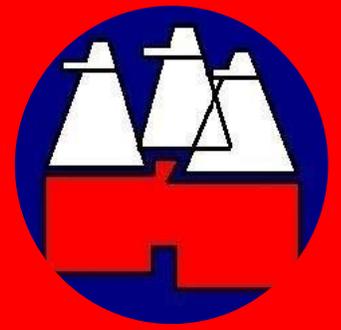


# Paddock Wood Primary School



Friday 15  
February 2019

## Term 3

### **Year 5 Residential Trip – Week 1**

On 29 January, children from Year 5 arrived at school bright and (very) early for Paddock Wood Primary's first school trip to the Brecon Beacons. On arrival at Plas Pencelli, the children were shown around the centre before enjoying their first taste of independence - making their own beds. With this challenge complete, the children began their first activity: an adventure walk around Plas Pencelli. The children found themselves climbing trees, wading through streams, sliding down muddy banks and even climbing up waterfalls. An evening of orienteering by torchlight ensured the children were truly ready for bed that night.



The next morning, the children layered up for a chilly morning of canoeing in the local canal. As the snow fell, the children had to communicate effectively in order to avoid collisions. Thankfully, nobody ended up taking an un-planned dip! Then followed a caving expedition that tested everyone's dexterity. The children were extremely brave as they clambered and crawled through some tight spaces. Finally, the children completed a scavenger hunt around the centre, concluding another exciting day.



#### **WORLD BOOK DAY:**

*On Thursday 7 March, all pupils are invited to dress-up as their favourite character from a book, to celebrate World Book Day. Every year, we are amazed by the effort and creativity which goes into the most amazing costumes - thank you!*

*We would also like to invite parents to join us on Friday 8 March in classes, to share books with their children. Further details to follow.*



On Thursday, the children spent the day climbing. They took responsibility for all their own equipment as well as the safety of their peers as they scaled the quarry side. Many fears were conquered and the children were rightfully proud of all they accomplished. The evening consisted of a variety of problem-solving activities, culminating in a nail-biting egg drop. The children managed to protect two eggs from destruction - a Plas Pencelli record!

## **Final Day...**

On the final day of Year 5's residential, the children awoke to a winter wonderland; the morning was spent in the best possible way - sledging on the local hills.

Throughout the week, the children developed their team spirit as they helped each other navigate the obstacles and challenges they faced, and an impressive level of perseverance was displayed by all. The children had many wonderful experiences surrounded by stunning nature and enjoyed a week they will surely never forget.

# Learning in school so far...

## *This week's highlights:*

In EYFS this week, the children have loved learning about Chinese New Year. To get a flavour of the festivities, they have been making Chinese dragons, looking at Chinese writing and listening to the Chinese Zodiac animal story. At the end of the week, they performed a Chinese dragon dance in the classrooms; they loved listening and responding to the music.

As a part of their outdoor learning, many children enjoyed making a large Chinese dragon out of boxes and worked together to perform a dragon dance on the playground; others played a steady beat in the music area to accompany the dance. Some children also drew large animals on the playground from the Chinese New Year story and experimented with Chinese symbols too.



Year 2 have been busy all week focused on a design and technology project. As a part of their learning about Antarctica, they studied the journey made by Ernest Shackleton, on his famous ship 'Endurance'.

They were inspired by their epic travels, to imagine, plan and build their own boat. Firstly, they tested which materials floated and which ones would sink. Then they designed their ship based on their learning.

Pupils are going to test their boats on Friday, they plan to test each design on water, to see which could carry a heavy load.



**Reminder: INSET Day on Monday 25 February – no pupils to attend school that day**

## Dates for the diary:

Tuesday 12 February – Friday 15 February: *Year 5 Residential*  
Monday 25 February: *INSET Day*  
Tuesday 26 February: *3B to visit Dover Museum*  
Monday 4 March: *3S to visit Dover Museum*  
Tuesday 5 March: *3A to visit Dover Museum*  
Thursday 7 March: *World Book Day*  
Monday 11 March - Friday 15 March: *Science Focus Week*  
Monday 18 March: *Year 4 Mountain Biking begins*