

St. Oswald's Church of England Primary Academy

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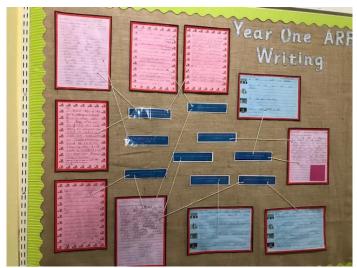
w/b 26th November 2018 to 7th December 2018

HEAD'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

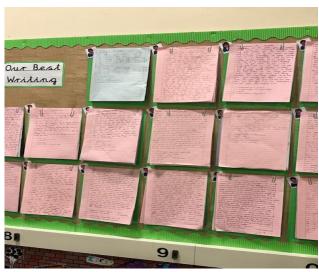
Dear Parents,

We have had an exciting and busy few weeks since I last posted our newsletter! This week, the whole school (with the exception of years 6 and 2) have been completing their end of term assessments. These have been marked and the data is currently being added to the whole school tracking system. Over the next few days, the teachers will be using this data to regroup children and to establish the beginning of the next phase of their learning journeys for the Spring term.

In my walks around school and lesson drop-ins, I've seen some wonderful examples of the product of hard work over the term. I decided to make a 'photographic learning walk' for this week's newsletter to illustrate the good work happening around school....

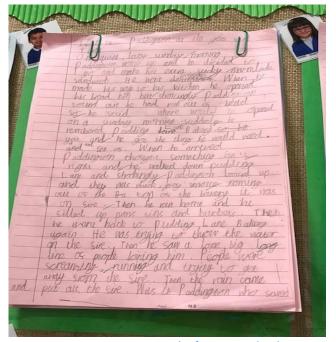






Our Year 2 December writing wall

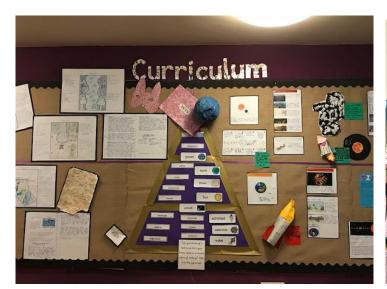
Our Key Stage 1 children are working extremely hard and have made considerable progress over the Autumn term. Phonics, early reading and writing continue to be a key focus for our children. On our writing walls, strong progress can be seen from the start of the Autumn term to this point in time.



A Year 2 writing sample from our display.



Year 2 Autumn topic work - the children have loved this!





Remember Year 6's 'Gold Standard' writing wall I featured in a previous newsletter? Well, here is Year 5's response to the Year 6 'Gold Standard' writing wall...... We love a bit of healthy competition here at St Oswald's. The arrival of the year 6 writing wall in the year 5/6 corridor caused a great stir! Year 5 were determined to match these expectations and wanted to raise the quality and profile of their own writing - they wanted to 'go one better' than year 6. Right year 6 - it's back over to you

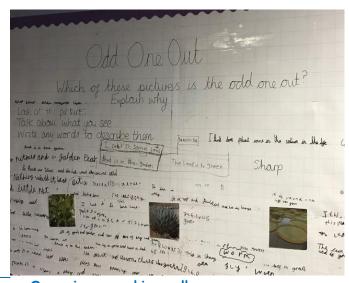
The St Oswald's Science Lab is now well and truly on its way......

At the start of the autumn term, we decided that we wanted a science lab for our school - so we made one! Classes of children are now using this. We wanted our children to really grow a love for science and to be thinking of science in terms of biology, chemistry and physics. After Christmas, we have a range of science and medical professionals coming to work in our science lab with our children to show them how science at school has helped them to achieve their career aspirations.

Here are a few snapshots of our new science lab in action



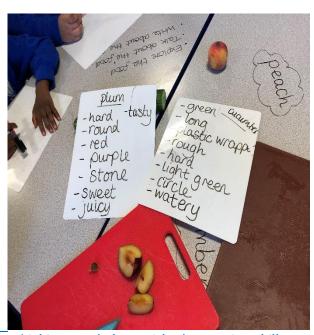
Setting the scene for learning



Our science working wall.....



Mr Wiseman teaching the skills of investigation...

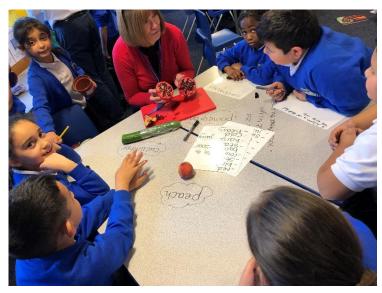


Linking vocabulary with observation skills....



Claire Holt from 'Teach from the Heart, working on

observing, describing and comparing skills with our Eden children.



The art of investigation.....



Children recording their observations...



Some independent learning and reflection time...



Year 5 homework projects with a science theme.

Coming next week.....

Pictures of our new polytunnel and our newly created and refurbished community garden!

