

YEAR ONE Newsletter

Friday 25th April 2025

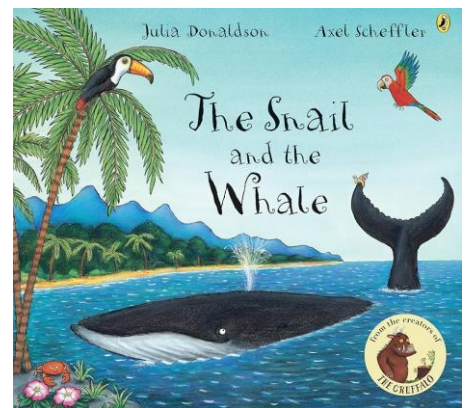
Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter! It's been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week—they've settled in really well. Over the break, we made a few changes to the Year 1 classroom. We've added more tables and chairs so that we can do more whole-class learning at tables, instead of mostly working in small groups as we did before. We're still incorporating small group learning to give the children access to different areas of provision in the conservatory and classroom. However, we've already begun whole-class sessions at the tables, and the children are doing an amazing job adapting! These changes are all part of helping them get ready for Year 2.

You might have heard that we've had a new adult join our class this week. Mrs Wingfield, a student teacher from Plaxtol Primary, will be with us for the next two weeks as part of her placement. She and Miss Hutchinson have swapped schools, so Miss Hutchinson will be returning to Year 1 before the end of term. During her time with us, Mrs Wingfield will be supporting the children with their learning and will also be teaching a few lessons.

English

We read 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. The children recognised the rhyming words in the story and then matched and thought of their own rhyming words. Next, we looked at different settings from the Snail and the Whale's adventures and used adjectives to write descriptive sentences about the settings. We discussed some of the more unusual vocabulary from the story such as 'frolicking' and 'vast' and even learnt that a group of snails is called an 'escargatoire'.



Maths

We began looking money this week. We discussed the values of the different coins and the children practised recognising the different coins and notes and making comparisons between them. We understand that children might not have as much exposure to coins and money, so it would really benefit their learning if they could practise recognising and counting coins at home. Here is a link to a money game that will help to reinforce their learning about money:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/money/coins-game>

Science

This week, we learnt about the differences between deciduous and evergreen trees. We will use our next woodland learning session to see what deciduous and evergreen trees we can identify.





Woodland Learning

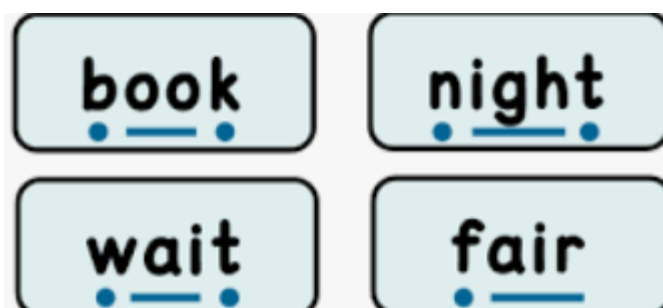
We have our next Woodland Learning sessions on Monday 28th April and Tuesday 20th May.

Phonics

This term we are revisiting sounds that we have previously learnt. This week, we revisited 'ea' (beach), 'ay' (play) and 'a-e' (bake).

Home Learning

We will continue to send home spellings each week, based on the sounds we have been looking at in our phonics sessions. I will also add some real and alien words to the newsletter for your child to have a try at reading at home. We have been reading real and alien words at school and some children find it helps to draw the sound buttons underneath the words to help sound them out. Here is an example:



We're sending home both real and made-up (alien) words for your child to practise. This is in preparation for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check taking place in June. I'll share more details closer to the time, but please be assured that the check is very relaxed and done one-to-one with me. The children have already had a go at a practice test and will be so familiar with reading real and alien words by June that they likely won't even realise it's a test! Thank you so much for your support.

Spellings

play

stay

today

make

name

date

Hope you have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Mockler, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Glennon



Real and Alien words

Below are some real and alien words for your child to practise reading at home:

pound	light
jazz	newt
brick	clown
crept	thump
dox 	melp 
glisp 	shound 
cripe 	thoft 
jigh 	frue 