Fortnightly reflection – Luella class 5

The children are really excited about the new unit. They are enthralled with the story, ‘The Breadwinner’ by Deborah Ellis and wait impatiently to listen to the story. They have started diary entries in their reading journal, where they are putting themselves in the shoes of the main character, Parvana jotting their thoughts and feelings about how she is being treated unfairly. The unit will be done through story books depicting children’s lives who do not know the rights that safeguard and protect them. Next week, they will learn about the difference between needs and wants. Following this, they will learn about the meaning of a right and why these rights are important for all children in the world. They will first look at case studies in Mauritius where children’s rights are not being respected and then move to other areas in the world.

The reading workshop is becoming very interesting and children are very eager to carry out the engagements planned. They were able to do only one of the activities planned for this week as more time was spent in the reading of the novel’ ‘The Breadwinner’ by Deborah Ellis. Children adore this story and are extremely curious about what is going to happen next. So, next week more time will be spent in visualising a text and paying careful attention to the descriptive language used. Moreover, they will learn to decode the meanings of unfamiliar words they come across in a story instead of using the dictionary all the times. Specifically, they will use context clues to guess the meanings of these words and then write a sentence showing their understanding of the meaning of this word.

The writing workshop shows all children writing a new story following the writing process. They will be taught how to start their stories in a variety of ways. They will also learn how to end their stories in different ways. I am sure the children will love these engagements as I find them very interesting. The children are being independent and are quiet and concentrated during this workshop. Moreover, they are now using the writing directories which are in the classroom as well as the aids needed to write an excellent story. This will enable them to use a wide range of visuals to help support their writing.

Children have shown understanding of addition and subtraction of fractions with unrelated denominators. Following this, the children learnt about mixed numbers and improper fractions as they will learn simplification of fractions next week. However, on this note, children need to learn their times tables as it will help them to complete their work accurately and quickly. They will also need this knowledge while changing improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa. The children are very enthusiastic and are focused during the Math Workshop and I am satisfied with the way all children are performing in this area of the curriculum.