## PHOENIX CLASS END OF TERM 2 NEWSLETTER 2022-23



Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas is fast approaching and the weeks seem to have flown by, but we have managed to cram lots of things into our time this term. Phoenix children continue to improve in their learning behaviour – which has been great to witness. Always being ready and keen to learn is something we always expect in class, and something the children have become much better at supporting each other with. Well done!

Phoenix really enjoy music! In addition to the whole-class violin sessions on Tuesdays, and the singing assemblies for the whole school each week, the children also spend lesson time on Fridays singing, listening to a range of songs and playing the glockenspiels – as part of the music curriculum. They have become more familiar with musical notation and have improved their ability to copy and perform rhythms and melodies. They can pick out the instruments they can hear in music from a wide range of musical genres and comment on pitch and dynamics. It has been great to see the potential musicians of the future.

Our Geography topic sparked great interest across the class as we looked into trade. Children explored how products end up on our shelves after starting their lives the other side of the planet. We began by playing a game where teams had to ‘produce’ various products with varying levels of resources, tools and funds. It was a way of demonstrating how different countries manage when competing in a global market. The children has great fun in trading with each other and making deals. We also learnt about fair trade and how we should take a little more time to consider how to protect producers in poorer parts of the world. The children are very good at demonstrating their caring attitudes.

Our Art topic has been a big hit in the class this term. We have been studying different types of folk art – primarily from India. Children spent time looking at the different features of these particular traditional styles and they had the chance to replicate them into their books. Attention to detail has been good to see. Some of the finished results have been impressive. We also finished off the unit with a KS2 Art morning which included creating Batik artwork. This was a great opportunity for the children to experience a more unusual art process.

PE this term was Rounders outside and Yoga in the hall. Yoga sessions have been a rather different way to cover the PE curriculum. It was really nice to see how the children developed their sense of balance and strength over a wide range of different yoga poses. We had soothing music in the background and focussed on our breathing while we performed such poses as Tree, Cobra, Butterfly, Child and Hero. Ask them to perform some of these at home for you – and even join in if you can!

I do hope you enjoy the Christmas break; the children deserve a rest.

Kind regards and Merry Christmas

Mr Osler, Mrs Shoubridge and Mrs Pym

    