



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs M Ford BA (Hons)



Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Families,

Our specialist teacher of science, Mrs Wells, has been busy across the school these last couple of weeks delivering a variety of science lessons to the children. Here is just a selection of what she has been teaching them.

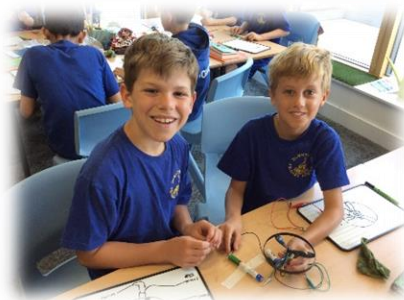
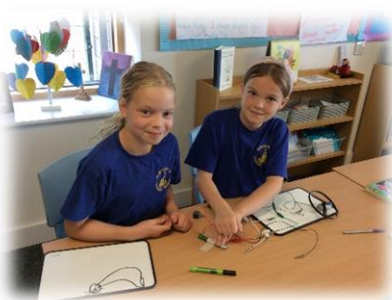
Our Reception children went on a safari to Madagascar to learn about all the animals of the world. They hopped on the boat, suitably equipped with their safari hats and were sent on an adventure to find all the hidden animals, identify what animals they were and complete their checklist.



The Year 3 children were learning about garden plants and how water transports through them to keep them alive. Using the sunlight shining through the leaves and equipped with magnifying glasses, they were able to spot the veins in the leaves and see the water transportation system for themselves.



Electric circuits were the focus in our Year 4 class. Using whiteboards, they were able to draw out their plan of what they would need to create a working circuit to successfully conduct electricity to light a bulb and spin a fan. They then had the opportunity to put these into practice successfully lighting up the classroom with their lightbulbs, and cooling it down with their fans.



There was some challenging chemistry taking place in Year 5 as they explored mixtures and solutions. Using different liquids, they were able to observe how they reacted with each other when mixed together and even made their own pretend lava lamps with colours and bubbles.



Mrs Monk and her Foxes class took on the role of birdwatchers, learning all about the different birds they can find in the garden along with other garden animals they may come across. Using their checklists, they had to keep a close eye on all the birds flying around the garden and identify them by their colour and pattern. Using magnifying glasses, they then had a closer look at some minibeasts and insects and their characteristics to make them easier to spot in the garden.



You may remember last term, we asked the children to get creative for a Jubilee themed competition being held at the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations. The entries were entered on the childrens behalf by Mr Savage at the Downton Horticultural Society Flower Show in their childrens craft section. We are delighted to share the winners who are Max in Year 6 for his fantastic Lego union jack, Raf in Year 3 for his excellent Jubilee coin and Farran for his very creative crown. They were each presented with a £5 Smyths gift card as their prize which was kindly donated by the Downton Horticultural Society. Well done to you all!



This week we were given the final total from the DPSA that was raised back in April at the Downton Cuckoo Fair. We are delighted to share with you all that the final total is a fantastic £5615! This is a result of all the hard work and time put in by all the volunteers both on the lead up to the event but more importantly on the day itself. We are excited to let you know that this money is helping us fund a class set of 30 iPads which have now arrived in school awaiting installation. We can't wait to share with you the difference and impact this will have to the childrens learning once we have them up and running – watch this space!

Have a lovely weekend,

Paula Carlton
Paula Carlton

