

Oak Class Term 2 Newsletter

Class Teacher: Mr Cottrell

Class TA: Mrs Hale

PPA Cover: Friday Morning - Mrs Puleston

What have we been doing in class this term?

English

This term in English, we have been reading *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. The children have been reading aloud wonderfully! Over the past few weeks, they have also been working hard with simple, compound and complex sentences – making sure they are securely using a range of these in writing related to the book, including some impressive balanced arguments. We've also revised and practiced speech punctuation and grammar rules, writing dialogue inspired by the text.

Poetry has been our focus this week. The children have explored motif, as well as writing their own haiku poems related to *Kensuke's Kingdom*. Next week brings Tanka poems and backwards poems, culminating in a performance of one of their wonderful poems they have written.

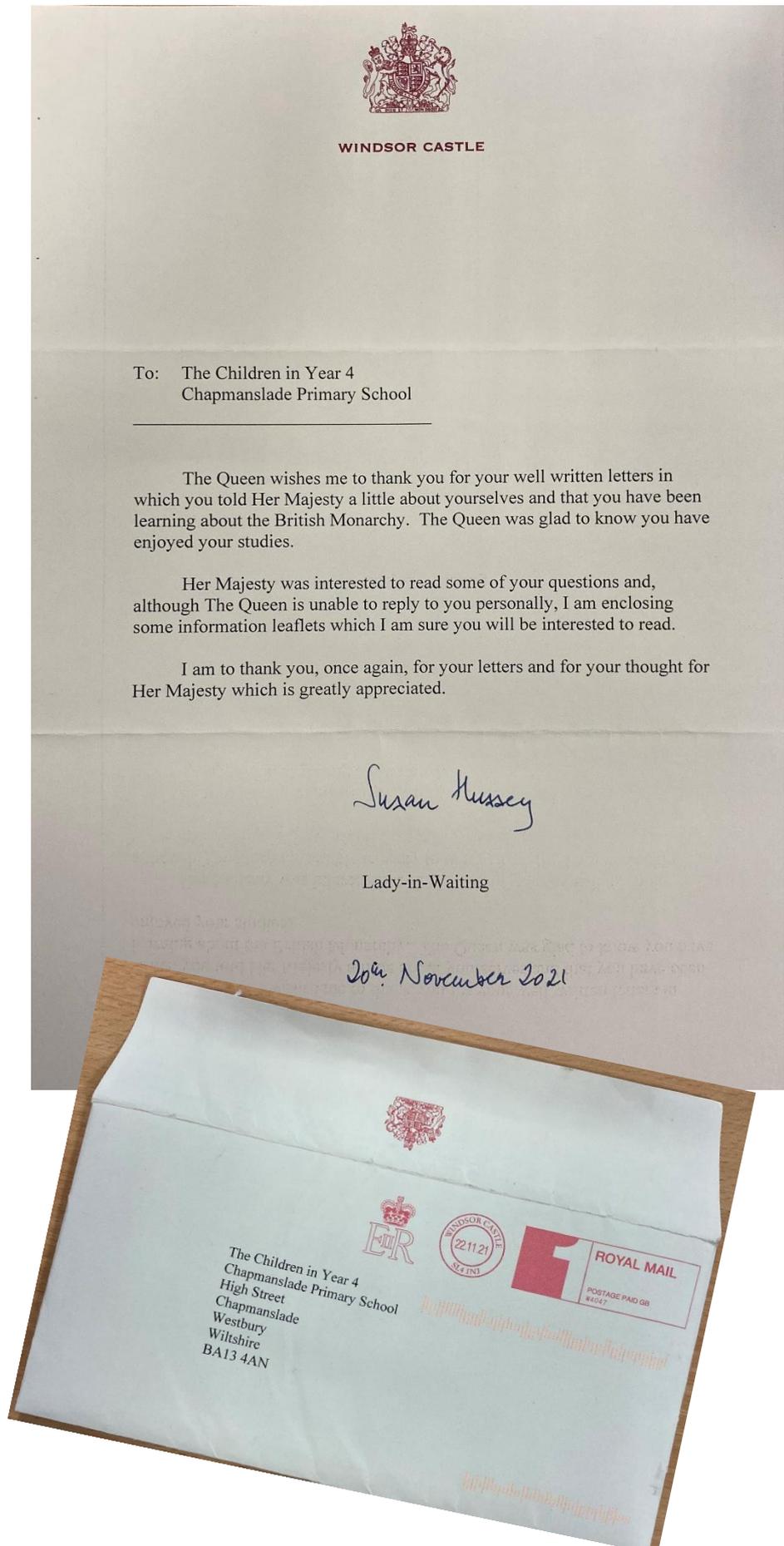
We also received a very exciting letter from Windsor Castle this week in reply to the letters we sent The Queen last term! →

Celebration

Well done to Amelia Ba, who achieved a certificate for level 6 in gymnastics.

Well done to William, who achieved a certificate for 10m in swimming.

Please keep those out of school achievements coming in for celebration!



Maths

We've been very busy in maths! Both year groups have spent lots of time working on developing addition and subtraction skills, which we will keep revisiting and revising as they are so important.

Both year groups have now started working on multiplication and division facts in preparation for learning new methods after Christmas. Lots of times table practise will help every child become more fluent to help with this learning.

Year 4s have also been learning about length and perimeter of shapes and Year 5s have been working on their statistics skills – reading and interpreting tables and graphs.

Science

Year 5s have just finished learning about *forces* (including gravity, friction, water resistance and air resistance). Year 4s have just finished investigating *forces and magnets*.

This week, we have started exploring *electricity*. Over the coming weeks, we will be investigating how electricity powers appliances. Our knowledge, especially building circuits, will help us with our upcoming design and technology (DT) unit in which we'll be designing and making battery operated lights.

Other Subjects

In RE this week, pupils have made Christingles, related to their learning about what the most significant part of the nativity is to Christians today.

In PSHE, pupils are learning about keeping safe, including about responsibilities, staying safe out and about, as well as about dangerous substances and dealing with incidents/emergencies.

Geography

We've had lots of fun in geography lessons, learning how to read maps, using compass directions, grid references and keys with Ordnance Survey maps.

On Wednesday, we ventured out into the village to 'test drive' our own sketch maps, whilst analysing landscape and land use of our local area.



Homework

Homework consists of EdShed assignments (*at least 2* spelling games and 1 of each maths game - look for the red notifications); 3 adult signed reads recorded in the reading record; and practising times tables (target Space Mission Maths times tables).

There's a week to complete homework activities so that pupils can talk to their teacher if they are struggling.

If pupils are struggling to access online homework for any reason, please let us know. We can arrange alternative provision if necessary.