

News from Stower Provost Primary School Octavo October 2018

The children have made a flying start to the new school year, settling well into their classes and becoming fully involved in their new learning. Topic headings this term include the Shang Dynasty, a fascinating study into an ancient civilisation, Life on the Move, an investigation into the progress made in the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages, and Water World and Exciting Explorers, where our youngest children find out about past adventurers.

Until quite recently, our learning was supported by text books, boxes of artefacts and school trips. Fortunately, this still happens and it all adds real enrichment to the children's experiences. Now, of course, the wonders of the Internet mean a whole range of information can be accessed instantly, with pictures, video and articles. Learning more about a topic has never been easier or more varied.

A large part of our technology lessons this term includes a focus on Internet Safety, making sure the children understand the risks associated with the Internet and the potential dangers. A visit last term from the Safer Schools and Communities Team, led by the Police, was hugely important for the children, and the workshop for parents was invaluable.

A visit with a different slant for us this October is from the education team at Wessex Water, during which the children will be taught the finer points of water saving and sewage treatment. I am sure the children will find it a real eye-opener!

Also in the run up to half term, our oldest children will be experiencing an 'outdoor adventurous' residential trip to North Devon. Very different from our last residential, where we stayed in the Bristol City Centre Youth Hostel to explore the sights, this one will test the children's stamina, skills and resilience with climbing and abseiling, a high ropes course, team challenges and, of course, staying away from home.

Our recent Harvest Assembly was an opportunity for us to remember how fortunate we are, and a wonderful array of goods was collected before being sent off to the Trussell Trust's Gillingham Foodbank to support local people in need.

To celebrate all that the children have learnt so far, we will be holding our termly Curriculum Showcase afternoon on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 2:30pm. Do come along to see the range of work they have been doing and talk with them about their school.

Finally, we would be delighted to welcome those who can spare some time to help in class and hear children read. If you are interested, do get in touch – we would love to hear from you.

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