



Hercules Class End of Newsletter Winter Term 3

Topic – Walking in the Jungle



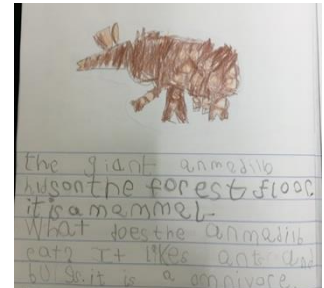
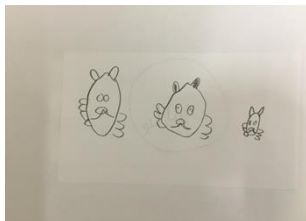
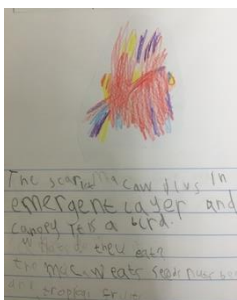
Welcome to our class end of term newsletter. Everyone settled back in amazingly well after the long Christmas break and we welcomed the parents into school for the first time to talk about out the new phonics scheme Sounds Write. Our class sign has been installed and is a wonderful addition to our school.

We kicked started our topic by travelling to the three different rainforests around the world in our hand built plane made of cardboard boxes, inspired by Alexander McCall's book 'The Bubblegum Tree'. This was the first non-picture book that the class read, and the children listened intently keeping track of the story and was always keen to find out what



happened next.

We then explored the different animals that live in the rainforest with the help of the 'All the way down: Amazon Rainforest' book which we read together. We then wrote a fact file over a couple of weeks using word mats to support our writing for those big and specialist rainforest words. We have been so impressed by the children's engagement and keenness to write! Lastly, we turned our knowledge into a song based on 'Walking in the Jungle' for our display board. In Art, the children have been looking at Henri Rousseau's 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm' to create their own tiger artwork and wow their work has been amazing! They have worked like real artists - sketching ideas and developing them into a finished work of art. All the children have worked so hard this term and we have seen great progress in their phonics and mathematical understanding, working with numbers up to 20. To support their writing and core strength, we have been able to purchase a set of balance bikes for the school, and these will be included in our PE lessons to develop their balance and gross motor skills



A sample of the process of their drawings from start to finish collage.

Thanks for all your parental support and hard work encouraging your children to come into school through the dark cold mornings - we know that this is never an easy term. Have a wonderfully relaxing half term break, let's hope the run to Easter will be full of the sunshine and bright days we are looking forward to!

All the best from the Hercules Team.