Apple News 2018-19

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely catching up with so many of you yesterday to share your children's progress and to hear how they are following so much of our classwork at home.

This week we have been writing our own invented cumulative stories and the children have blown our socks off with their enthusiasm and stamina.

In maths we have been working on problems involving counting in steps of 2 and 5, using lots of language that will help us with multiplication and division in future for example "how many 2p coins will I need to make 20p?". As ever, we have used lots of practical equipment and pictures to help.

Following our work on suffragettes, we had a new 'child' in class this week – 'Amber', my dark skinned rag doll. The children were rightly outraged that I treated her very differently to them and felt I was being unfair. They clearly and confidently said that she is just the same as us except for her colour. We debriefed at the end of the day with photos and video clips of segregation in 1950s America, including the story of Rosa Parks, which we have followed up today with an introduction to Martin Luther King Jr.

On personal note, I would like to thank everyone for their kind and supportive comments and well wishes. And for the cards and gifts, which are really not necessary, but are much appreciated. After 25 years in the classroom, this is the end of an era for me and I will be leaving with lots of happy memories of Watlington School and all the children I have worked with. I hope to remain part of the school community in the future. Today we had cupcakes and I filled up the class treasure box with lots of goodies as farewell gift.

Mrs Young has used her sessions with the children to try to prepare them for the changes ahead and to give them chance to talk about their feeling and ask questions. I have been in touch with both Mr Ward and Mrs Southon with regard to planning future learning.

With all my good wishes to you all,

Mrs Rugg