

MEADOWPARK - NEWSLETTER – WEEK 24 – 26.01.18

We've had a period of change and reflection in Meadowpark this week. The weather brought about a certain amount of change, but didn't succeed in preventing us from being out and about, especially with our new delivery of pallets, wooden tile crates and rubble sacks. A huge thanks to friends for delivering the building blocks for creative play that has seen the playground turned into a lunar 'den village'.

I have had quite a large teaching commitment this week which has enabled me to have a hands on experience to observe and participate in pupil's learning. Transition to new timetables is barely 5 months away, with February break, Easter holidays and Activities Week before then and so we are working hard to ensure that teaching and learning is meaningful, challenging and stimulating whilst offering a variety of worthwhile experiences to all pupils.

We celebrated the work of Robert Burns this week and focused on Scotland as a mini IDL project. Class 1 baked oatcakes, tasted 'haggis, neeps n tatties', designed kilt patterns and researched their own tartans. Class 1 rounded off the week with an excellent assembly which shared the outcomes of their work with Class 2 and Class 3. There were even some spare oatcakes to share.

Finley Brown, an S5 pupils from Knox Academy brought her drumsticks from when she was in a pipe band and pupils enjoyed being shown by Finley how to twirl her drumsticks and then beat the drum.

Classes 1 and 2 have chosen Space as their theme for the next IDL project and have already built a rocket using loose parts.

Our new music therapist came to visit on Monday and we are looking forward to having her input beginning in earnest after the February break once she has completed some observations.

All teachers will be planning for the Activities Week at the end of May and will pull together an action packed programme, but we have decided to postpone our residential experience until summer 2019, so that we can be sure of getting the best value for money in a fully inclusive environment.

The sun is shining and there is a warmth in the air which always lifts spirits and puts me in mind of the bird boxes that we will be building to position around Meadowpark. I am confident that with the longer days we will continue to think ahead not only to the warmer Spring days but to the next phases in life be it welcoming pupils here or supporting pupils on to their next destination and exploring life opportunities.

Charli Prime 26.01.18