

Dale Hall Diaries

DALE HALL COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL



A message from the Headteacher

November 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move ever closer to December it gives us the chance to look back on all that we have achieved this half term. I have been very impressed with the level of concentration, application and enthusiasm shown by the children in everything they do. In fact, I have never had so many visitors to my office keen to show me how they have improved, innovated or excelled.

For the first time in 18 months our teachers have been able to visit each others classrooms and take part in paired learning walks. The teachers have really enjoyed seeing the children access all areas of the curriculum and have spent time highlighting the most successful parts of each visit. It has been lovely for them to see how the children have progressed over the years.

I hope you'll agree that parents evening was a great success and the technology worked more efficiently than previous attempts! Please remember that if you are concerned or unhappy about anything to do with your child's learning, progress or well-being, to contact us immediately and not wait. We are powerless to support, advise or guide if we do not know that your child is struggling. I have attached a leaflet outlining all of the support we have on offer so please contact us if you would like more information.

Mrs J Dedicoat

11/11/21

We remembered the brave soldiers who lost their lives in WW1 and the school observed an impeccable 1 minute silence. We even heard to Ipswich cannons.



We also created poppy lanterns, WW1 silhouette soldiers and WW1 peg characters.



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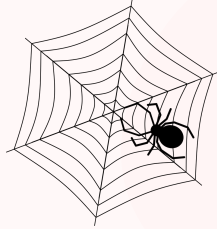
"Learning together to challenge and achieve"

This Month's Highlights

Reception



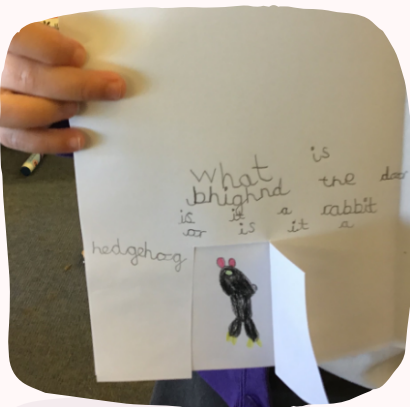
We have been talking a lot about being growth heroes in EYFS and about trying our best with challenges. The children have really got into the spirit of this and it has been great hearing them use the vocabulary, which has been modelled, to each other in their conversations. The children have also been developing subsisting in maths where we are able to look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting.



In our Power Of Reading sessions we have enjoyed reading "Aaaarrgghh, Spider!" where the family live with a spider. The children enjoyed acting out the different parts, thinking about each character's different perspective. We have also been finding out about real spiders- did you know there is a spider who lives underwater and uses a tube to get it's oxygen?



Year One



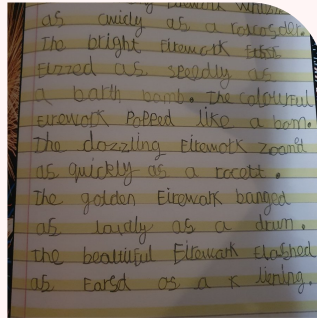
Year 1 have begun their new power of reading book 'The Last Wolf'. So far this term, the children have researched wolves, written character descriptions as well as made predictions about who could be behind the secret door. The children were so creative in their ideas and confidently drew and wrote down their predictions.

In Science we have been learning about the different animal groups and have shown a good understanding of the features of birds. Again the children were fantastic in representing their learning in a variety of ways such as building bird hides, going bird watching, sketching different birds carefully and labelling their features. The children have been busy rehearsing for their Christmas performance and we are very excited to share this with you!



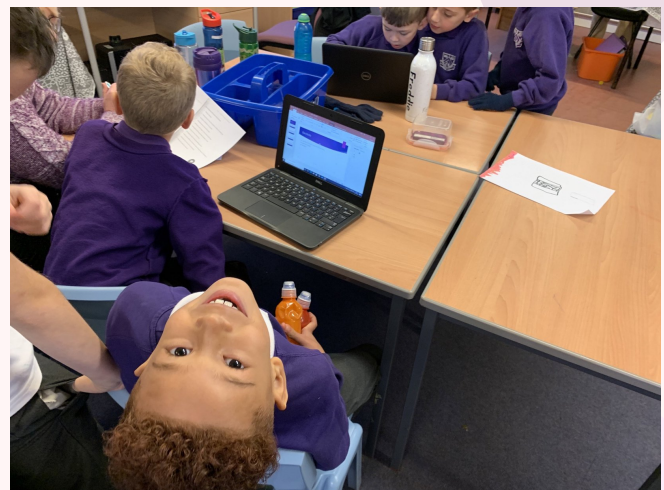
Year Two

Year 2 have started this half term exploring Bonfire night, learning about Guy Fawkes and why we celebrate on the 5th November. The children used oil pastels to create their own firework displays, created descriptive firework poems and represented Bonfire night in many different ways.



Year Three

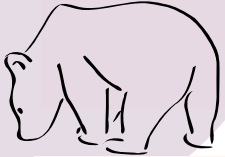
Year 3 are looking at the Magnificent Music of Elizabeth Cotten. We are applying this to lots of different things to provide an amazing immersive experience. This week, we applied some of our learning to create some awesome PowerPoint presentations!



Year Four



We also had a very successful visit to Rendlesham Forest, to complete our work on Wild. Here, we learnt how to build a shelter, how to make a fire using a flint and stone and we created natural artworks of hedgehogs. Phew!



In Year 4, we have started our new story, The Ice Bear and have created beautiful Arctic classrooms, making 3D 5 pointed stars in DT and investigating the impact of Climate Change on the sea ice and Polar Bears in Science and Geography.



