Year 1 Newsletter

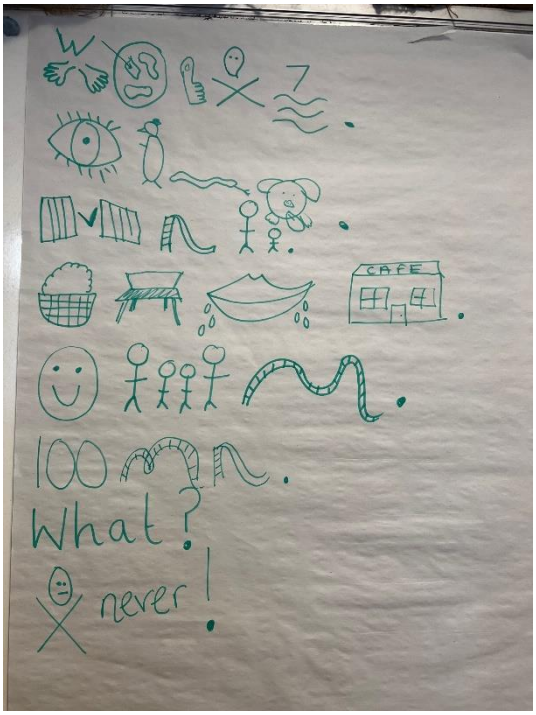
6th October 2023

What is going on in the classroom?

English

We have been focusing on inventing a story based on our model text, "The Story of Pirate Tom". We saw a huge improvement in their story maps and the children tried really hard to remember to start a new line for a new sentence. We then looked at writing our stories using our story maps, focusing on saying our sentence out loud first before writing it down. The children changed the main character to either a mermaid or a merman and thought carefully about using different sentence starters.

This week we have moved on to a non-fiction text based on a fantasy Pirate Adventure park. We looked at the definitions of different words in the model text and spotting features of a persuasive piece of writing including, a catchy title, ambitious adjectives and bossy verbs. We will build upon this over the next 3 weeks and can't wait to share some of their final pieces. Here is the story map in case your child wants to practise at home:



Maths

We have now finished our work on Place Value and are moving on to Addition & Subtraction. Over the next two weeks we will be looking at;

Part Whole Models

The main teaching point is for children to see that a whole group of objects can be composed of two or more parts and that they can represent this using a part-whole model. The group can be split in a variety of different ways. Draw children's attention to the fact that the parts cannot be bigger than the whole group.

Writing Number Sentences

In this small step, children learn that the addition symbol (+) can be used to represent combining two or more parts and the equals symbol (=) can be used to show the equivalence between the whole and the sum of the parts. At this stage, children consider a specific order to the number sentence (a + b = c). They focus on the language associated with this number sentence, for example 7 apples plus 3 apples is equal to 10 apples. Once understanding is established, children explore number sentences written in a different order, such as 4 = 1 + 3

Number bonds within 10

In this small step, children combine their knowledge of the part-whole model and addition facts to explore number bonds within 10 Starting with the whole, children break numbers into parts and explore how many different ways a number can be partitioned. Children will see numbers made from dot patterns differently, for example some may see 6 as being made up of 5 and 1, while others may see it as being made up of two 3s. Exploring patterns is a good way to encourage discussion and expose children to different ways of thinking.

Number bonds **to** 10

In this small step, children move on from number bonds within 10 to number bonds to 10 Initially, allow children to explore finding the number bonds. They could use two different colour cubes to build towers of 10 and represent their tower in a number sentence. For example, if their tower is made up of 2 blue cubes and 8 red cubes, they have 10 cubes altogether, so 2 + 8 = 10.

Topic

In History the children have been looking at some significant people from the past including Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. Partake theatre will be visiting KS1 19th October where the children will be learning all about Robin Hood. In Art they have explored how to make different shades of colours using white and dark. They tried to colour match this to famous paintings. In Science they have continued their learning about habitats and were introduced to the terms, herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. The children then looked at food chains and created a simple version. A popular choice was grass → zebra → lion. They labelled them using the terms predator and prey. In Geography they have been using atlases to name and locate the seas surrounding the UK and were introduced to a compass.

Family Box

Anna brought in a selection of photos to share with the class. She shared a picture of her Ukrainian and UK family and spoke about her brother. Anna is very creative and artistic. One of her favourite things to do is painting. She also loves going to soft play with Sophie and James. Anna loves going to the seaside and having cuddles with dogs. One of her favourite foods is ice cream! For her birthday she went to White Post Farm and wore a beautiful white dress. Anna brought in her favourite book "Watch out Wilf" which we shared with the class. She loves it because Wilf is a bit crazy and his mum always has to say "I wish you'd listen to me" when things go wrong. We thought it was funny that at the end of the story, Wilf had to say it to his mummy instead!

Erin shared a Welsh teddy bear as this is where her grandad is from. Erin shared photos of her mummy, daddy and brother, Harry. Erin made a family book at Rainbows with all of his family and pet cats Chilli and Myles and pet hamster George. Erin's favourite adventure park is Wheelgate and she shared a map from her visit. One of Erin's favourite books is 'Big Bad Bunny'. This is a story about a rabbit who moves into the woods and causes trouble, trumping in the pool and eating all the food and upsetting other animals. Erin has an 'adventure bag', Erin takes this bag out whenever shes goes to a park or outside in nature as she likes to keep all the things she collects inside it. Erin prepared photo poster collages to show her holidays, animals she had seen recently and also all her favourite foods.

Top Tip

These online games are a great way to help your child with their number bonds. By the end of Year 1, we'd love for them to be fluent (super speedy) with these.

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=number+bonds+to+10

Dates for your diary

- 26th October: Harvest Festival in Church(10am - everyone welcome to watch)
- 21st/22nd October: Parents Evening
- 6th November: INSET Day
- 11th November: Mr T Super Quiz Night in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust (organised by Mrs Marston)

Thank you for reading,
Mrs Lewis and Miss Evans