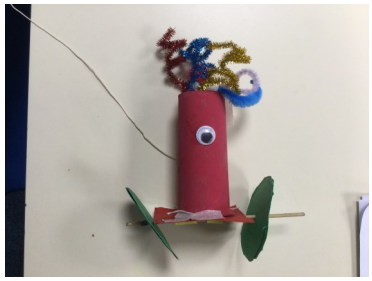
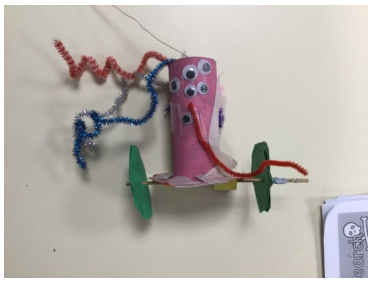
Year 1 Newsletter 22.10.26

We have reached the end of a busy but fabulous first half term in year 1 and we have no doubt the children are ready for a break. The children have done a great job of learning all their new routines and we are delighted with the progress they have made. We cannot wait to see what next term brings! It was a pleasure to share how well the children have settled in during our parent consultations last week. We hope you all have a restful holiday and look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 3rd November following our training days on Friday 23rd October and Monday 2nd November.**

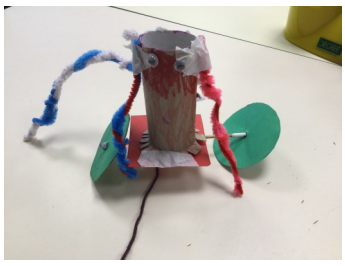


Curriculum



We have really enjoyed learning new skills in DT recently. We focused on how to use scissors effectively, keeping our cutting hand still while turning the paper and doing 'fishy nibbles' to cut more accurately. This allowed us to create smooth wheels for our pull along toys. We learned how to create a mechanism by fixing our wheels to an axle. We discovered that if both the wheels and the axle were fixed it would not work. To overcome this problem we learned how to make an axle holder to ensure our wheels could turn. We used our knowledge of what younger children might enjoy, before designing and decorating the monster toy that would be pulled along, using a flange joining technique to attach a cylinder shape onto a flat base. . Our science knowledge really helped us as we considered the best materials for the job and finally evaluated our toy to see what had worked well. The children were rightly proud of their finished toys and have learned so many new skills already, we hope to see some of them being used in their own independent crafts in the future.





We have continued learning about toys from the past in history over the last two weeks. We particularly enjoyed our playground games afternoon where the children learned and played some games that the teachers played when they were young. This included conkers, clapping games, 'In and out the dusty bluebells', 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' and 'Granny's footsteps'. It has been lovely to see the children continuing to play these games at playtime too.

PE

Next half term our PE days will be Monday and Thursday.

Church Trip

We had a lovely visit to St Mary's Church last week. The children enjoyed exploring the church to identify many of the features they had learned about in class. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who supported us on this trip—we could not do it without you!

Reading

We are really pleased with the progress the children are making with their reading. This week we have been talking to the children about the importance of reading—why we learn to read, what we might need it for in the future and what we do in school to help us learn this important skill. In addition, we have reminded children of the importance of practising their reading at home too, even when they may not really want to, and the difference that reading their books at home will make. We explored how re-reading your book can help develop your 'reader's voice' and that, alongside school books, reading other books at home as well as listening to stories will all help on your reading journey.

Pirate Day

We had a brilliant day full of pirate fun today. The children really looked the part and enjoyed learning how to talk like a pirate, find out their pirate name and sing pirate songs. We designed our own pirate flags and maps and enjoyed a treasure hunt where we pieced together some jigsaw pieces which seemed to make some kind of text map. We are not completely sure what it means yet but there were lots of good suggestions. Maybe it will become clearer to us next half term...



Show and Tell

We know the children enjoy bringing things in to share with their class so would like to formalise this and give all the children the opportunity to 'Show and Tell' if they would like to. Each child will be given a day during the half term when they can bring something to talk to the class about. This could be an achievement, something they have spent a long time creating, an interesting object they have found but no toys please. We would like them to prepare for their slot by practicing what they would like to tell the class so they know what they want to say when it is their turn. Please note that achievements (e.g. sporting certificates or medals) can still be brought in for our whole school celebration assembly on a Friday. Here are the dates for next half term which we will also attach to your child's new reading record after the holidays.

Lighthouse	Date of Show and Tell
Souter	Friday 6th November
St. Mary's	Friday 13th November
Coquet	Friday 20th November
Bamburgh	Friday 27th November
Warkworth	Friday 4th December

Important Dates

Friday 23rd October—teacher training day
Monday 2nd November—teacher training day
Tuesday 3rd November—children return to school

Our Fabulous Pupils!

We cannot quite believe we are already at the end of our first half term. The children have worked very hard and are definitely ready for a rest!

Have a lovely holiday, the Year 1 Team.