

VILLA REALITIES

Headteacher comments

Dear parents/carers,

Thank you for your ongoing support. May I warmly invite you to our Autism Awareness Week activity week beginning 1st April and to our Easter Assemblies, Primary 4th April and Senior 5th April, both 10-11am.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely Easter.

Kind regards



Hrothgar the Raider

The day started like any other day, pupils came into school and went to their classrooms, sat down for 'good morning' sessions...until something

truly terrifying happened! The Viking Chief Hrothgar raided Villa Real School! He had set up camp in the school hall!

A fantastic day of role-play, storytelling and Viking games began. Pupils were transported back thousands of years as they took on the role of a Viking warrior; blowing horns, wearing helmets and wielding shields and swords.

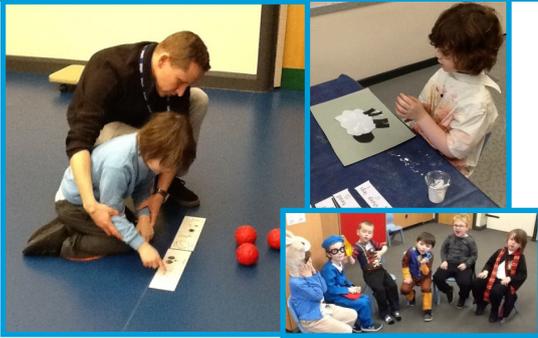
Pupils took part in acting out stories about Viking Gods and Goddesses (including the mischievous Loki), learning how to light fires Viking style, and playing a few games of Hnefertafl.

We finished off a fabulous day by acting out the story of a Viking Chief's death and the Viking funeral that followed which included sacrificing a horse, a dog and a slave girl!

Now we know why they earned the name 'the Vicious Vikings'.



F1A



We started off the year looking at farm animals and enjoyed mark making with small world animals and then painting farm animals.

This half term we have been learning about Spring by looking at daffodils and painting pictures of flowers. We are looking forward to more growing and then looking after plants.

A highlight of this term has definitely been PE with some fantastic throwing and pushing skills, learning to play Boccia, curling and throwing bean bags into nets. Another highlight was 'World Book Day' when all of our children got dressed up.

P1 Gymnastics

Primary 1 this term has been studying and taking part in Gymnastics – PE. Pupils have used their bodies to move in different ways such as rolling, jumping, balancing and learning how to finish off a gymnastic sequence correctly.

The biggest challenge for pupils was to; develop their self-confidence and balance to jump from the platforms and land correctly. All pupils achieved this element of gymnastics and more; whether pupils needed full support from staff or just a few words of encouragement.



P1A



This term we have been reading 'The Gruffalo' and 'The Gruffalo's Child', which we have loved! We have been extremely engaged in any Gruffalo related activities, storybooks and songs and even have drew pictures and written sentences in our spare time. Mostly, the class really enjoyed the puppets and soft character toys, and loved acting out the story! We are all looking forward to our trip at the end of term to Hamsterley Forest.

Also, we have a group of children who go swimming every Wednesday, and another group who take part in hydrotherapy sessions in school; all are making fantastic progress. Some of us can swim lengths independently and others have overcome initial anxieties and are taking part brilliantly. Next term, we hope to continue this and make even more progress!

P1CE and the Lambton Worm

P1CE have enjoyed learning about the story of the Lambton Worm this term during our Literacy lessons. We explored the story using all of our senses and loved listening to the song. Our favourite part of the story was when John Lambton slayed the worm with his special shield and sword!



P2 Learning has really come to life



What an amazing time we've been having in Primary 2 this term. We've continued to work hard and make progress in swimming as well as having a range of new experiences in the classroom. Erupting the class volcano, World Book Day and a visit from a real Viking-Hrothgar, were some of the most memorable experiences. In addition, we've created moving bugs as a cross curricular DT and science project and Viking Runes in Art. Learning has really come to life and that is evident in the enjoyment and application of our knowledge in new areas of the curriculum. Spring is also extra special as we've had our sessions with Jo the music teacher, so we have been able to show off our musical talents too.

P2A Flower Power

We have had a very creative term in P2A and are exceptionally proud of the artwork that we have produced in class. In science lessons we have been studying the topic of 'How Does Your Garden Grow?' and decided to carry this on in our art lessons. We studied artwork by famous artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh. Using the same techniques as these artists, we created our own flower art. Take a look at some of our amazing flower art!