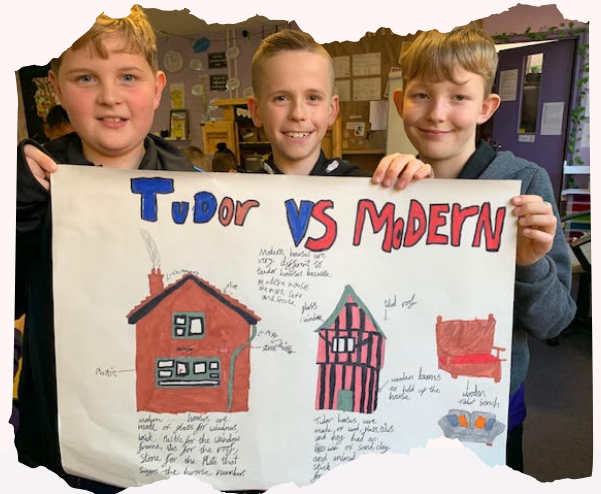
We have also enjoyed researching The Inuit and even tried a little 'Throat Singing.'



Year Five



As we move towards the end of our first full term in year 5, we have been looking closer at how the Tudors influenced our local area. The children looked at one of Ipswich's most famous residents, Thomas Wolsey. Many of the children had seen his statue in the town centre, but were unaware of who he was. They now take great pleasure in telling me that they tell their friends and family about it every time they go into town!

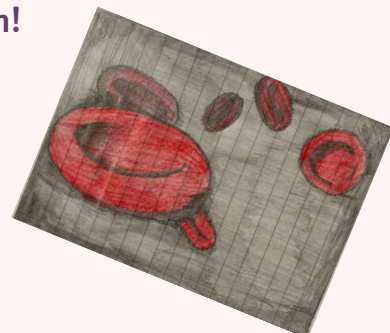
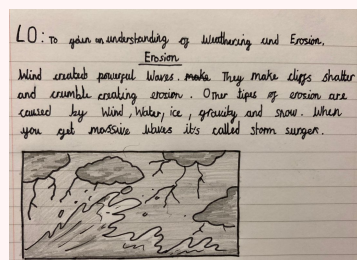


We have also been comparing Tudor houses to houses built in the modern era. They then created these fantastic posters to illustrate their new knowledge.

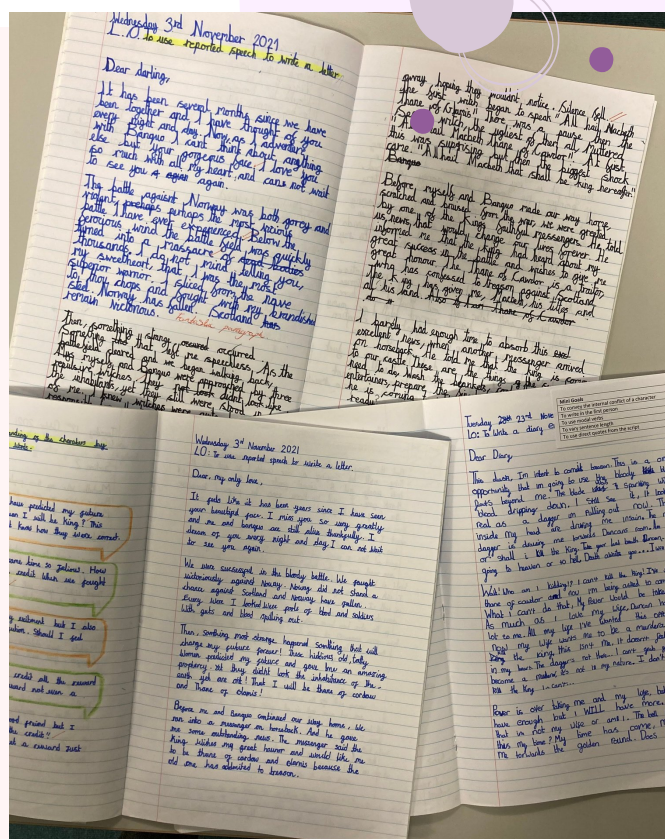
We were also lucky enough to meet our extra special guest Pudsey Bear! The children loved learning our special CIN song... and joining in with the actions!

Year Six

Year 6 have continued following the story of Macbeth, closely analysing the shift in his character. This has been the basis for lots of incredible writing this month!



We have also been busy learning about The Circulatory System in Science and erosion in Geography. Both fascinating new topics which we are looking forward to exploring more in the coming weeks. We have also used our art skills of texture, shading and tone to illustrate our diagrams.



I cannot believe that we are going to be in December next week! November seems to have flown past in the blink of an eye... Earlier this month we were involved in the BBC National singalong for children in need. Not only did we have our own feature on BBC Radio Suffolk, we were on East Anglia News and were lucky enough to get featured on the main BBC show too! Seeing all of the children perform was a really emotional moment for us all. After so long apart it felt so powerful to hear 400 voices singing together!

I continue to be impressed by how much learning the teachers and children have managed to fit in this month! It has also been wonderful to see some school trips back appearing on the school calendar. I have seen that Year 4 had a wonderful time in Rendlesham forest this week too!

Those of you that are Upper KS2 parents or who had children here previously may remember our launch on Growth Mindset a few years ago. This has continued to be a part of our ethos but we are having a relaunch. Last week I delivered a virtual Growth Hero lesson to the whole school and I have been really impressed to see children using the language of Growth Mindset in their learning. Teachers will be receiving further training in December and we hope to hold some parent workshops in the New Year too. Ask your child how our Dale Hall Growth hero can help them in their learning...

Mrs Spalding

