

DITCHINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY



9TH February 2024

Message from our Executive Head:

This week it has been safer internet day and children's mental health week, so we have explored themes relating to this alongside our usual curriculum. The theme for safer internet day was, '**Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online**'. As well as reminding ourselves of how to keep safe online, we also considered the changes that have been seen in technology, and how the internet can be used to make change for the better.



For children's mental health week, the theme was, 'My Voice Matters'. Across the week we have considered that we're all different – we all have different things that make us tick and that bring a smile to our face and make us feel loved, trusted and supported. We all have a voice, and it is important that we feel supported to share it; It is important that we all feel confident that we will be listened to. We have explored ways in which the children feel supported in home and school. We also explored ways in which they would like to be supported and how they could support others.

Themes like these are so important to us to explore in school. We hope to inspire all within our school community that their voice matters, they can be the change makers, both now and in the future.

Robins:

In support of children's mental health week Robin Class have been discussing the importance of having an opinion we can share. We expressed our likes and dislikes, and I was very interested to hear of the great number of things that we are proud of!

During science we have had lots of fun experimenting with different materials in order to find the perfect curtains for Rosie the doll. We discovered that although leather was the most opaque, and therefore let the least amount of light in, the thick cotton was probably the best material as although not as opaque, it was the most cost effective material.

Our history lessons have focussed on comparing similar toys from different times. We discovered that early 20th century crayons differed from those today as there were less colours available to buy and were originally only made for schools. We also discovered that early Meccano sets differed from those today as they were only available in tin and had limited design choices.

Barn Owls:

This week Barn Owls have worked very hard once again. The first 2 days were spent doing assessments, which were done with great effort and focus - well done. We have finished both our art and science units on printing and the digestive system, and we have also finished our music unit on recorders. This is because Mrs Harper, our UEA teacher has finished her placement with us. We wish her all the best for the rest of her PGCE. In English we have started a new text and in maths we have carried on with perimeter (Y4) and money (Y3).

Please do encourage your children to use REAL money - this will really help their understanding of this sometimes confusing maths and life skill.



Dear God,

We thank you that we are wonderfully created in your image, and we thank you that you have given us our voices. We pray that we are given the space and support to raise worries, thoughts and ideas about the world. We pray that you give us the confidence to know that our voice matters and give us the courage inspire change.

Amen

Golden Eagles:

This week in Golden Eagles we have been doing some different things in class linked to special days/weeks. Firstly, we celebrated Safer internet day on Tuesday. We looked at how technology has changed over time and what we think it could look like 20 years in the future. We then talked about things that we often encounter on the internet, such as pop-ups and push notifications, and what they are designed to get us to do. Finally, we talked about how to make sure we stay safe online and what to do if things go wrong. On Wednesday, we celebrated Children's mental health week. We looked at how every child in the world has the right to be heard and then we talked about how we all matter, writing letters of gratitude to each other about how they have made us feel like we matter to them. We love having the opportunity to experience different days and weeks in school and to have a change from our regular curriculum!