Thank you again for your support. Many thanks also for attending our celebration assemblies; Stay and Read sessions and to Eden parents for attending our weekly open classroom mornings.

Kindest regards

Miss G Wilson Headteacher

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING IN SCHOOL

What we are learning in Nursery

This week we have been learning to retell the story of 'Elmer' using props. Children have been encouraged to use the story language and talk about how Elmer was feeling. Children have been learning to give meanings to the marks, talk about their picture that they have drawn, practicing to form the first letter for their name and tracing over their names. In phonics we are been learning about rhythm and rhyme. Children have been finding and matching the rhyming objects.

In maths, we have been learning to count up to 10, recognise and order numbers up to 5 and counting out the asking number of objects.

We also have been creating patterns in the creative area using two colours (red, yellow).

Our 'Rhyme of the Week' this week is: Baa Baa Black Sheep...

What we are learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have have started work on our new text, Whatever Next, the sequel to our lovely story from last week, Peace At Last. We thoroughly enjoyed the story last week and were very excited to find out

that Baby Bear is our main character for this next two weeks! We have been making predictions, acting out the story and sequencing the story.

In Maths we have been sequencing daily events that are familiar to us including our lessons, our bedtime routine and our morning routine. We have all been excellent at putting our routines in the right order.

We have been continuing to practise our Nativity performance and are making great progress with our acting and singing. The children are trying incredibly hard – keep it up, Reception!

What we are learning in Year 1

In English we have read the story A Christmas Story by Brian Wildsmith. We have created freeze frames of important points in the story and sequenced them to retell the story to a partner. We are starting to learn to use question marks and capital letters for names and places.

In Maths we have been learning how to subtract. We have been using different resources in the classroom to support our learning and learned about different language associated with subtraction.

In our topic work, we have been learning about floating and sinking and have made a boat from different materials to test in water.

What we are learning in Year 2

In English, we have completed some amazing shared writes about Paddington and have now started our hot writes. We are really looking forward to showcasing our best writing!

In Maths, we have been practising our subtraction skills and working on number bonds to 100. This is something we could practise at home.

In our curriculum work, we have planned our investigation to chose the best material for fixing Paddington's bucket to help him put out the Great Fire of London. We have started making our own Tudor houses to replicate what the houses looked like before the fire. We have also continued to work hard rehearsing for the nativity performance.

What we are learning in Year 3

In English, we have been working on the first draft of our hot write about Ancient Egypt. In Maths, we have completed our work on subtraction and addition and we will next be moving on to multiplication and division. In Topic, we have created our own timeline and discussed key events during the Ancient Egyptian era. Please remember to hand in homework projects by the end of next week!

What we are learning in Year 4

This week in English we answered questions about 'The Matchbox Diary' and created a word bank which we used to write a description.

In Maths we started our topic on multiplication and division. We used the computers to play Times Table Rockstars and enjoyed competing against each other. Remember to play at home as well. We also learnt how to multiply by 10 and 100.

In topic we explored how we hear sounds and how sounds travel over a distance. We used a range of instruments to explore pitch. We made our own panpipes and paper cup telephones as part of our investigation.

What we are learning in Year 5

This week, we have started our work on using the formal method to divide large numbers. Some of us have found this difficult but we are persevering! We have also practised some test style questions!

In literacy, we have continued working on our grammar phase looking at initial subordinating clauses, expanded nouns and uses brackets for parenthesis.

This week in topic year 5 have covered the geography objects about the distribution of natural resources across the world. We looked at the positive and negative effects of using natural resources.

What we are learning in Year 6

This week, year 6 have been working on their final phase of their English sequence – they have been writing their own versions of Sherlock Holmes stories. This week, they have been up to the Grange to undertake a design technology project. Year 6 have been working extremely hard in preparation for their SATs next May.

Eden Suite

In Eden this week we have continued to work really hard on our writing. We have started to use different word types in our writing and extend our sentences with some conjunctions. We have also tried to include some different punctuation marks. In maths we have continued to work on our times tables and number facts, alongside developing our addition and subtraction skills with problem solving and reasoning. Our topic work has included some science where we have looked at what plants need to grow well and have planted some bulbs. Our work with parents this week saw us doing some baking and making some bird feeders for our garden.



THIS WEEK'S STARS OF THE WEEK ARE:

RECEPTION:

YEAR 1: Maryam Butt (1 Birch). Huge improvement and effort in writing.

YEAR 2: Nabila Khan (2 Redwood) for writing an excellent story at home and working hard to improve her handwriting. Hope Hayden (2 Maple) for a fantastic character description.

YEAR 3: Amirah Khan (3 Beech) for a get first draft of a non-chronological report. Alisha Malik (3 Sycamore) for being a fantastic help around the classroom.

YEAR 4:

YEAR 5: Ayman Khan (5 Willow) Armaan Saqib (5 Rosewood).

YEAR 6:

EDEN: Sarah Ridajova