ENGLISH NEWSLETTER 26/27

ST BEDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN 1

OUR AIMS

At St Bede's, we are committed to supporting your child's journey in reading and writing. We encourage families to read with their child every day, helping them to develop a rich vocabulary and a love of reading. In school, we teach the skills needed to become confident, independent writers. This half term, the children have worked incredibly hard and have thoroughly impressed their teachers with their enthusiasm and achievements.

OUR CURRICULUM THIS TERM

EYFS	EYFS have enjoyed exploring Leaf Man and Owl Babies this half term. Through Drawing Club, the children have developed their imagination, oracy and early writing skills by discussing stories, creating their own characters and settings, and writing simple sentences about their drawings.
KS1	KS1 have been developing their writing skills through character descriptions, narrative retelling and fables this half term. Using The Hare and the Tortoise and The Sun and the Wind as inspiration, the children have explored the features of a character, retold stories in their own words and developed their storytelling skills. Through discussion and shared learning, they have built their vocabulary, confidence and creativity, producing some fantastic pieces of writing that have impressed their teachers.
LKS2	LKS2 have been working hard to improve their writing by sharing their work with a partner and giving thoughtful feedback. They have also been using dictionaries to check and correct their spellings, helping them to become more accurate and independent writers. We have been impressed with the care and effort they have shown in developing their work.
UKS2	UKS2 have been developing their non-fiction writing skills by creating autobiographies about Sir David Attenborough. They have researched key events from his life and carefully organised their writing using a range of fronted adverbials to improve cohesion and engage the reader. The children have demonstrated excellent writing skills and have produced informative and well-structured pieces of work that they are very proud of.

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ENGLISH AT HOME

A friendly reminder to all families: spending time reading with your child at home and regularly practicing spellings can make a huge impact on their progress. Shared reading helps build vocabulary, fluency, and a love for stories, while spelling practice boosts confidence and accuracy in writing.
Just a few minutes each day can make all the difference - thank you for supporting your child's learning journey!

Below are some useful tips to help support your child's reading and writing at home:

- https://literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/
- https://app.sooperbooks.com/
- https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-at-home/
- https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk
- https://wordsforlife.org.uk



ORACY

As part of the Year of Reading, we are committed to developing a love of reading and language across the school. Reading opens the door to new worlds, broadens vocabulary and supports children's success across all areas of learning. Alongside this focus, we are placing a strong emphasis on oracy to help children become confident speakers and listeners. Through regular discussions, partner talk, storytelling, presentations and vocabulary-rich activities, children are encouraged to articulate their ideas clearly, listen carefully to others and build their confidence when communicating. Strong speaking and listening skills are essential foundations for both reading and writing. By discussing texts, explaining their thinking and using new vocabulary in conversation, children develop a deeper understanding of language that supports their comprehension and written work. From Reception through to Year 6, opportunities for purposeful talk are embedded throughout our curriculum, helping children to become effective communicators and enthusiastic readers and writers.

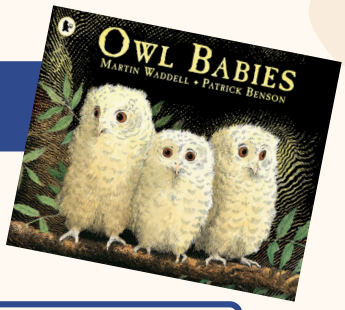
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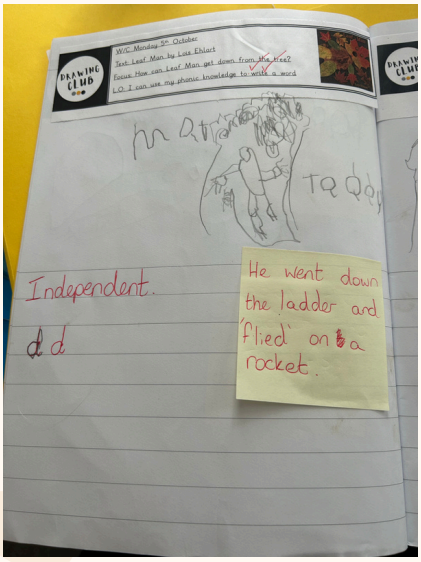


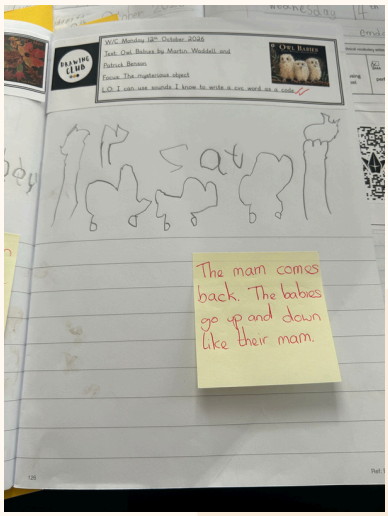
EARLY YEARS FOCUS



In Reception, children have been developing their literacy skills through Drawing Club using the stories Owl Babies and Leaf Man. After listening carefully to each story, the children explored the characters, settings and events through discussion and imaginative play. They then created their own characters inspired by the texts, drawing detailed pictures and sharing their ideas with their peers.

