



Wagtails



Ask Me About Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

October 2024

What have we been up to?

What a brilliant first half term we have had in Year 1!

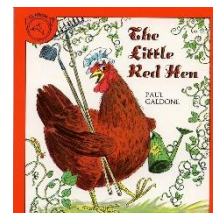
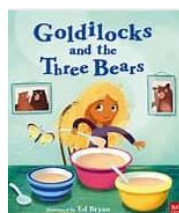
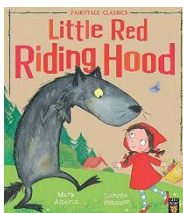
It has only been 37 school days and I have been blown away by how wonderfully the children have settled into Year 1. I have watched their confidence and understanding grow from strength-to-strength and the only way is up! They have had to juggle new routines, new responsibilities, as well as brand new subjects and they have really tackled these new adventures with gusto! I am so proud of all their efforts.

English

Over the past few weeks, we have been learning to write The Albourne Way! We have been learning about the following Year 1 writing skills:

- To sit at a table properly and hold our pencil correctly.
- To sit our letters on the line.
- To form our letters correctly (tall letters touching the top line, short letters half way, and below letters descending beneath the line.)
- To say the sentence we want to write.
- To leave a finger space between words.
- To use the time words "First, Next, Then, After that, and Finally" to start our sentence.

As we learn each new skill, we have been having a go at applying them in our writing. Keys texts linked to our topic of "Once Upon a Time" have inspired all of our writing. Here's what we looked at this half term:



Next half term, our English will continue to be inspired by stories as we begin to build stamina for more detailed pieces of writing and embed the skills of using capital letters and full stops.

Maths

This half-term our focus has been on place value and addition within 10. During our Place Value learning we learnt to compare and order numbers from 1 to 10, find the greatest and smallest values, and use the inequality symbols and equals symbol to compare amounts. We have also been building on our subitising knowledge (the ability to know an amount without counting) using ten frames, and rekenreks. More recently, we have begun to explore addition within ten by introducing the part-whole model. The children have been practicing their skills of finding a total in various contexts, including recording of addition sentences using the + and = symbols.



Maths game to support learning at home:

- Place Value games
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering>
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots>
 - <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/tenFrame/index.html>
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>
- More than, less than
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/robot-more-or-less>
- Addition
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/addition/robot-addition>
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/addition/addition-to-10>
 - <https://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/busyday/ten/>
 - <https://www.arcademics.com/games/alien>

Next half term in maths, we will continue our learning by delving into subtraction. Later we will look at shape.

Science

We have been learning about the season of Autumn, the changes that occur in nature, including recording the rainfall and temperature each day. We also put out artistic skills to good use, by creating some Autumn crafts!



Geography/History

We have had a great time learning about our local area in Albourne! We started with a close focus on our school, mapping out the grounds and labelling what we could see internally and externally. Then we expanded to looking at the geography of the local area such as the village, Hurstpierpoint, and Brighton. The children loved investigating maps and pointing features that they could spot.



Art

Our hands have been deep in clay this term as we have learnt different techniques and methods of sculpting with clay. The children finished the unit by making their very own desk buddies, which can be found on display in the Year 1 cloak room!



PE

This term we have had two different focuses for our PE learning. The children have really enjoyed our gymnastics unit where they learnt different shapes and means of travel culminating in designing their own routine in pairs. Outside, we have been focusing our efforts on the theme of 'run, jump, and throw'. For 'run' - we looked at different ways of starting before moving, so that our bodies got used to following instructions and getting us ready. For 'jump' - learning to jump for distance as well as for technique and control. And 'throw' - throwing for a purpose and working as a team.

PSHE Jigsaw

Each week we do a circle time focusing on how to calm ourselves for learning and how to work on personal and social skills. This half term our theme has been "Being Me in My World" and we have looked at our rights as learners and our responsibilities as a member of Wagtails' class. We have thought about our school values and the children have written about the attributes they feel they demonstrate best.

RE

This half term, we have looked at "Forgiveness" using the story of The Lost Son. The children came up with some amazing freeze-frames and role-plays to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of one of Jesus' most famous parables.



Fun exploring our new classroom



Other Notices

- An adult will check reading diaries **every Monday**. Books are also changed each Monday. Please make sure your child has their book pack with them every day, as we may read with them 1:1 on any day of the week. All children with 5 reading entries in their diary for the week before will be moved up the reading challenge in the classroom and receive a raffle ticket for that week to into the reading prize draw at the end of term.
- Reading groups - as part of Read, Write, Inc. the children still get daily group reading sessions as well as Speed Sound lessons.
- Please could you double-check that all items of clothing, including PE kits are named as this makes us easy to identify wayward t-shirts, shorts, and shoes!
- We advise for all children to bring a coat to school every day as we enter the latter part of autumn and move into winter. The children do go out whatever the weather.
- Please note that children are not allowed into the mud kitchen or onto the field during the wet season without wellies. You are welcome to bring a named pair that can be kept in school.

Have a restful half term and we are looking forward to seeing you all again in Autumn 2.

Best wishes,

The Year 1 Team