Provide opportunities to read - shopping lists, recipes, newspaper/magazines.



Hearing your child read - step by step

Your turn

- Look at the cover - talk about the pictures the title and make predictions
- Look through the book, at the pictures, high frequency words, tricky words
- Talk about the characters, the setting, what is happening in the story
- Ask open-ended questions throughout
- You model reading the book - if it is short all of it - if it is longer a several pages
- Support your child by pointing to the words as you read
 - Let them finish repetition sentences for you

Their turn

- Get them to point to the words
- Get them to sound out the words
- If they make mistakes (allow them to) gently correct pronunciation by helping them to decode the words
- Remind them of High Frequency Words by pointing back to the same word
- Stop before they have had enough - don't even start if they are tired! Good reading habits and positive attitude are really important
- During and after reading, check comprehension by asking some 'W' questions - What, Where, Why, Who, When



Reading with your child - whatever their age

It is so important to model reading; to share books with our children. Older children (who can read) still benefit from that intimate sharing and communication with an adult over a good read. Make it a routine - you read a chapter, they read a chapter - they can fill you in on the parts you miss when they read alone; ask them questions about what has happened and what they predict will happen, ask why it happened.

Best wishes on your reading adventures - Miss Spaul

DfE (2013) *Achievement of 15-Year-Olds in England: PISA 2012 National Report*, p.66
OECD (2010) *PISA 2009 Results: Learning to Learn: Student Engagement, Strategies and Practices* p.32-4
DCMS (2015) *Taking Part 2013/14. Focus On: Free time activities* p.6
House of Commons Business, Innovation and Skills Committee (2014) *Adult Literacy and Numeracy Report* p.3

Looking ahead to Christmas and beyond, we

have many plans to look forward to:

Bingo night will be happening (organised by the PFA) at the Vikings from 6pm on Monday 3rd December – come along and join the fun!

The Christmas fair is on the 2nd of December at the village hall from 1-2pm; followed by the Christmas tree competition on the weekend of the 8th and 9th of December at Reedham church – please vote for our tree!

The Christmas play rehearsals are coming along well and the Christmas play is coming up soon (Thursday 6th December at the village hall at 6.30pm).

We are lucky enough to have the opportunity to go on a school trip on the 14th of December to see a pantomime called The Wizard of Oz at the theatre in Gt. Yarmouth.

There are some more exciting school plans coming up in spring term. The Year 6 transition days at Acle High School have been fun and exciting; there are more coming up soon, there is also a transition day for Year 5.

Keep an eye out on our website and Facebook page for photos of our special events. Please join our Facebook page – please ask a member of staff to be added (this does not mean your children will be on our page).

By Josh and Jasmine

And Finally A Message From

Mr Edwards:

Wow – What An Action Packed Term

As you can see from the brilliant reporting by Otter's class, so much has happened this term. There has been wonderful learning across the curriculum, most notably the children's in depth look at World War 1 and World War 2. This generated some excellent writing based on reflections of past events. A fantastic trip to Gressenhall (where the children dressed up as evacuees) and a special 'Blackout Day' were enjoyed by all and rounded off the topic in a fitting way.

Work continues in school to make our learning environments top-class. Brand new colourful benches have replaced the wooden benches in the hall for use in gymnastics and assemblies. The new eight-station playground gym equipment has gone down a storm with the children. Since its installation a few weeks ago, there are always children using the equipment. They particularly enjoy being able to exercise and chat to their friends at the same time.

Another exciting development is the huge investment we have made to the Key Stage 2 toilets and cloakrooms. It has been a long-term project which has required a lot of effort in securing the necessary finance. Everything has been stripped back and now we are proud to house brand new modern, fresh boys' and girls' toilets and cloakroom areas, which the children can be proud of.

We have also been blessed with some outstanding sporting achievements – A special mention must go to Alyse whose first place in the Cluster Cross Country event was the stand-out performance from our team of runners. We are also building on our use of Yoga across the whole school. We feel there are real benefits in helping the children to develop a range of breathing and calming techniques, which will enable them to be more focused during learning and improve in their relationships with each other.

This leads me on to the great work of School Council. They recently approached me to see if children in KS2 could wear slippers in their classrooms, like the children already do in Mrs Bethell's class. I am happy to approve a trial of their use after Christmas and expect to see even more focused learning in the classes as a result! School Council are always coming up with super ideas like wearing pyjamas and bringing a teddy bear to school for Children In Need Day to asking for additional pot plants in the classes to increase oxygen levels!

By the time, some of you get to read this, Christmas celebrations will be in full flow. Preparations for our school play are in full swing and tickets are selling out fast – hurry to order yours. Hopefully we will see many of our local community at our Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday 13th December starting at 2:15. If we do not, then everybody from Reedham Primary School would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris Edwards

Headteacher

**Don't forget to support us by buying
our special bags and tea towels!**



On sale in the office:
£3.00 for a tea towel
£4.50 for a bag
£7.00 for both