

# Year 1 Newsletter 25.9.26

## What a busy fortnight!



The children have settled wonderfully into Year 1 and we couldn't be prouder of them adapting to their new routines and developing independence. We have fitted an awful lot into the past two weeks. We have been working on our ball control skills with Nick in our PE lessons on Fridays and we have begun learning our songs for the Harvest Assembly so we have no doubt you'll be hearing about tractors, mice and scarecrows a lot over the next two weeks! We are very excited for you to come and hear us!



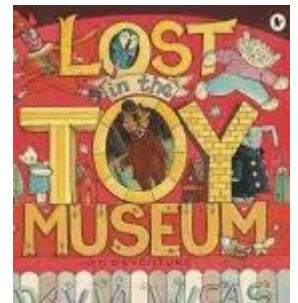
## Curriculum

In maths we have been exploring measures and making use of the natural resources outside to help us. We went on a hunt for things that were longer/taller or shorter than our stick and tried hard to keep using our new star words—tall, taller, tallest, long, longer, longest, short, shorter and shortest. We also collected sticks of different lengths and ordered them from shortest to longest. In our Mastering Number sessions we have been looking for the 5 in numbers 6,7,8 and 9 and learning how many more 5 needs to make each number.



Last week in English, we loved reading the story 'Lost in the Toy Museum'. We could not believe it when the toys from Mrs Pringle's vets role play left us as a note asking us to find them! They were playing hide and seek with us, just like the toys in the story. It was very exciting to follow the notes they left us and we finally found them hiding on the climbing frame.

We then had a go at making our own notes and recreating the game with small world characters. We have also used adjectives to describe different toys and learned how to add 's' to a noun to make it plural.



In history, we have begun our exciting new topic all about toys from the past. We will be exploring a range of old and new toys, comparing how they look, how they work and what they are made from. Through discussions and investigations, the children will be learning about how toys have changed over time and thinking about the similarities and differences between toys from the past and those we enjoy today.

In PE, we have started our dance unit with a jungle adventure theme. The children have enjoyed exploring different ways of moving like a variety of jungle animals. This week, we met Mowgli and Baloo and worked together to create a dance sequence inspired by their friendship. We learned what it means to dance in unison and practised moving together for a count of eight. We are looking forward to developing our dance further over the coming weeks.



To find out more about what Year 1 will be learning this half term, please follow the link to our [Year 1](#) class page.

### Important Messages

- Please check all of your child's clothing to ensure it has their name inside. Over the course of a day, jumpers and cardigans often get mixed up and when children are running around outside they sometimes take off their coat when they get too warm. It is easier and faster to return clothing to the correct child if their name is clearly visible. Thank you for your support.



### Reading Assessment information

There is information about how we teach and assess reading on the Year 1 page of our school website, you can find it here [Southridge First School - Year 1 Class Page](#). In addition we will be hosting a drop in between 3:30 and 4:30pm on Thursday 1st October. This is an opportunity to come in and look at the different reading books children will use during the year and look more closely at the kind of assessments we do and how we make decisions about when a child is ready to move on. If you are unable to make this session, we will also have reading books available to look at during our upcoming parent consultations.

### Fun Friends

As part of our PSHE this half term we have been running the 'Fun Friends' program designed by connect mental health. We have been talking about different emotions and exploring how each one looks on our faces and bodies, we discovered that it does not look the same for everyone! We have also talked about thumbs up and thumbs down choices and how it can be difficult to always make thumbs up choices when we feel particular emotions. To support this we have been learning different relaxation techniques which could help us when we are not in the 'green zone' e.g. we are feeling sad, poorly or tired (blue zone), worried, excited or a bit cross (yellow zone) or really angry or frightened (red zone). The technique we have been working on this week is robot jellyfish. When we say robot, the children have to tense every part of their body as much as they can. When we say jellyfish, they have to make their body floppy. We do this a few times and it can really help to release any tension they are holding. Try it at home and let us know how you get on!

### Important Dates

Thursday 1st October—drop in to look at reading and assessment in Year 1 classrooms 3:30-4:30pm.

Friday 16th —Year 1 Harvest Assembly 2:30pm

Monday 12th October—Year 1 trip to St. Mary's Church

Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October—Parent consultations 3:30-6:30pm

Thursday 22nd October—Pirate Day (The children are invited to come dressed as a pirate for the day to launch the start of our new topic 'Welcome to Pirate Island'. No need to buy a costume, a stripy top and a homemade eyepatch will ensure a place on board our ship!)

Thursday 22nd October—last day of the half term

Friday 23rd October—teacher training day.

### Our Fabulous Pupils!

We have had a great couple of weeks with your children and appreciate your ongoing support.



Southridge First School

'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'

