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# Autumn Term 1

What a fantastic half term we have had!

The children settled back into school after the summer holidays extremely well, looking very smart in their new uniforms and their shiny shoes! They soon began wowing all of their teachers with their MAGIC attitudes and thirst for learning.

The children have enjoyed their story topics this half term from 'Room on the Broom', 'The Gingerbread Man', 'The Gruffalo', 'Wild' and many more! The children's innovations of these stories were so creative, I hope you enjoyed reading them at parents evening.

The Harvest assembly was lovely in the Church. The Year two children confidently took centre stage with their clear speaking voices and amazing singing. Thank you to all of the parents who came to support them and for your kind harvest donations. The foodbank were very appreciative of your kind offerings.

We have a fun filled half term ahead of us from Remembrance assembly, Children in Need, the Hobgoblin theatre 'A Christmas Carol', Christmas jumper day and of course our favourite - Christmas party days!

*'Laughter is timeless, imagination has no age, and dreams are forever.' Walt Disney.*

I hope you all have a fabulous half term and enjoy spending precious time with your family and friends. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 7th November.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Glaister  
Principal

## Principal's Half Term Message

# Nursery News

Nursery have had a very busy half term...



We made hedgehogs...

Nursery used lots of different media to make their hedgehogs...



We explored outdoors...

We certainly didn't let the weather put us off having lots of fun outdoors...





# Nursery News



**Wild wind...**  
**Nursery explored**  
**the windy**  
**weather using**  
**scarves and**  
**looked up at the**  
**stormy sky...**





# Nursery News



**Sound Pots...**  
**Nursery enjoyed taking part in music & movement sessions with Sound Pots...**



**Sound Pots...**  
**They have learnt lots of new songs, games and rhymes and enjoyed playing a range of musical instruments.**





# THE GINGERBREAD MAN



## Dalmatian Class Story Launch



To launch our class story 'The Gingerbread Man', the children had a hands on experience of decorating a gingerbread man. They selected what they needed and chose decorations. The children developed a deeper understanding of the class story and got a delicious treat at the same time!





# Dalmatian Class Mother & Baby Visit

The Dalmatian children were very lucky to receive a visit from baby Millie. Baby Millie is Mrs Whitehead's granddaughter.

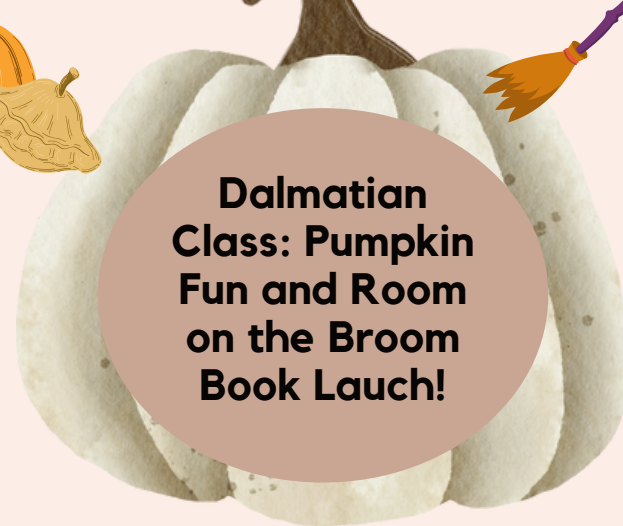
The children asked questions, sang a song and shared a story. We discussed how baby Millie is similar and different to her parents and how they are similar and different to their own families.

The children developed an understanding of how they have changed since they were a baby and what they can do now.

The children loved baby Millie!







## Dalmatian Class: Pumpkin Fun and Room on the Broom Book Launch!

We had some amazing WOW activities in class to launch our class text 'Room on the Broom'.

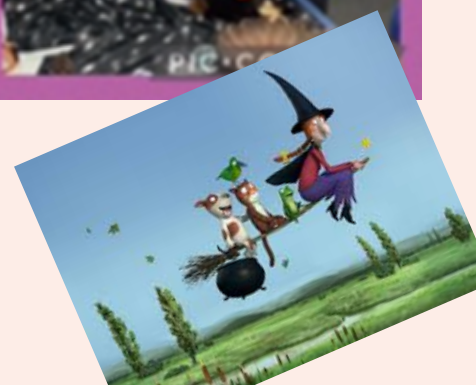
It was the perfect excuse to gather some pumpkins.

