



Nebula Maths Week Newsletter

20th - 24th November 2017

Across the **Nebula Federation** this week, all of our schools have been taking part in **Maths Week**. The focus was to look at how maths can be involved in everyday life, and in particular, to discover areas that the children might initially not realise involve maths.

We started the week off by holding a maths trail across both sites and inviting parents in to see how maths investigations can help children to think more analytically about maths, rather than always worrying about getting the "right" answer. It was lovely to see so many parents at the trails. This was the first time we have held such an event and unfortunately the weather was against us, so we had to change our plans quite quickly and hold them inside school. Next time we will perhaps shorten the number of activities and give the groups longer to have a go at the challenges. We will also make sure the team leaders are more identifiable so the group know who they should be following! If you were not able to attend and would like to see the challenges we got the children to think about, please head over to our website and look under the "Our Curriculum" tab.

Children across the school, from Year R to 6, investigated the discoveries of the famous Italian mathematician, **Leonardo Fibonacci** and focused on measures as a theme for the week. Please read on to find out what the children have been learning during our first Maths Week.



The children have been really busy in **Reception** this week, learning about Fibonacci and exploring with shape, measurement and numbers across our classrooms and outside area. The children have particularly relished the opportunity to learn the names of the numbers to ten in Italian! It was lovely to welcome lots of their parents into Wonderland on Tuesday afternoon for our Maths Trail, where the children were able to guide their grown-ups through a number of challenges throughout the learning environment.



In **Years 1 and 2** the children listened to the story, 'The Rabbit Problem', by Emily Gravett. This book explores Fibonacci's number sequence/pattern and enabled the children to create pieces of artwork that we will display around school. In PE the children explored how many things they could do in one minute. The children worked in pairs to time how many star jumps and sit ups they could do. Throughout the week they have also been reading maths based stories including Spinderella by Julia Donaldson and Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney.



Years 3 and 4 spent their art lesson discussing a piece of art by Auguste Herbin, the best cubist artist. The teachers asked the children to see how many 2D shapes they could find, and then discussed the properties of the shapes. After their discussion they started to create their own piece of cubist art.

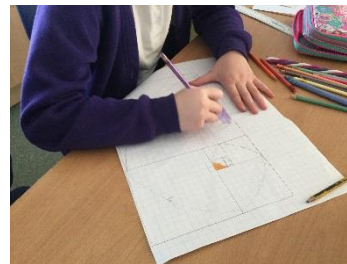
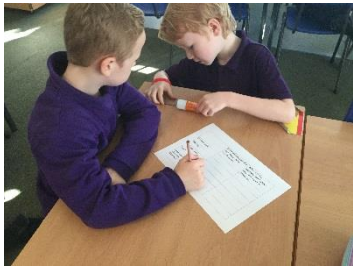
On Thursday, all the children were involved in a cooking activity. They had the opportunity to measure the weight of chocolate, cornflakes and even golden syrup, in order to make some chocolate cornflake cakes. They really enjoyed the time challenges they had to complete too, especially the "How long can you hold a pose?" challenge!



Children in **Years 5 and 6** used a recipe to make chocolate fridge cake, which needed them to measure very carefully. Before doing this, they had to make sure that the teachers had bought enough ingredients, by working out how to convert a recipe for 8 people into a recipe for 96!



Our children at Mill Lane explored the Fibonacci sequence and how this can be seen all over nature. They also looked at the golden ratio and discovered how this is used in a lot of architecture - even our school! They measured rectangles they could see in the school to find out if these contained the golden ratio.



Maths' Trail 2017

