J.P Curriculum

Maths

We have been concentrating on number, number and number this term. To begin with we did lots of work improving our speed at working out quick addition and subtraction sums. We used number lines and Mrs Mac tried to teach us how to count on. We will continue to work on this throughout the year. We then moved on to tens and units. It is very important to have a good understanding of how many tens & units a numeral has, so that when we get to adding and subtracting large numbers we understand why we sometimes have to exchange. We have just finished two weeks of adding two digit numbers some of which needed exchanging (except Adam who is in year 1 and he is still practising simple addition and getting very good at it). Some of our brilliant mathematicians have even been adding three digit numbers and even adding three numbers together.

We are also doing ‘Maths Mental’ each day after recess which we enjoy and are getting much quicker at doing. It covers many different concepts such as time, number, measurement, problem solving, shape, space etc. Most Fridays we work on our times tables.

Literacy

Each morning up until recess we spend on the explicit teaching of literacy. After fitness and our ‘Brain food’ we start with our spelling program. We are each on an individual program which means none of the class has the same words. Half of our words are key sound words, which were determined after Mrs Mac gave us a diagnostic spelling test and the other half are words that we have spelt incorrectly in our writing. We do lots of activities each morning to help us learn these words so that they may remain in our long term memory. Each Friday we have a test. The words that we spelt incorrectly go back on our list for next week because we need to practise them some more.

After spelling is reading. We split into two groups (yrs 1&2) & (yrs 2&3). One group works with Mrs Mac on ‘Guided Reading’. Guided reading is when we read from a big book or the same small books. We begin by reading together and then we take turns reading a page. While we read Mrs Mac picks out special things in the text that she wants us to learn e.g punctuation, contractions or the genre. We then do a follow up activity to practise these. The other group work with Mrs LeRaye. We usually play a language game that helps us learn a specific reading skill. This term we have been concentrating on sight words.

The last half hour of our literacy block is spent writing. This term we have written and published a story called ‘My fishy adventure’. It took quite a few lessons to write our first draft and then have some corrections made and then finally publish it on the computer using word. We have also written some recounts of ‘our holiday’, ‘beach sports day’ and some free choice writing. Mrs Glenie has been working with us on poetry. We have produced two poems of excellent quality. We are getting very good at rhyming.