Sheringham
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Writing NEWSLETTER

News updates from Sheringham Community Primary School & Nursery

This Spring term has already been filled with exciting writing opportunities, including a fantastic poetry event led by Lewis Buxton, where children explored creative expression through words. It was wonderful to see so many parents join us for our Poetry Learning Cafés, celebrating the joy of writing together. We also welcomed author Steve Clifford, who inspired students across the school with engaging storytelling sessions—many of which parents attended. As we continue our journey through the English mastery curriculum, this edition will share insights into writing progression and practical ways to support your child at home. Thank you for being part of this writing journey with us!



Spelling News

Following feedback from our parent questionnaire, where many of you wanted more support with spelling, we have introduced **Emile Spelling** across the school. You may have heard your child talk about this new online programme, which provides engaging, interactive activities tailored to their learning. Logins for Emile Spelling are the same as their Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) logins, making it easy for children to access. While there is no expectation for this to be used at home, it's a great way for parents to see what their child is working on and offer support if needed.
We recommend downloading the Emile app onto a device, as it offers more options for children than the web browser version. The app can be found in the App Store for iPhones/iPads or the Play Store for Android. We hope you find it useful and welcome any feedback as we embed it across the school!

Nursery:
This half term the nursery will be focusing on two key texts; 'Naughty Bus' by Jan and Jerry Oke and 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. The children will take part in a range of activities based on these stories including creating their own Naughty Bus story and sending a postcard to tell a friend all about where they live. We will also be giving the children lots of opportunities to develop their mark making skills and encouraging them to write their own names.

Reception and Year 1
This half term in Reception and Year One we are exploring the book Look Up! During this time the Reception children will be developing their ability to write words using their phonic knowledge as part of their 'Year of the Word' journey. Year One children will be writing a sequence of sentences, still with a focus on using a capital letter and full stop to denote the start and end of their sentences as part of their 'Year of the Sentence' focus

Year 2:
This half term, we are delving into Carole Lindstrom's We are Water Protectors as a key text in our 'Year of the expanded sentence' focus. The children are looking at using conjunctions and adverbials as a way of more detail and descriptions to their simple sentences. They are also preparing for an assessed piece of writing where they will create a non-chronological report about protecting water. If you'd like to support your child at home, we recommend exploring the use of conjunctions (e.g., *because, but, when, if*) to help to join clauses and explain ideas.

Year 3:
This half term, we are diving into Michael Morpurgo's 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' as a key text in our 'Year of the Paragraph' journey. The children are progressing from simply opening and closing paragraphs to mastering cohesion across them. They are also preparing for a formal writing assessment where they will create a non-chronological report about rats. If you'd like to support your child at home, we recommend exploring the use of conjunctions (e.g., whether, although, whereas) and adverbials to help link ideas smoothly.

Year 4:
This half term, Year 4 are excited to be exploring a brand-new text 'The Last Garden' by Rachel Ip. To delve further into our year of mastering 'audience and purpose', we have planted our own class gardens. This has provided the children with some wonderful experiences that can be drawn on to write their own fictional diary entries for their formal writing assessments. We will be focusing on creating detail in our writing using abstract expanded noun phrases and adverbials to sequence events.

Year 5:
In Year 5 this half term we are working on the book 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief'. In this book we will be continuing to think about adding exciting detail to our writing through setting descriptions, diary entries and recounts. Our work on Grammar this term will include an understanding of how to use tenses, hyphens and speech marks to show dialogue.

Year 6:
Year 6 is the 'Year of Mastery' and this half term we are reading 'The Last Wild'. The children will explore the features of this genre and learn how to adapt their vocabulary, sentence structure and content to suit the audience and purpose of this piece. They are working towards writing a fiction narrative, which includes dialogue to advance the action, along with character and setting descriptions to engage the reader. We have been looking at a range of dystopian narratives in school, but we would encourage you to also have a look to see if you can find any you could share together at home.