S1CE and P2CE Celebrate Shrove Tuesday



On Tuesday, 5th March our primary and senior CE classes joined together to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and made pancakes. We took it in turns to crack eggs and whisk the mixture. We observed the liquid mixture turn into solid when cooked, and then enjoyed tasting the yummy pancakes!

P3

Since half term P3a have really focused on their sensory and OT programmes. This involves doing the programs recommended by future steps up to 4 times a day whilst incorporating literacy and numeracy lessons. The boys are enjoying the trampoline, scooter board and OT ball the most. As a result, all the boys in class have been much more focused when it comes to group work and group work table activities. Our sensory story this half term is 'The little seed', which tells the story of the life a seed and what it needs to grow. They especially loved being sprayed with water the most! We hope everyone has a great Easter break and look forward to another hard working term. Well done boys!



S1 Photography Montage



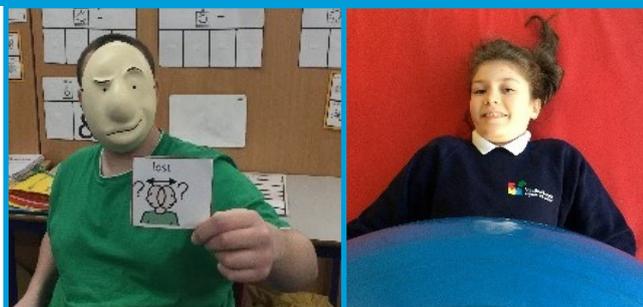
In S1 we have been very busy this term. Last month, MPhotography came to visit our class. Maddy helped us to create photography montage. She taught us what a photographer is and what job they do. We set up all the equipment ourselves and even took our own photos which we used in our photo montage in art.

S2 visit New College

In S2 this term we have been working hard on our ASDAN courses, NCFE coursework and our Entry Level exams. As part of our Careers programme, we had a great time looking around New College Durham. It was much bigger than Villa Real and there were so many different things you could learn. We loved the afternoon session by The Punctuation Man, which helped us with our English learning. As part of our Art, the Artist Peter Hemming, who we had been studying came into talk to use about being a painter. He showed us lots of his tools and his original artwork.. We also went to Lidl as part of our PSED and practised our road safety rules.



S1A Spring 2019 Class News



This term Callum Piggins and Rhys Carrick have been working towards Entry Level 1 in Maths. They have both completed all their course work and are now in the process of completing 4 exams. Students have been expressing their feelings in PSHCE using masks and they have also been enjoying and working hard in sensory integration sessions. Students use a variety of equipment to help them self-regulate and stay focused in class.

Full English Breakfast for 6th Form

This term, 6th form have enjoyed taking part in cooking a full English breakfast and bacon sandwiches as part of their ASDAN module independent living skills. We cooked eggs, bacon, sausages, beans and toast using a variety of different appliances and making sure we knew the dangers when cooking. We enjoyed showing off our independent living skills and eating the food too!



Inter-School Games Boccia Competition 2019



Well done to all competitors in this year's Inter-School Games Boccia Competition, which was held at The Croft School in February 2019. We entered three teams (Year 5/6, Year 7/8, Year 9/10) and each played against 4 different schools within Derwentside. Villa Real teams finished in 1st place in all age categories and all now qualify for the Winter County School Games finals, at Maiden Castle on 29th March 2019.

Easter holiday Fun

We have been given the details of a Funday being held on Easter Monday at Leadgate Cricket club between 12pm and 4 pm, in support of the Alzheimers Society. There will be a variety of inflatables and rides as well as some amazing local craft stalls and many other activities.

Holiday Club Update

Thank you for returning your questionnaires. The School is in the process of meeting with the Local Authority and planning staffing for your requests. Further information will follow when available.

Attendance News

Attendance of all is a priority at Villa real. Current School Attendance is 90.9%. If any parent/carer wishes to discuss or requires support for their child's attendance, please contact Louise Burns, Attendance Lead, or Moya White, School Nurse.

Governing Body News

After almost 3 years of service on the Governing Body, we say goodbye to Simon Adams. With his years of experience in Education, Simon has been a great asset to Villa Real, however he has now moved to work in the West Midlands. We would all like to thank him and wish him Good Luck for the future.

Vacancy - the above now means we have a vacancy for a Co-Opted Governor. We are looking for someone with Education and/or Finance experience to help us continue our work to support and strengthen our fabulous pupils, students and staff.

If you are interested in any or know anyone who might be, please contact the School Office.