

# Coconut Crab Class

October 2023



October was a busy month as we settled further into our learning. In a super-exciting event at Obuchi Elementary, we made rockets and launched them!

In Literacy we continued to read *Wolf Brother*, and had a huge focus on writing a number of different text genres based on this fantastic novel. We wrote Character descriptions of Oslak, Renn and Hord; we wrote three different narratives, "escape the camp", "the clans arrive" and an alternative ending; and finally a fictional biography of the "man in the ice" - the unfortunate, enigmatic individual who Torak finds peacefully at rest in the abandoned ice cave. We decided to write the alternative ending as we both agreed that, following much discussion, magnificent though the book is it is let down by a weak ending. Mr David has based much of his teaching upon a range of books and stories including an author study of Anthony Browne (*Willy the Dreamer*, *What if?*, *The Zoo*, *The Tunnel* etc). The children have written stories in the style of the author; written book reviews; discussed settings' events, characters, and plots; and produced cartoon versions of stories. They have weekly homework which includes reading comprehensions, grammar activities and revision for spelling tests.

In IPC we studied inventions and inventors; creating timelines, studying significant individuals and discussing the lasting effects of their contributions to society. We used graphic design software to publish our key moments in history, annotating key photographs and documents. We ranked inventions by importance and postulated how life would be different (for better or worse) had key individuals' inventions never taken place.

In Maths we have been working on the four operations and fluency/word problems within; we looked at prime numbers, factors, multiples, squares and cubes. A particular focus this month was on applying this knowledge into real life contexts; solving problems requiring a range of operations alongside the lowest common multiple or highest common factor, for example. In Science this month we looked at filtration, separation and chromatography then moved into studying the periodic table and the complex dance of atoms and patterns of common properties it entails.

