



Dale Hall Diaries

DALE HALL COMMUNITY PRIMARY
SCHOOL



November 2022

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

November is nearly over and with a deep breath we roll in to December! So many amazing achievements already this term as well as PTA events and Children in need. The fun run was utterly brilliant and yet again, the children and staff had a wonderful time. Thank you to all of you for contributing your time (and money) to this event. We have donated £1000 to the Hospice and have put the rest of your money towards the exercise equipment for the children to use at playtimes and lunchtimes.

We are now looking forward to the Nativity, Christmas dinner, the KS1 performance as well as the Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd of December. We have Santa in the Hobbit House, many stalls and fun activities, the ever popular bottle tombola as well as outside stalls. On the last day of term we would like to invite you in to school to sing some Christmas carols with your child's class (timings will be sent next week) where you can buy mince pies and partake in some mulled wine courtesy of the PTA.

One last important point to remember is that we are all extremely grateful for the support that you show for our school. Our teachers know that for many of us, Christmas is a real pressure this year. They would like you to know that a short note stating your appreciation is enough- please do not feel that gifts need to be shared. Our teachers are tired and have worked incredibly hard so a little note of thanks would really mean a lot. I look forward to seeing you all on Friday at the Christmas Fayre,

Mrs J Dediccoat

**SAVE THE
DATE!**



FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER



Christmas Fayre

**OUR BRILLIANT FUN RUN- THANK YOU
FOR YOUR TIME AND ENERGY!**

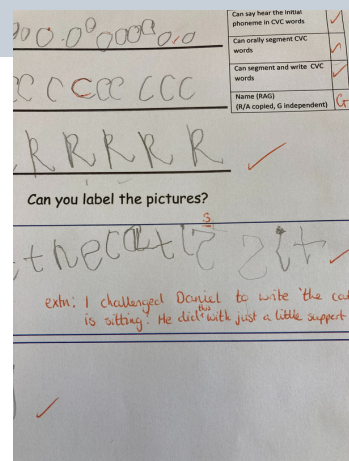


DALE HALL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dale Hall Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 4LX | 01473 251651 | www.dalehall.suffolk.sch.uk

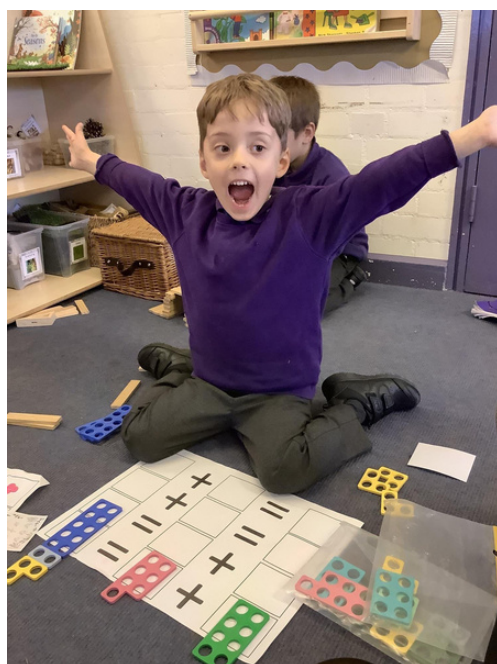
"Learning together to challenge and achieve"

November has seen the next stage of the Reception children's journey to becoming readers and writers. They have started their Level 2 phonics where we teach the children the letters and sounds and the skills they need to blend (read) and segment (spell) words. We have been so impressed by the children's attitudes to learning the new skills and have loved hearing about how many of them are going home and teaching their families. We have also continued with our 'Squiggle While You Wiggle' programme, where the children learn Squiggle dance moves and represent them through large scale mark making with the aim to develop their coordination and control. This is always a fun time of day and we have been amazed by the progress the children are making!



Year One

Year 1 have begun their new power of reading book 'The Last Wolf. So far this term, the children have written character descriptions and have had a go at writing their own short stories, using some incredible verbs!



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, making fat balls, creating bird books, 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 been exploring and learning about the history behind Motte and Bailey castles and really enjoyed retelling the Battle of Hastings in our drama lesson. The children have also found time to continue on their journey through their power of reading text 'Where the wild things are', creating their own settings and puppets to tell the story.



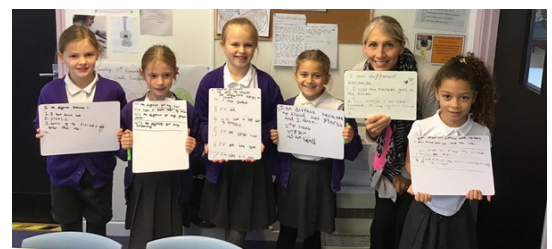
Year Three

We have discussed many topics including Rosa Parks and the Black Lives Matter movement. Mr Catchpole and Miss Watts have been blown away by the maturity and understanding shown by the children in year 3.

In Maths we have looked at multiplication and division and used various techniques to understand and present our work. We can't wait for Mr Parker to look at our books and be proud of us.

We have loved our PE lessons and our ball skills have increased hugely (as well as our posing skills). Miss Chloe has worked with us on our Musicality and we have created cardboard instruments that tested our DT skills.

