

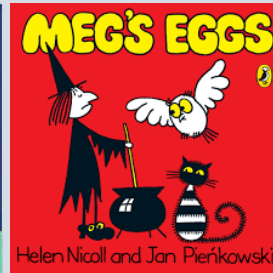
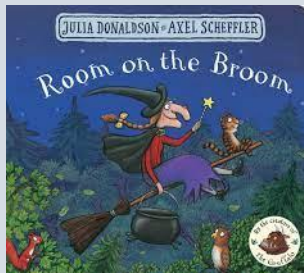
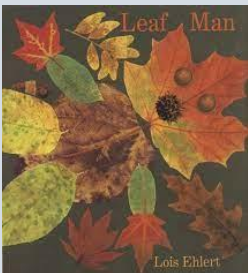
# Autumn Term Curriculum Review – Year One



Well...where to start! The children in Year 1 have settled superbly and their transition into Year 1 has been seamless, as they have returned to the same learning environment and teachers from their time in Reception. They have been absolute superstars in modelling our routines and expectations to the new starters and it has been wonderful to see new friendships blossom with the younger ones. From my professional experience and from networking with other Early Years and key stage one teaching staff, it seems that the mixed year group here has had a really positive effect on our children and their emotional well-being, resilience and their experience of change has been extremely positive.

Reading has got off to a flying start and phonics groups are determined every half term, to make sure your child is receiving the most personalised teaching for them and their next steps. Some children have been working with Mrs Atkins and some Year 2 children as they have progressed on to learning Set 3 sounds. I have enjoyed working with a small group of Year 1 children to introduce and embed Set 2 sounds and really encourage speedy reading and fluency. Reading at home plays a huge part in their progress too and I love to see your purposeful comments in their reading records. We are now aiming for all children to apply their phonics sounds into their independent writing with confidence. I have uploaded Set 2 and Set 3 sounds onto SeeSaw for you to refer to at home.

In Literacy, we have explored a range of books, including Shark in the Park, The Gingerbread Man, Leaf Man, Room on a Broom, Meg's Eggs and The Colour Monster. We have been focusing lots of remembering the 'must haves' for writing a sentence and using words such as and, so and because to link together our ideas. The children have produced some lovely pieces of writing too, from wanted posters, Autumn descriptive pieces and recounts of our amazing Pudsey day in school!



In our maths learning, we have been consolidating number bonds to 10, using symbols to compare numbers, adding, subtracting and sorting. We have begun to look at 3d shapes in more detail and will continue this after Christmas. The Year 1 children are becoming more confident and independent in reading their own maths questions now too, allowing them to complete worksheets without help from us. Interestingly, from my assessments, I have found that more work needs to be done on solving number sentences with missing numbers and balancing number sentences such as:

$$\boxed{\phantom{00}} = 5 + 4$$

$$4 - \boxed{\phantom{00}} = 1$$

$$5 + 5 = \boxed{\phantom{00}} + 1$$

Our 2023 calendars allowed us to really practise our number formations although some children are still in the habit of reversing certain digits, particularly 3,5,6,7 and 9. This is something that I will continue to work on with everybody. Your child now has a username and login details in their reading record for TT Rockstars. By the end of Year 1, children are expected to be able to recall multiplication facts from their 2x, 5x and 10x tables. I will make sure that I set these times tables up on their profiles to access at home.

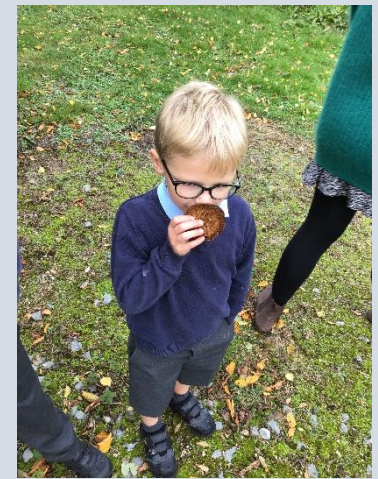


As part of Science and getting to know each other, it seemed a great opportunity to learn all about parts of our bodies. We had great fun drawing around our friends, labelling ourselves and also playing lots of games in PE to embed this learning too. Huge

interest was generated as a little boy in our class accidentally swallowed a coin at home! They were all on tenterhooks wanting to know if he had passed it! I added some wonderful, scientific picture books to our reading area and the children absolutely loved lifting the flaps to discover the parts inside our bodies too!

We understand our 5 senses and used our senses when learning all about the changes we notice

throughout Autumn and into Winter. Enhancements in the provision have allowed children to explore using their sense of smell, touch, hearing and sight too. We have looked closely at types of trees and can now identify evergreen and deciduous trees and know what this terminology means. We have sorted leaves to match their trees and are becoming more confident in recognising types of trees and using their names correctly.



The passing of Queen Elizabeth allowed us to explore significant moments and understand events that have happened in the past and how these can change what happens in our futures. The looked closely at Queen Elizabeth's life and this generated lots of interesting chats about different families, responsibility and losing our own loved ones. The children were keen to discuss our new King Charles and they thought about what they might do if they were in charge! Also, our RE learning has linked well to history, as we have enjoyed looking at family photographs from their christenings, weddings and other significant events, such as birthdays.



During PE, we have played lots of team games as the Reception and Year 1 children have been getting to know one another. We have focused on fundamental skills including balancing, throwing and catching, hopping, skipping and using our bodies to create different shapes and movements. We have really enjoyed yoga, where we have been learning some basic positions for balance and core strength and our breathing techniques....namaste.



Primary school allows for such wonderful, enriching activities too and this term has been jam packed! The children loved raising money for Children in Need, with some enjoying candy floss, hot chocolate and a lively disco! They have also been visited by Darlington police and their very helpful dog Ben, to learn all about how police help to keep us safe and what to do in an emergency. Christmas has been a very busy time, as they have worked collaboratively with Class 2 to produce our nativity, 'Hey Ewe', joined in with the Santa Dash and joined in whole heartedly with Christmas parties, learning that sometimes we win and sometimes...we don't!

After Christmas it will be all go! The children are going to be taking ownership of their own independent challenge books and there will be more specific, independent tasks for them to be completing, linked to learning and interests. Of course, there will always be time for challenge and exploration in our continuous provision too, however, we need to instil a positive and responsible approach to their own learning and progress as they start to prepare for their next stage in school.

Have a very happy Christmas. Enjoy some festive fun!

We can't wait to see what 2023 has in store!

From Miss Todd and Miss Forster.