We could not have done this without the kind donations of pumpkins from our wonderful parents and carers! We want to take this opportunity to say 'thank you!'



Who knew that you could get so much learning out of a pumpkin? We smashed them open and explored them, scooped them out, filled them with water and made potions in our witch's kitchen! We got so much language from all of this - even looking at the heaviest, finding the smallest and lots more!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the class story, learning it so well, joining in and being very imaginative.





# DINOSAURS CLASS TOPIC LAUNCH

*Why are  
Humans not  
Like Tigers?*

Dinosaurs class launched their new topic this half term 'Why are Humans not like Tigers' by creating their own binoculars and exploring their outdoor classroom for clues about the different animal groups and their characteristics





# DINOSAURS CLASS TOPIC LAUNCH

Why are Humans not Like Tigers?

## Why are humans not like tigers?

What do you know about animals?

There are many different animals in our world. They can all be grouped in different ways.

What do both horses and cows do?

Animals need air, water, shelter and food to survive?

What do we know about animals?

Different groups of animals can be identified by their characteristics.

What do we know about humans?

Humans are mammals because they have hair and lungs, they are warm blooded and they can live on land or in water.

What do you know about the human body?

There are so many different parts of the human body and each one has a different job to do.

What is the difference between a herbivore, carnivore and omnivores?

Plant eaters are herbivores, meat eaters are carnivores and animals that eat both plants and animals are omnivores.

### Mammals



### Reptiles



### Amphibians



### Mammals

Mammals are **warm-blooded**.  
Mammals' young drink their mother's milk.  
Humans are mammals.  
Mammals have hair or fur.  
Mammals give birth to live young.



### Fish

Fish are **cold-blooded**.  
Fish live in water.  
Fish have fins not legs.  
Fish breathe under water.  
Fish lay their eggs in water.



### Amphibians

Amphibians are **cold-blooded**.  
Amphibians live on land and in the water.  
Amphibians lay eggs.  
Amphibians have moist skin.  
Amphibians have webbed feet.



### Birds

Birds are **warm-blooded**.  
Birds have a beak.  
Birds have wings.  
Birds have feathers.  
Birds have two legs.



### Reptiles

Reptiles are **cold-blooded**.  
Reptiles have scales not fur.  
Reptiles have ear holes, not ears.  
Reptiles have dry skin.



### Insects

Insects are **cold-blooded**.  
Insects have two antennae.  
Most insects live in colonies.  
Most insects hatch from eggs.  
A spider is not an insect.





# INCREDIBLES CLASS TOPIC LAUNCH

Why do  
Dinosaurs not  
Make a Good  
Pet?



The Incredibles thoroughly enjoyed their scientific topic launch this half term. Their focused question was 'Why do dinosaurs not make a good pet?'. The children followed clues about animals and their habitats around the Year 2 outdoor area. Well done Incredibles!





# **STOKE CITY SEVENS**



**This half term, we welcomed a very special visitor - Griff from Stoke City Football Club's City 7s!**

**Griff visited school to talk to the children about football and also some exciting discounted tickets and giveaways for our children at Hamilton Academy.**