In year 3 we have been looking at the story of Elizabeth 'Libba' Cotten. Set in rural America, we follow her journey to become a musician. Libba has to battle poverty, racism and missing her brother.



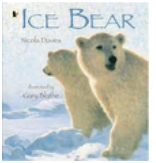
Year Four

Year 4 have had a wonderful start to this half term. They have created their new immersive classroom, going from the depths of the Amazon Rainforest to the freezing cold Arctic! They have begun their new Power Of Reading story, 'The Ice Bear', which follows the intertwined tale of a polar bear family and an Inuit boy. They have written beautiful poetry describing the Arctic landscape and have dramatised the opening of the story, creating a soundscape of whispered phrases.



In DT, they made 5 pointed stars and snowflakes, while in Art they have used different mediums to create the Northern Lights, and in Geography and Science, they have begun to learn about the Arctic climate, how polar bears are adapted to their habitat, and Inuit customs and traditions.

This fits in beautifully with our school priority and RSHE topic of Diversity, where we have been learning what makes a diverse community.



In Maths, children have been having fun with multiplication and division facts, and showing how well they have been learning their times tables.



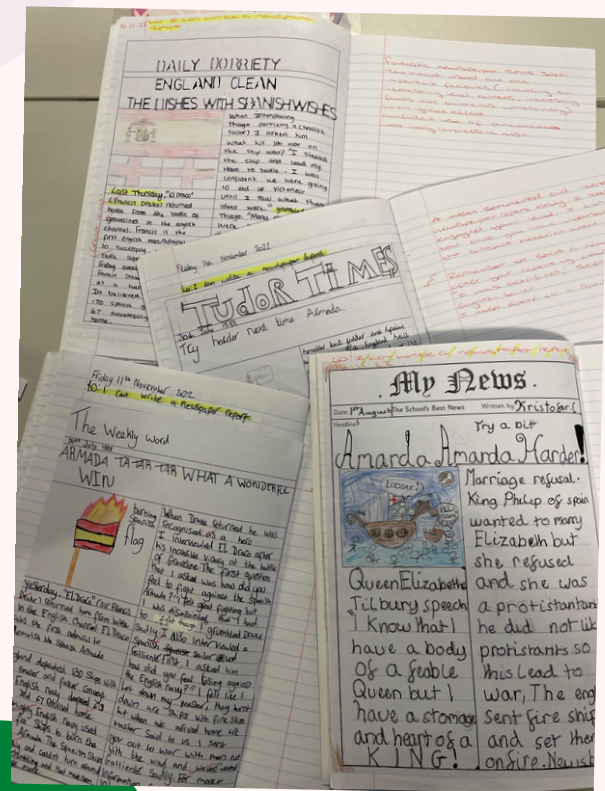
Not bad for three weeks!



Year Five

We have been continuing our Tudor topic and have been focusing on the reigns of Mary I and Elizabeth I. Both classes have been particularly engaged with this topic and it has been a joy to see the enthusiasm they all bring to our lessons.

To consolidate our learning on the Spanish Armada, the children were asked to write newspaper articles. Some of the headlines were hilarious and would not be out of place in a newspaper report today!



We have also started our properties of materials unit in science. Both classes really enjoyed the hands-on experiments testing permeability, magnetism and flexibility. I think we might have a few budding scientists in the making.



Year Six

Year 6 have enjoyed the opportunity to really get hands on and experimental this month...with some brilliant results!

Through our Art lessons, we have continued to practise and refine our lino cutting and printing skills. With the bonus of fewer cut fingers this time, we have learnt how to create effective designs and use the ink and rollers to give the best final print. The next step will be to do a second cut and overlay with another colour!

In Science, we have started to explore more complex circuits and set ourselves the challenge of producing ones where we can illuminate only set light bulbs or use limited resources. This has led to some creative thinking and persistence when initially things didn't go to plan.

We have also been creative in computing and tried something that, for us, is a little bit new - experimenting with coding robots! It was great fun and gave us an opportunity to problem solve and use computational thinking.



Message from the Deputy Head

I am sure I say this every month but November really does seem to have gone by so quickly! It has been another busy month in school and I am amazed at how much teachers have fitted in once again. Outside of the classroom there have also been many sporting fixtures and several school trips. As always our students have followed the 4 bees to represent Dale Hall brilliantly! I am always filled with pride when I walk around our school but this month I have had the pleasure of showing lots of prospective parents around too. They have been blown away by the creative independent learners we have at Dale Hall.

We have started our whole school focus on Diversity which has sparked some great conversation amongst both pupils and staff. We have also started a curriculum review and have been working with curriculum leaders to make sure diversity is reflected in all subject areas.

December will undoubtedly be another busy month! I have already heard a few christmas songs being rehearsed in Reception and KS1...

Mrs Spalding

Illness

We have had a few cases of Scarlet fever at Dale Hall so please be vigilant. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious, so UKHSA is advising parents to be on the lookout for symptoms, which include a sore throat, headache and fever with a characteristic fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel.

Please call your GP or NHS 111 for further advice or assessment if you think your child might have it.

A quick reminder, if your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting, please remember that they should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout, as per school policy. Thank you