To support early writing development, the children wrote codes to represent their drawings. This encouraged them to apply their growing knowledge of sounds, letters and mark-making to communicate meaning. Drawing Club has helped to develop creativity, storytelling, communication and early writing skills in a fun and engaging way.





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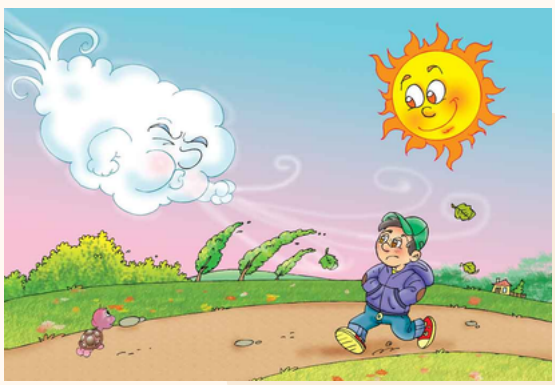
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KS1 FOCUS

In KS1, children have been developing their writing skills through creating their own animal character descriptions and retelling the fable The Sun and the Wind. They explored how authors describe characters and used ambitious adjectives to bring their animal characters to life. When retelling the story, children focused on writing in the past tense and third person, helping them to recount events clearly and accurately. They also learned how to use conjunctions to join ideas within their sentences, making their writing more detailed and engaging. It has been wonderful to see the children grow in confidence as they apply these key grammar skills to create their own successful pieces of writing.





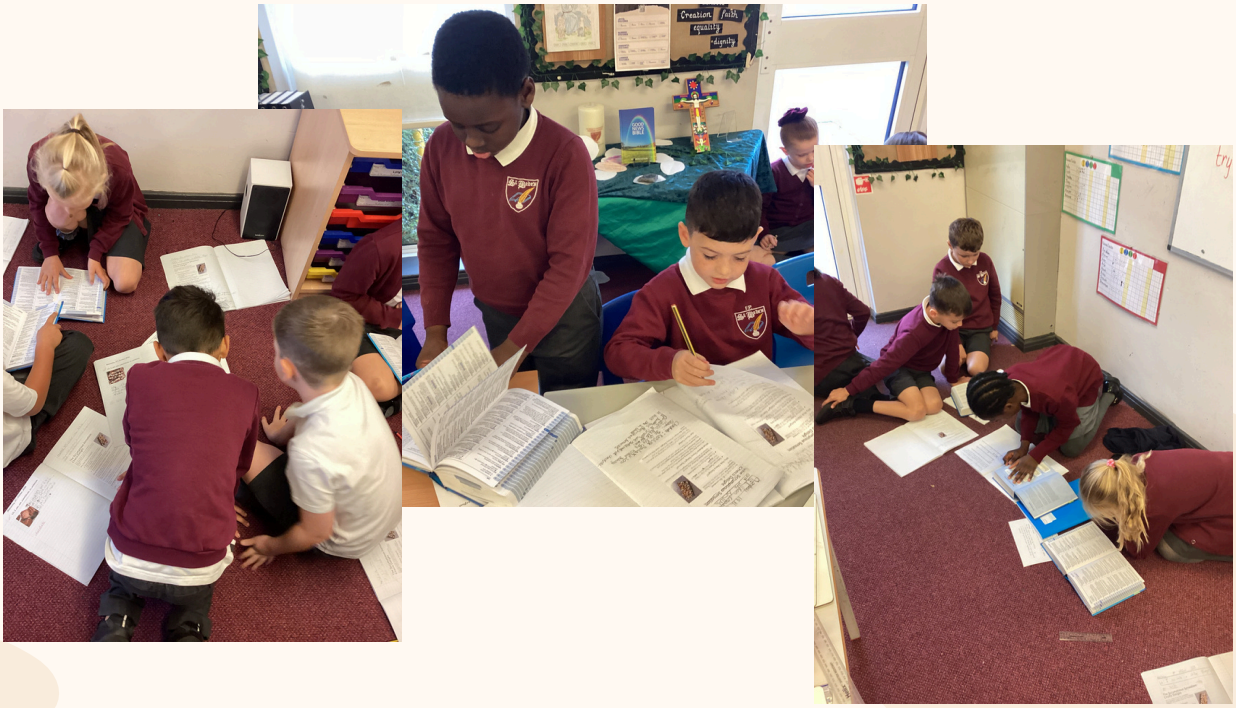
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LKS2 FOCUS

In LKS2, children have been developing their persuasive writing skills by creating their own advertisements for a chocolate bar. They explored the features of effective adverts, including persuasive language, catchy slogans and exciting descriptions to encourage readers to buy their product. As part of the writing process, the children shared their work with a partner, offering feedback and suggestions to help improve their writing. They also used dictionaries independently to check spellings and enhance their vocabulary choices. This collaborative approach helped children to reflect on and edit their work, building confidence as writers while developing important proofreading and self-improvement skills.