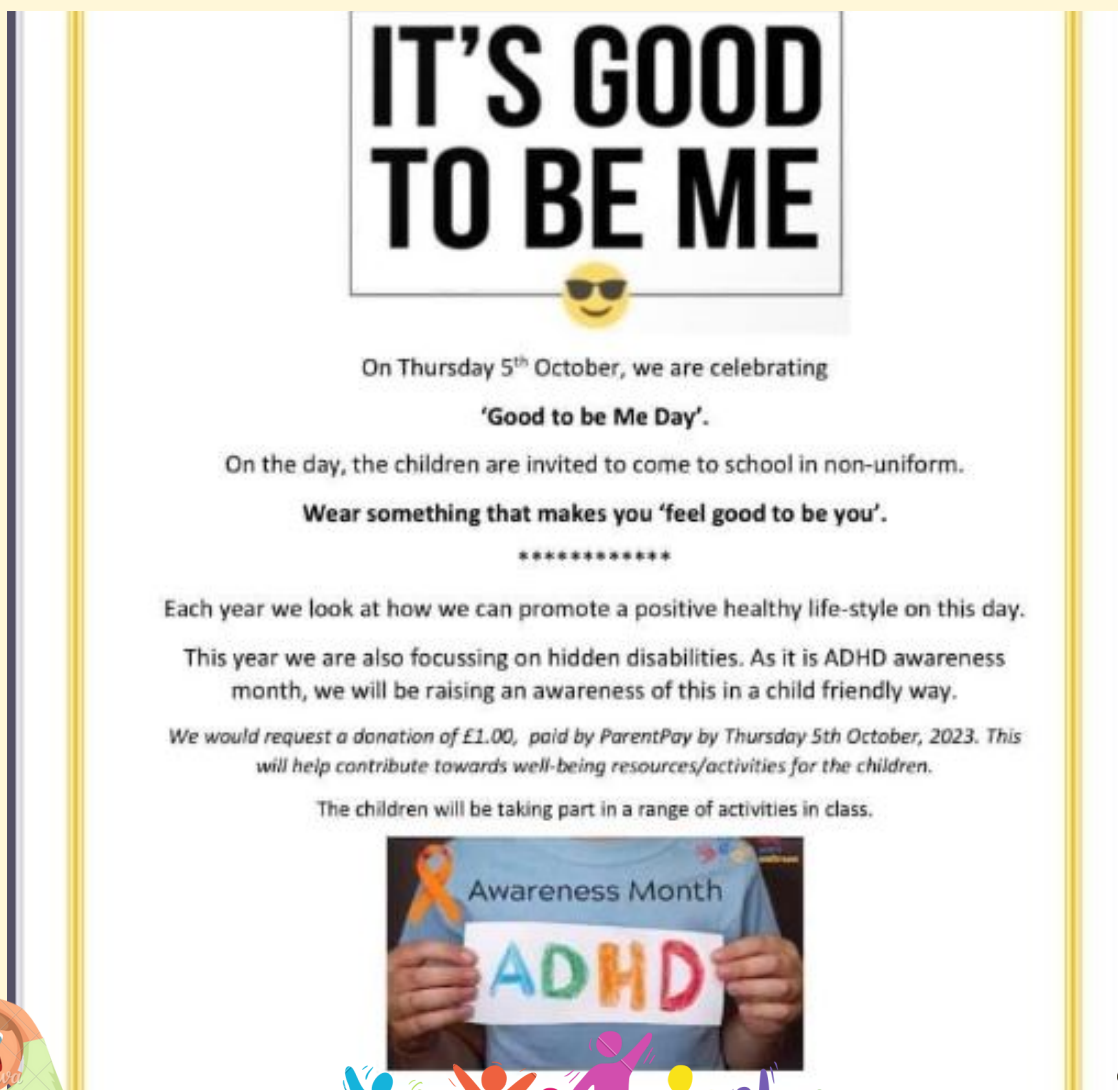






On the 5th October, the children celebrated 'Good to be me Day' where they dressed up in what made them feel good.

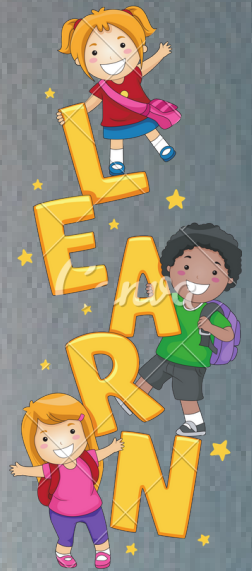
We started the day with an assembly to celebrate how special our children are and to look at this year's focus - ADHD, in a child friendly way. The children celebrated how they are all different and special and completed their own activities back in class. What a fun day we had!







