

Dear Parents,

This week in English we have been using extracts from the story of The Little Mermaid to answer questions and give our opinions on events. In Year 2 we have to develop our skill of 'inference' and this involves being able to answer 'How' and 'Why' questions. The need to explain their thinking clearly; and we are developing their ability to refer to what they have read in their answers. This is a good skill to practise when you hear them read at home. Finally we re-wrote the ending to The Little Mermaid and had great fun coming up with alternate events!

In Maths we have been learning how to check our answers by using 'inversion'. This is explained to the children as the opposite calculation e.g.  $3 + 4 = 7$  to check:  $7 - 4 = 3$  (we subtracted the same number we added and checked we had the first digit we started with). This skill will continue to be developed all year. We also looked at how numbers are related: if we know  $1 + 2 = 3$  we know  $10 + 20 = 30$  and the children loved spotting these relationships!

Next week we will be making number bonds in tens to 100, adding and subtracting 1s and 10s including problem solving and reasoning.

In topic we learnt about the achievements of Ellen MacArthur and how she overcame disappointment to become the fastest solo circumnavigator in the world! We put all our topic knowledge together on Wednesday, to play a fact quiz. I read out facts we have learned this topic and the children had to run to one of the following points on the playground: Captain James Cook, Lord Nelson, Hillary Lister, Grace Darling, Ellen MacArthur and 'more than one'. This last one was to capture facts such as 'My ship was made of wood.' where it applied to more than one person. The children were very competitive and really enjoyed seeing how much they learned by how many answers they got right!

Homework is to support next week's non-fiction writing. We will be making Ocean Fact Books, and what they children would like to find out about at home will be used to inform their writing.

Book Look is Monday next week, and we will look forward to seeing you there.

Have a nice weekend,  
Mrs Martin

Year 2 teacher  
English Leader  
Lenham Primary School