**Visit to Giraffes Class for Science- Summer Term 2022**

As always, it was a pleasure spending time with Mrs MacGregor, Miss Johnson and the children of Giraffes Class. The class are always so welcoming and it’s so positive how eager the children are to talk to me about what they’ve been up to!

I joined Giraffes for their first Science lesson of Science Week. I think it’s a fantastic idea to have a targeted week dedicated to Science as it allows the pupils to become fully immersed in the Science topics they are learning about, as well as providing lots of opportunities to consolidate the new knowledge.

Today’s lesson focused on life cycles and as part of this, the pupils were encouraged to think about the basic needs of humans and animals. Mrs MacGregor introduced the topic using an engaging presentation which captured the attention of the class. Mrs MacGregor explained the difference between a ‘want’ and a ‘need’ and invited the class to discuss this. It was great to see how keen all the pupils were to share their views and get involved in the discussion. Mrs MacGregor then encouraged the class to tell us about some of their wants and needs. The class came up with lots of brilliant responses and clearly enjoyed sharing their ideas!

Once everyone in the class had shared their thoughts, we moved on to the first workbook activity. Scissors, glue sticks and coloured pencils were passed around the classroom and all the children got busy colouring and organising pictures into ‘wants and needs’. Each table had the opportunity for peer discussion based on the topic of the lesson while completing the work.

After this, the class had a Movement break. We all followed a video with simple exercises and had lots of fun doing so. The pupils loved this and besides having fun, you could see the clear benefits for their attention and engagement for the remainder of the lesson.

The lesson continued and the topic of life cycles was introduced. Mrs MacGregor showed the class a short video of an egg hatching. The class were delighted! Another visual was used to show the life cycle of a chicken and there was a further opportunity for class discussion. One of the pupils has chickens and it was lovely to hear his stories about his own experiences with chickens.

To consolidate their learning, the pupils were set the task of organising pictures from the chicken’s life cycle into the correct order. While they were doing this, I had the opportunity to look through a few of the pupils’ Science books. It was great to see all the different activities and resources used to teach the children. A lot of thought clearly goes in to planning each lesson to make sure the learning needs of every single pupil are met. I would especially like to thank Alfie, who sat with me and talked me through his book. It was evident that he has enjoyed his previous Science lessons and is looking forward to the rest of this Science Week.

From chatting to the pupils and looking through their workbooks, it was clear how much progress the children have made throughout this school year, not just academically but also in their confidence. Giraffes class, you should all be so proud of yourself! Once again, I’d like to thank Mrs MacGregor, Miss Johnson and the children of Giraffes Class for inviting me to spend the afternoon with them. I enjoyed it immensely and can’t wait to come back in to visit!

Bethany