

## St Paul's Primary School celebrates International Literacy Day

St Paul's Primary School celebrated International Literacy Day on 8 September 2020. International literacy day was declared by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) in 1967.

At St. Pauls we started our day of by having an inspiring assembly in the school hall organised by Deputy Head Miss Sherell Thomas where we had invited guest speakers – Dustin Cornelson, Chief



inspector Price and Ms Patsy Flagg who talked about how important literacy is within their job roles. One of the most exciting questions that was asked by Mr Cornelson was how to spell **Mississippi**, which Ephrem Stroud spelt this correctly and won £5. During this assembly all



children were very engaged, listened and eager to join in with questions that were asked. Ms Flagg (who is a retired Ex Education officer) also showed a good example to everyone, by using resources all hand written and reused from calendars and cards!

During the day there were a lot of different activities and guest speakers in classes around the school. Early years invited parents to join them with paired reading and other activities. Each class



also had a guest speaker which all of children really enjoyed. Nursery had guest reader Mr Dustin. In Reception their guest reader was the Director of Education Mrs Benjamin. Mrs Benjamin also mentioned that she enjoyed her time with the children. Parents were also invited into the class to do paired



reading which saw a very good turnout. Teacher Miss Robyn Sim also chatted about how important it is to build the first steps to reading.

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The Year 1 class looked at Helena foods especially Pilau (around the mast). The reason year 1 looked at this was because it consists of a variety of vegetables which linked to their science topic

'who am I? 'We are what we eat'. Children went from sequencing the method to preparing and making Pilau. All children had a chance to go into the kitchen with a carousel approach to have an insight of reading how to make the Pilau. Children sat like a family to their



tables and tasted the food which children commented, the food was 'DELICIOUS'. Children learnt how important reading is from the steps of purchasing ingredients to tasting it on the plate. "Reading is the key to success"- YR1 Teacher Mrs Sally Young said.



In year 2M their guest reader was Ms. Molly Fowler (one of the school's former teachers) Chairperson of the school's PTA Mrs Michelle Thomas-Lawrence. Each child brought in a book to share and read with a partner, where all



and

children enjoyed and had the chance to make a bookmark for their books. "Literacy is very important because this will help you to get a job such as being on the Radio"- pupil Lakeria George said. In year 2B children brought in books to share with a friend or did a book swap. The children also had the opportunity to look at different St. Helenian foods and different places on the island, which children then wrote short stories. There was a guest speaker in, Mrs Daniella Marlow (nurse) who explained to children why literacy is very important for her job a nurse. Mrs Marlow also brought in some medical resources which children used to crest an arm cast and they thoroughly enjoyed. YR2 teacher Miss Christy Bedwell said, "Today was a very interesting day, lots of questions were asked and children were engaged in all activities.



Year 3 had a fantastic day! The day was based around up-leveling pupils vocabulary and the use of ambitious words. The pupils then used these words to create poems about their parents. In the afternoon parents were invited in for Paired Reading and a Show and Tell where they heard their poems which was a touching moment for some. The pupils looked more in-depth at maths vocabulary, with a focus on using the Concrete, Pictorial,

Abstract approach where both pupils and parents demonstrated this method. 'The Minion ways to read' and the 'literacy Quotes tree' display, inspired year 3 to think about why reading is the key to success. Ms. Teeny Lucy read 'A cat called Rebel' which captured the pupil's imagination as they included the sound effects.

in Year 4 children started to prepare for international literacy day on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020, where children had a homework task consisted of 10 questions to ask an older member of the community such questions as to what things were like going to school in the past days and how they got to school. The children had to write a small poem or story using their interview answers about growing up in the past on St. Helena. On international Literacy day the children really enjoyed the presentation by Ms. Flagg who indulged and inspired them in many aspects from the past. For literacy children had a carousel of activities all about what they had learnt so far from all interviews and presentations. They also had a guest from the fire Dept. who told the class how literacy is important in being a fire fighter.



In years 5 and 6 children completed writing a story or poem about the olden days. These classes also had a very informative speech given by Ms Patsy Flagg, talking about schools back in the day. Year 6 looked at why literacy is important in maths by looking at place value and problem solving (using words instead of numerals) 'without

literacy you would not be able to express your feelings or know the language to communicate'



The lunchtime activities made me understand why literacy is important in life as sometimes you need to fill in forms such as from the police, tourist office, the bank ,as they need to write down a lot of things'. – said Jacob Herne



Nate recalled that you 'reading can be hard work but it helps you to read harder' –

During the lunch time, Depts came in to support with activities to depict this

day. We had the bank, Tourist Office, St | Helena trust, Fire dept and police. Pupils engaged in a variety of fun activities.

Headteacher Mrs Pat Williams commented: It was such a lovely fun filled day with a great buzz of excitement



various the school important national



around the school all enjoying the activities that were planned for our pupils whilst having a wealth of learning taking place. Congratulations and thanks to all staff, guest speakers, parents and personnel from various Departments who made this day extra special!