

Reception / Year 1

In Reception and Year 1, we have had lots of fun reading and exploring stories about bears and finding out about various bears around the world. We're Going on a Bear Hunt was a big favourite in class, where we had fun sequencing the story, and then created our own versions.

We have even located countries in atlases where bears can be found!

Reception and Year 1 really are bear experts!

Year 2 / Year 3

In our writing topics this half term we have themed our work around two texts; 'Fantastic Mr Fox' and 'Until I met Dudley' by Roger McGough. Through our first text we wrote newspaper headlines and newspaper reports, all about the escapades of Mr Fox. Through our second text, we re-visited how to write letters and how to compose and punctuate questions. We were very imaginative in our creation of our own inventions and a 'Techno Wizard,' who can explain how a bulb lights up. Our work culminated in an explanation piece of writing about electrical bulbs, which linked nicely with our work in Science. Come and see the display in our classroom!

Year 4 / Year 5

Years 4 and 5 have had a great 'Roman' time this half term in English. They enjoyed an archeological visit to Vindalanda and have been looking at the life of Julius Caesar and the diary of Iliona a slave girl from the Roman times. They have written their own diary extracts and are busy thinking about Harvest and writing apple poetry. Their apple-themed artwork went on display in Ambleside church for a special event there.

Year 6

Year 6 started this half term with a focus on Roald Dahl's BFG, we had great fun creating our own BFG style vocabulary and dream jars, it was fantabulous!

Escape from Pompeii was our curriculum linked text, the children have been fascinated by this historical fiction and the story of the eruption of Vesuvius. We have gone on to write our own historical fiction based on the town of Herculaneum, a town located on the other side of Vesuvius. This has linked in nicely with our Roman topic.

Useful texts and websites

Fancy a new book? Why not try a story linked to our topics? Here are a few examples:

Peace at Last (Reception/Y1)

The Bear under the stair (Reception/Y1)

FARThER (Y2/3)

Templeton twins (Y3)

What the Romans did for us (Y4,5,6)

Roman Invasion – My Story (Y4,5,6)

Or for a bit of online learning:

www.starfall.com

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/english/games

www.spellingframe.co.uk

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/games>

www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar

English Newsletter

What a fantastic start to our Autumn Term we have had! All classes have got stuck into a book with huge enthusiasm, incorporating cross-curricular learning, and reading for enjoyment. Already, in a half term, we have seen a huge improvement in reading with fluency and confidence, and this is a joy to see and hear.

Our writing is linked to the texts read in class, with the children eager to share their ideas, thoughts, and predictions.

Next half term, we are having a focus on handwriting (and of course, Christmas!)

I hope you enjoy finding out about what your child/ren have been doing at school in their English lessons this half term. I have also included some useful websites and story books to support learning at home. Thank you so much for your support,

Mrs S. Kirby