

Blog Squad - March Edition Blog

Blog 4:

By Connie Mumford

Happy March! Hello and welcome to Blog 4 of Blog Squad. This blog combines all of the activities that have taken place over the last two months. The first blog is all about the visitors that have been looking around our school. They have been going around to each class seeing the teachers doing what they do best... teaching! They also saw how the students are... well... learning! We interviewed some of the Year 6s who spoke to the visitors and here are the answers they gave...

Name: Ruoxin



Year: 6

What happened when they were interviewed: "They asked us questions about OPAL play and why we enjoyed it."

How did you feel: "Intrigued."

Name: Braymil



Year: 6

What happened when they were interviewed: "The head-teacher, Miss Gladstone introduced us to them and asked us a few questions."

How did you feel: "I felt thrilled."

Name: Archie



Year: 6

What happened when they were interviewed: "The head-teacher gave us a questionnaire about what playtime was like before and after OPAL play."

How did you feel: "It was enjoyable."

Name: Anna



Year: 6

What happened when they were interviewed: "They asked us to say how we felt about OPAL play and the new playgrounds and to describe it in a one word theme."

How did you feel: "Excited."

Name: Maria



Year: 6

What happened when they were interviewed: "They asked us what our favourite thing about OPAL play was. Toys, buddies, teachers."

etc.

How did you feel: "Eager."

Thank you for listening to my very INTERESTING blog. I promise that next week will NOT be full of interviewing kids.

Blog 5:

Howdy! Buenos Dias! HI! Bonjour! Welcome to my second blog. As I promised last week, this blog is NOT going to be about interviews. Actually, it's about something completely different. Last week, on Friday, there was an Oracy Debate in each class. Here are the types of topics they were discussing:

Year 6's Class Statement: "Mayans were the most advanced civilisation of their time."

Year 5's Class Statement: "Democracy was the most important outcome of the Ancient Greek era."

Year 4's Class Statement: "Life in Anglo-Saxon Britain was better than life today."

Year 3's Class Statement: "Egyptian society was unfair."

Year 2's Class Statement: "Being a nurse was one of the most important jobs."

Unfortunately, Year 1 did not make a debate, but they did make a wonderful presentation, based on the question: "How did Britain change during the Industrial Revolution?"

How does Oracy help us (Why do we do it)?

Oracy will help us in the future when...

- We make presentations in our job or secondary school
- We practise having an audible voice
- We make conversation with someone

- It gives us the skills we need to disagree with someone appropriately

We went around each class and asked their teachers to look out for a star debater. Here were the top comments:



Year 6: *Sariah*

Why: "She always builds on what anyone says, projects her voice AND speaks clearly and with confidence."



Year 5: *Amayah*

Why: "For clear, concise points and persuasive language."



Year 4: *Arianna*

Why: "She always had a reply to every statement thrown at her."



Year 3: *Aidan*

Why: "The way he projected his voice, used hand gestures and the passion he had for his debate."



Year 2: *Ire*

Why: "He used sentence openers and conjunctions to explain his point of view."

The next part of our blog is written by Ahria and Valentina in Year 4.

Why is it important to share your feelings?

It is important to share your feelings at any time because if you don't, over time, you may start to feel worse.

When you are sad, you can tell a teacher and share how you feel.

When you feel excited, you can take five deep breaths so you feel ready to learn.

When you feel tired, you can stretch so that you are more awake.

When you are angry or mad at someone, you can go to the mindfulness area and take a moment to calm down.

If you're scared, you can cuddle up with a teddy or play with a sensory toy.

Calm areas in your classroom:

In Year 2, there is a calm corner with mindfulness toys and a positive affirmation mirror.

In Year 3, there is a sensory table with sensory bubble wrap.

In Year 4, there are zones of regulation area and also a table with squishies.

In Year 5, there is fidgets and plushy toys to hug.

In Year 6 there is a fidget toy area and books to help calm you down.

Suggestions for improvement

Feel free to write a worry if you have a worry box in your classroom and let the teachers know how you feel in a more private way. Give someone a compliment to make them feel better. Drawing is a recommendation to calm you down, reading can change the way you look at things and cheer you up.

How do we stay safe in the playground?

Staying safe in the playground is one of the most important things to do at school. Things we can do to stay safe are:

- Check your surroundings before you begin.
- Be careful with the equipment when you play with it and follow the rules we have discussed in our weekly play assembly.
- Ensure you tell an adult if anything has upset you.
- Treat others how you would like to be treated - this is our school vision!