Recount: Virtual Author’s Visit 5th Class by Martyna Marchlewicz

After break this Thursday we got ready for an online zoom meeting. We talked to an author Owen O’ Doherty about his book *Bright Sparks.* The first person we talked to was our local librarian. And then the children’s historian. Owen O’ Doherty spoke to us about things famous women did to improve the world. For example, Mary Delaney invented the retractable dog lead, Kathe Raulus invented a knapsack parachute, Jeanne Villepreux – Power invented the first aquarium in the world and Mary Anderson invented the first windscreen wipers. We talked about many more as well. During the zoom call we could ask questions and the author would answer them.

My Busy Day by Toni Rochford

First of all I would like to thank Ms Vaughan for organising our author’s visit with Owen O’ Doherty. Let me tell you about Owen. He is the author of *Bright Sparks, Inventions by Women.* His job outside of being a writer is an architect with Dublin City Council. He started Bright Sparks when his daughter Anna talked about how she didn’t really know many women inventors. So he hopped on his computer and started researching. After a few weeks, he had finished an alphabet book for each letter, instead of apples he had women inventors. Before we got on to the call my teacher came up with an idea that we should all be reading our books, the kids, such as me, were reading the Bright Sparks books. The librarian and historian were there too. We had a technical difficulty that we couldn’t really hear Owen but teacher was a superhero (like she always is) and put a microphone near the speaker where we could hear him. I learned so much and had a lot of fun during it. And once again I would like to thank Ms Vaughan for organising it all. See you soon again!

A Nice Surprise by Will Herrick

It was the 12th of November when our teacher told us that we were having a virtual author’s visit with Owen O’ Doherty- the author of *Bright Sparks,* a book about inventions, designs and discoveries by Women. The day before we did a test run on zoom with Ms Vaughan. At first it was hard to hear but we fixed that and it was really good. Afterwards we had our lunch a little bit late and our teacher told us that we behaved really well and she was proud of us. Overall, I really enjoyed the virtual author’s visit and I hope we will have another one in future. Thanks to Ms Vaughan and Phibsboro library for organising.