



Wagtails



Ask Me About Newsletter

Summer Term 1

May 2024

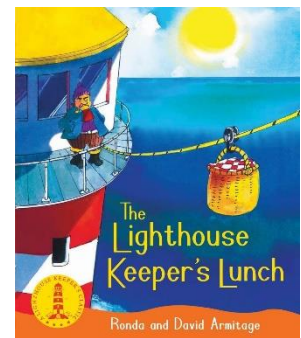
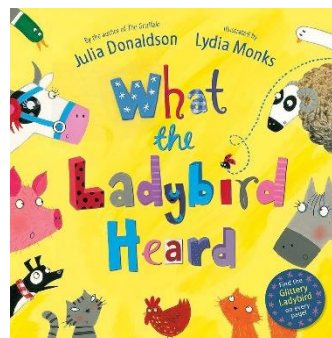
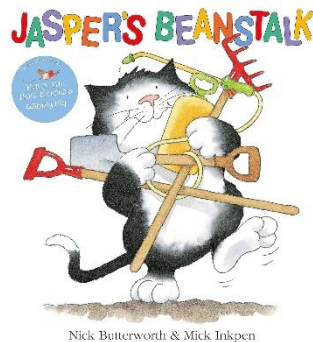
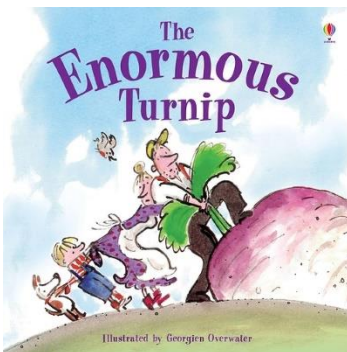
What have we been up to?

We have reached 150 days of Year 1. The children have such a great awareness of this as each morning, we track how many days we have been in school using counters and tens frames to mark the time visually, as well as a part-whole model to indicate the place value of the hundreds, tens, and ones. This has helped tremendously with the children's understanding and knowledge of number and we enjoy spending that time together each day.

English

It's all systems go as usual and we have spent this half-term really refining our writing skills as emerging writers.

Here's what we looked at this half term:



We used the traditional tale of The Enormous Turnip to help us with using a wider variety of openers for our stories as well as to recap our use of suffixes such as "ed" and "ing". We read Jasper's Beanstalk to help us learn how to write a letter to a friend as well as to get us thinking about how to correctly spell the days of the week. We spent a further two weeks on What the Ladybird Heard in which we looked at character descriptions for the villains, as well as a non-fiction description for the ladybird; story mapping and re-telling the cunning plan to steal the prize cow; innovating a text by planning our own "heist" within the school, and then writing out own version. Our final text of the term has been The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, which we will carry over into the start of Summer 2. The children recently received a letter from Mr Grinling asking for some help with the pesky seagulls who keep stealing his lunch. So far we have used hot-seating to understand how a character is feeling and what they are saying; we have learnt how to use speech bubbles to write what a character is saying; we have also looked at pictures to identify how we know what a character is feeling; we have designed our own disgusting sandwich to feed the seagulls; and have written instructions on how to make that sandwich.

Once again, I am so proud of all of their hard work.

Maths

This half-term, the children embraced their toughest challenge yet - multiplication and division. Here are just some of the mathematical skills we've worked on:

- Counting in 2s, 5s, 10s.
- Recognising equal groups.
- Adding equal groups.
- Making arrays.
- Making doubles.
- Making equal groups by grouping.
- Making equal groups by sharing.
- Recognising and finding half of a shape or object.
- Finding half of a quantity.
- Recognising and finding a quarter of a shape or object.
- Finding a quarter of a quantity.
- Position and Direction - describing turns.
- Position and Direction - left and right.
- Position and Direction - forwards, backwards, up, and down.

Science

We kicked off the "Our Natural World" topic by diving deep into the animal kingdom. This half term we have learnt how to classify animals by type into mammals, reptiles, fish, birds, insects, and amphibians. We have learnt about vertebrates and invertebrates, how to recognise which animals belong to which group, and also the difference between carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. We have also taken time to learn about the human body and our senses.

Year 1 Trip to Wakehurst Place:

Despite the weather, we had a wonderful day out learning about plants, trees, and minibeasts. We began our day by foraging for stems, leaves, petals, twigs/sticks, seeds/fruit, and roots. In smaller groups we did a tree hunt, using a chart and images to try and identify the tree that each group had before coming together to present our findings. Then, equipped with bowls and magnifying glasses, it was off to the woodland to search for minibeasts. After lunch, we became plant explorers and investigated the wonders of different species of flora. Check out just some of our photos below!





DT

The children have been working on their sewing skills and finished the term off by sewing a coat for Paddington Bear.

PE

This term we have been working on our athletic skills in preparation for Sport's Day. We took this opportunity to work on team games as well as team spirit. The children have absolutely loved running relays - especially if it involves a baton!

PSHE

This half term our theme has been "Relationships" and we have explored the following social and emotional learning intentions:

- What it means to be part of a family.
- How to make a friend.
- Recognising forms of physical contact that are acceptable and unacceptable, and figuring out what kind of contact makes us more comfortable.
- Knowing when we need help and how to ask for it.
- How to praise yourself.
- Appreciating someone special.

Other Notices

- An adult will check reading diaries **every Monday**. Books will be changed on a Monday only, but will also be encouraged to go to the library and check out a book on Monday and Wednesday lunchtimes. Children will also receive a paper copy of their guided reading book as and when their reading group begins a new story. Please make sure your child has their book pack with them every day, as this may happen 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. These are entered into an exciting prize drawer at the end of the half term.
- Reading groups - as part of Read, Write, Inc. the children still get daily group reading sessions as well as Speed Sound lessons. The children have had their Summer 1 assessment. If you have any questions about reading or progress, please make a meeting with me directly.

Have a wonderful half-term break and we are looking forward to seeing you all again after.

Miss MacKenzie.