



Year 1 Newsletter

The Year 1 team consists of Miss Newman, Mrs Silva, Miss Rana and Mrs Aurela.

HOME LEARNING

This half term in Year 1, we have continued using Showbie for our home learning. Each Friday, your child's teacher will set the home learning which is due the following Wednesday. Please ensure you are checking Showbie each week with your child.

SPELLING

Each week your child is given a new set of spellings to learn. It is crucial to help your child learn and practise their spellings every week. This will enable them to effectively learn the spelling patterns needed for their writing.

READING

Please make sure you read with your child every night! They must bring their reading books and purple diaries to school every day. The more you comment in your child's reading diary, the more we can all support them in making progress. If you need any help or support filling in the reading diaries, please ask and we will be happy to help.

The children have had a fantastic first term in Year 1! They have immersed themselves in a wide range of activities to continue their learning journeys this half term. They have shown continuous enthusiasm and engagement in their new topics and have thoroughly enjoyed developing their critical thinking, problem solving and resilience.

English

This half term the children have been reading the book 'Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis. We began the topic by discovering our very own Bog Baby in the school grounds. We soon learnt where Bog Baby came from and created our own version of Bluebell Woods using sand, flowers and jam jars. The children thoroughly enjoyed being able to describe each aspect of Bog Baby's home and the outcome was terrific! Throughout the half term the children have been working extremely hard to write their own stories about Bog Baby's adventures, particularly focussing on their use of capital letters, finger spaces and full stops in their writing. As their writing skills and confidence progressed, they have been introduced to a range of writing features including adjectives, conjunctions and sentence starters to add more detail to their writing. The quality of work produced was outstanding and we are proud of all the children for their hard work so far this year!



Maths

In Maths, the children have shown consistent enthusiasm and engagement towards all of their learning this half term. Over the past few weeks they have covered topics including Measurement, where they learnt about concepts such as length, height, capacity, time and money. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about these concepts through practical activities, such as measuring the length of classroom objects using cubes, seeing which children were the tallest and which were the shortest and weighing how heavy different objects are. For Geometry, the children focused their learning on 2D shapes. They learnt the names of many different shapes including circle, square, triangle, rectangle, pentagon and hexagon before developing their understanding of edges and vertices. The children were challenged to see if they could make the shapes using playdough and spaghetti, whilst ensuring they had the correct number of edges and vertices for each shape. The children have worked really hard at developing their independence in Maths this half term, well done Year 1!

Science

This half term in Science the children have started a brand new topic of 'Animals Including Humans', which they have been fascinated with throughout. The children began the topic by naming the animal and matching it to the habitat and a fun fact. They quickly learnt interesting facts including a snake smells through its tongue and elephants spend between 12-18 hours a day eating! They then started to learn about different animal groups and what each group of animals eat, which provided the children with the knowledge they needed for their first investigation of the year. For their investigation, they were to find out which animals came to visit the school grounds each night. They placed a tunnel in the wooded area with food in for herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and patiently waited throughout the week for different animals to leave a trail of footprints. Once they had collected the results, they found that the animal visitors included cats, worms, squirrels and small insects! Through this investigation, the children began developing their observation skills and expanded their scientific vocabulary.

Design and Technology

Our Design and Technology topic this half term has been based around Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder Plot. The topic started with the children learning about how and why he was planning to kill the King. The children were then provided the opportunity to create their own pop-up book telling the story of The Gunpowder Plot. They had a go at creating their own mechanisms and practised a range of skills including designing, sketching and cutting. The children designed their own page and thought carefully about which mechanism they should use on their page, where it should go and which aspect of the page should move. Over the next few weeks the children worked exceptionally hard to create their own background, mechanism and putting the two together. Each week the children have shown outstanding dedication to their work and the standard of work produced has been exceptional throughout the topic.



Our Achievements

This term we have had many successes in Year 1. Since September the children have had daily Read Write Inc lessons. During this time, the children learn new phonetic sounds and practise reading and writing these in different words. All of the children in Year 1 show determination to improve their Read Write Inc skills and have blown us away with how much they have progressed in a matter of weeks. Well done to all!

This half term, many children from Year 1 were awarded their 25 or 50 nights reading certificate and badge. This is a fantastic achievement as increased exposure to books improves their reading fluency, imagination and develops their love for reading. We are so proud of all who received this award and cannot wait to see how many more children get their certificate and badge next time!

After learning the important facts about road safety, the school was set a challenge by Mr Mohamed. He was running a road safety competition where each class had to create a fun and factual video about how to stay safe when crossing the road. After reviewing all 10 entries, he announced that both Year 1 classes were the winners! We were very kindly treated to a pizza party as our prize, yummy!

Finally, all children have worked tirelessly this half term at their handwriting and presentation. At every opportunity they get, they are practising writing their letters to the right size with tall ascenders and long descenders and forming each letter correctly and as neatly as they can. Their hard work and perseverance is evident in their writing, as not only are they producing high quality, neat work but they are also beginning to take pride in all that they do. Well done Year 1, you should all be very proud of yourselves!

