

INDIAN QUEENS SCHOOL

"Where learning counts and everyone matters"

2010/2011 Year Overview for Algonquin Class

The children were excited to be reunited in September after their successful transition day meetings at the end of the Summer Term. They quickly settled down to work and were fascinated to learn all about the history of the Victorians. Our visit to Lanhydrock House brought a stimulating and memorable dimension to our studies of the lives of Victorians, focusing on the children, servants and family. Everyone was able to appreciate how lucky they are to live in the twenty-first century! The children worked extremely hard with Helen Tiplady from C-Scape Dance Company to choreograph a waltz incorporating Victorian dress and mannerisms. They also showed lots of enthusiasm when learning about electricity, building circuits and switches to develop an understanding of conductors and insulators. We celebrated a Harvest of Hope fundraising day, where the children learnt about the importance of sustainability in third world communities. As the end of term approached, we compared a Victorian and modern Christmas and thoroughly enjoyed all the crafts, cooking, parties and special events as we prepared for Christmas!

The Spring term began with our topic of 'Up, up and away'. The children were enthusiastic about designing, developing, building and testing parachutes. Unfortunately the weather did not always favour a fair test. Children in the second half of the term got their hands dirty through our topic of 'Green fingers'. The children spent the term planting seeds, studying their germination and considering what plants need to grow and survive. The work was enhanced by a very exciting trip to Trelissick Gardens where children explored the sustainability, variation and management of plants and flowers. The highlight of the visit was undoubtedly building mini dens in the orchard. We have explored cyclic and rhythmic patterns on our school set of African drums, with the support of our visiting teacher Miss Zena Walker. Micmac and Algonquin renewed their 'rhythm of life'. It's a powerful beat!

During the Summer term the children have been out and about: Year 4 toured the village collecting litter as part of the Scrap Attack environmental awareness project and Year 3 visited Woodland Valley Farm where they met an African farmer and learnt how her farm compares with farms in this country. Back at school, as part of the Grow It Global project, they have created a 'keyhole' garden in which they are now growing vegetables. Some of the children sang and danced their socks off taking part in the Performing Arts Club's production of Mary Poppins. We have been visited by the school nurse, who taught Year 3 about healthy teeth and healthy bodies and Year 4 about growing and changing. The Fire Brigade also came to talk to Year 4 about fire safety. The children have all been fascinated to learn about the lives (and deaths!) of the Ancient Egyptians. Then, as the Sun shone in late June the children ran, skipped and hopped their way to medals and stickers on Sports day – each one a champion!