

Beech class weekly update 18.9.20

This week we have all been very busy with our new topic and have started using lots of new vocabulary such as habitat, carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, predator and prey. We have also been talking stamina and fitness in PE.

The children have been outside quite a lot and have enjoyed chalking numbers on the playground, matching numbers to tens and ones under the gazebo and creating their own dinosaur habitats on the field. We have also been having picnics for lunch which has been a big hit as it allows the children to sit (socially distanced) with different friends.

We are continuing to read as much as we can with the children, this week some of that reading has been linked to assessments to help us to identify gaps in the children's learning which will in turn inform future planning.

We have kept the plants from last week in the classroom as the children were so keen on them (although my home now feels a little bare!) if you have any offshoots or unwanted houseplants that you think would be happy in Beech class the children would be very glad of them.

The children had a lovely time this morning using natural objects to create their own fossils from clay. We were lucky enough to be able to look at a local collection of fossils in close detail and to be able to explore how these are created. We looked at several ammonites (related to squid and octopus) and the vertebrae of the Ichthyosaur, a dolphin-like creature.

A special thank you to the Heseltine Gallery for the loan of these fossils and local information gathered by the Hornton History group. The Jurassic 'finds' are displayed in the chapel in Hornton as an exhibition, which is due to open soon (if you would like to visit with your family to see more amazing fossils and 'finds!')

We have also been discussing things that make the children feel calm and how these can be different for different people. The children were able to come up with lots of different ideas and they could also understand that what might make some people feel really calm might make other people feel really worried eg. stroking a dog or riding a horse.

Thank you again for all of your support this week it really does make such a difference

Miss Roseblade, Mrs Coventry, Ms Coffee & Mrs Paice

Notices:

Forest school: Now the children have settled into our new school routine, we will be starting Forest school sessions on **Wednesday afternoons**. Every Wednesday your child needs to **come to school** wearing full-length trousers and a long sleeved top. Please can the children bring their waterproof trousers/jackets or 'all in one suits' in a bag, which can be kept under their tables. Please can any children who do not have wellies in school, please bring some in (most children do now).

Topic projects: Remember to look at the class web page for the range of Dinosaur planet ideas you may wish to complete. It would be great if you could complete as many as you would like to and share these with us by taking photos of what you have enjoyed and produced. Please email these to

the class email: Beech@sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk **PLEASE NOT THIS IS A CHANGE TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS GIVEN OUT LAST WEEK ON THE ACORN UPDATE**