# WATCH ME LEARN



**This term, we invited our parents/carers into school to watch their children learn! They observed a Read, Write, Inc lesson where they watched how the children are taught to read and write and how their children learn and join in.**

**We were so pleased with how many parents participated in this event it proved to be very popular. Thank you to those that provided feedback we will always take your comments on board.**





# Harvest Festival



Our amazing Year Two children led the Harvest Festival celebrations this year at St Matthew's church. They spoke with such clear speaking voices and the whole school shared their lovely singing voices with us all too! The families of our Hamilton Academy superstars donated lots of food to our local food bank. We are certain that this is going to help so many families in need. We are so proud of our wonderful school and the families that make us so **MAGICAL**.

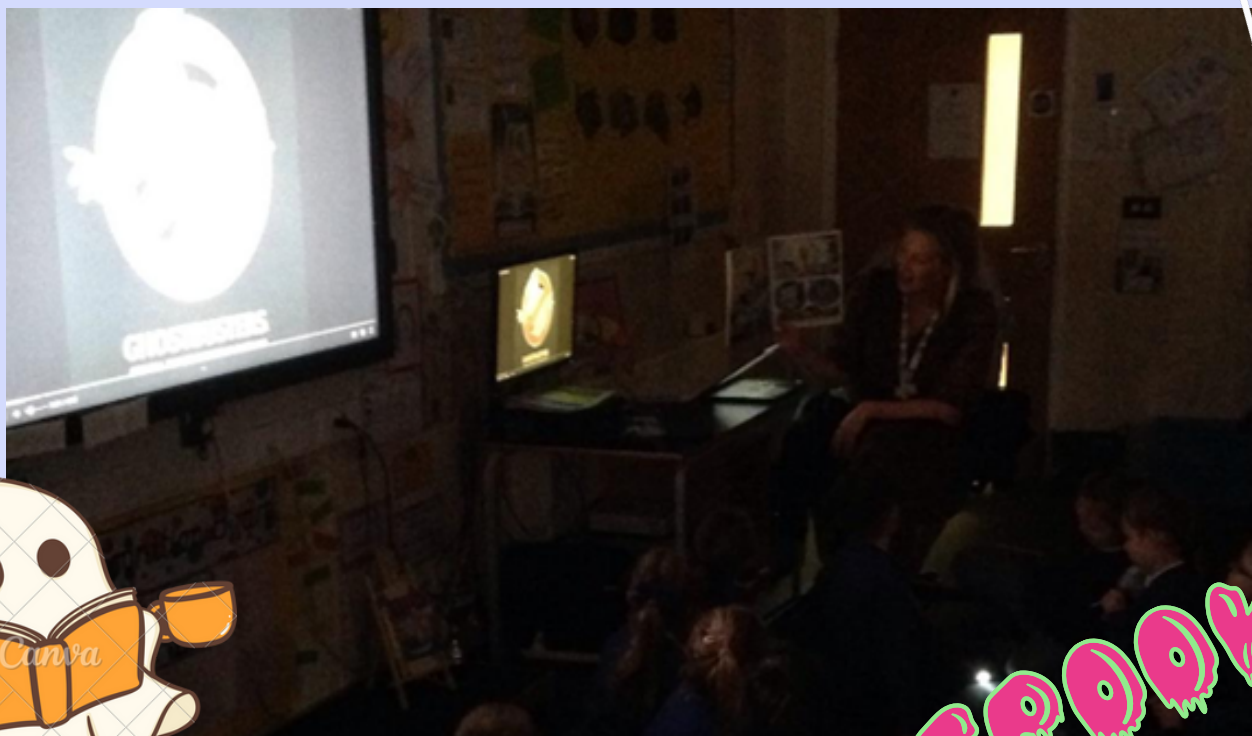




# Spooky Reading Experience

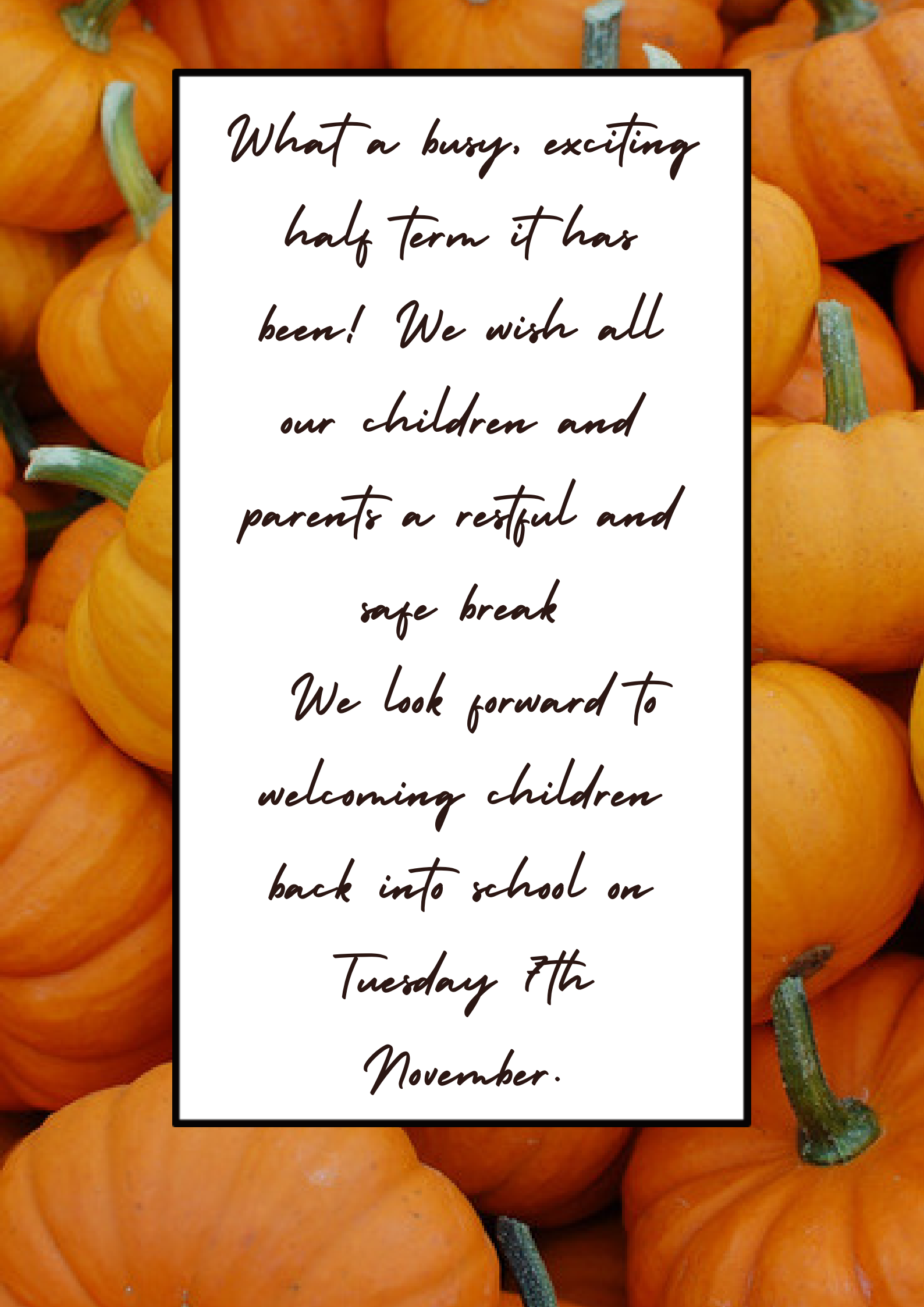
During the week commencing the 23rd October, the children were invited to a "Spooky Story Time" within their class. As they sat in their classes with the lights down and torches at hand, they immersed themselves in their class spooky story.

What a fantastic time the children had!



SPOOKY



The background of the image is a dense, close-up photograph of numerous bright orange pumpkins. The pumpkins are of various sizes and are piled together, creating a textured, autumnal backdrop. The stems of the pumpkins are visible, showing a greenish-brown color. The overall lighting is warm, highlighting the rich orange hue of the pumpkins.

What a busy, exciting  
half term it has  
been! We wish all  
our children and  
parents a restful and  
safe break

We look forward to  
welcoming children  
back into school on  
Tuesday 7th  
November.