



Skylarks

Ask Me About



Autumn 1: October 2024

We are at the end of the first half-term already and our Year 2 have made an excellent start! The children are settling and I can see this year being a truly fantastic year!

We had an amazing trip to Arundel Castle - the weather was great and the children had a wonderful time. Thank you to the parent volunteers for supporting on the trip.



English

We have been learning about the following Year 2 writing skills:

- Time adverbials e.g. first, next, then
- Conjunctions - and, that, because
- Use of exclamation marks
- Use of question marks
- Adjectives
- Expanded noun phrases e.g. the fierce, frightening dragon (adjective, adjective, noun)

As we have been learning these skills, we have been having a go at applying them in our writing. We have explored writing a range of writing styles such as stories, poetry and recounts. Our writing has been inspired by key texts linked to our topic of "Castles" such as the ones below...



We are becoming more skilled and independent at using our "writer's checklist" to identify the skills we have used in our writing. Great work, Skylarks!

Next half term, our English will continue to be inspired by our Castles topic. We will learn about more Year 2 writing skills such as commas in a list, using the past and present correctly and writing command sentences with imperative verbs whilst also consolidating our learning of expanded noun phrases and using more conjunctions. We will continue to use quality text as a stimulus for our writing.

Maths

This half-term we have completed units on place value and started our unit on addition and subtraction. During our place value learning, we learnt to compare and order numbers from 1 to 100. We built upon our knowledge of the value of different digits in a number e.g. the tens and ones, and used this to solve problems. We explored number lines and discussed where different numbers would be placed on number lines. To do this, we had to have a secure understanding on place value. Next we moved onto exploring less than ($<$), more than ($>$) and equal to ($=$) symbols to compare numbers. More recently, we have had fun exploring addition and subtraction. We started by looking at facts to 20 to later derive and use related facts up to 100.

Maths game to support learning at home:

- **Place Value games**

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=diennesandcoinsv3>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/place-value-basketball>

- **More than, Less than**

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/robot-more-or-less>

- **Subtraction**

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/subtraction-grids>

Next half term in maths, we will continue our learning on addition and subtraction. We will then explore shape.

Science

We have been learning about animals needs for survival. Each lesson we have looked at a different animal type such as mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and humans. We have explored what these animal types need to survive and how they compare to each other. We have worked scientifically by asking questions and recognised that they can be answered in multiple ways through our enquiries.

History

We have had so much fun learning about castles. We have looked back in time at their design and how they had altered. We spent time discovering about the various people who lived and worked in castles. We have had fun trying to recall all their roles and which part of the castles they would have lived and/or worked in. Our trip to Arundel Castle helped to answer any further questions we had about castles. We had a great time!

Other Notices

- PE days for Year 2 are Wednesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor). Children will need to come to school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure hair is tied up and earrings are removed.
- An adult will check reading diaries **every Monday**. Please make sure your child has their reading diary 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 display. Reading books will also be changed every Monday.

I have really enjoyed the first half term with your children and I look forward to Autumn 2.

Please don't hesitate to come and say hello to me. If you need to come and chat about anything, I am happy to help. I am happy to set up appointments if needed, but please do so via the school office email.

With kind regards,

Miss Pannikot

Ongoing Learning	
Reading	Please read 5 times a week and write this in your Reading Diary.
Topic	Autumn 2's Home Learning grid will be given to children during the first week back.
Maths	Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards. Addition and subtraction.
English	Please practise letter formations - especially writing letters the correct way round. (b's , d's, p's) Please support your child to learn the Year 1 and 2 common exception words.