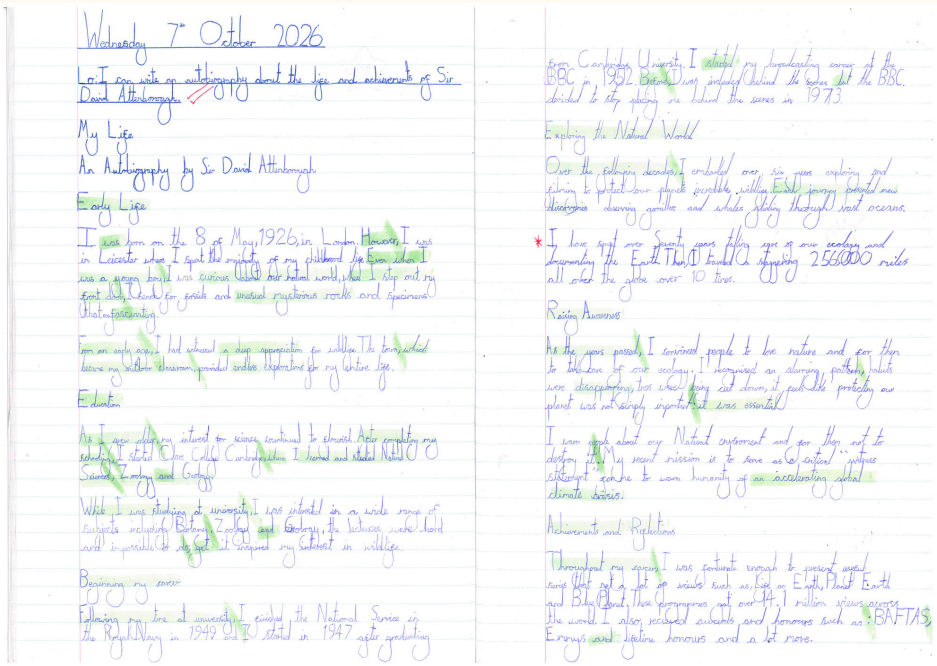
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UKS2 FOCUS

In UKS2, children have been developing their biography writing skills by creating an autobiography from the perspective of Sir David Attenborough. They researched key events from his life and carefully organised these into chronological order to tell the story of his achievements and experiences. As part of their writing, the children learned how to use fronted adverbials to add detail and improve the flow of their sentences. They also focused on writing in the first person, helping them to write as though they were Sir David Attenborough himself. Through planning, drafting and editing, the children produced engaging autobiographies while developing their understanding of grammar, sentence structure and effective writing techniques.



Wednesday 7th October 2026

I can write an autobiography about the life and achievements of Sir David Attenborough.

My Life

An Autobiography by Sir David Attenborough

Early Life

I was born on the 8 of May 1926, in London. However, I was in Leicester when I spent the majority of my childhood life. Even when I was a young boy, I was curious about our natural world, that I step out my front door to search for weird and unusual mysterious rocks and specimens that fascinating.

From an early age, I had achieved a deep appreciation for wildlife. The time I spent there with different classroom provided endless opportunities for my lifetime love.

Education

As I grew older, my interest in science continued to flourish. After completing my schooling, I started Clare College Cambridge where I learned and studied Natural Science, Zoology and Geology.

While I was studying at university, I was interested in a wide range of subjects including Biology, Zoology and Geology, the lectures made hard work is inevitable to the career I acquired my passion in wildlife.

Beginning my career

Following my time at university I enrolled the National Service in the Royal Navy in 1949 and I started in 1947 after graduating from Cambridge University. I started my broadcasting career at the BBC in 1952. Before living suddenly behind the scenes at the BBC decided to stay working behind the scenes in 1973.

Exploring the Natural World

Over the following decades, I embarked over six years exploring and filming to protect our planets incredible wildlife. Until journey beyond new discoveries observing gorillas and whales feeding through vast oceans.

I have spent over Seventy years filming rare or new creatures and documentary the Earth Thanks I travelled a staggering 2566000 miles all over the globe over 10 times.

Raising Awareness

As the years passed, I convinced people to love nature and care them to take love for our ecology. I recognised an alarming pattern habits were disappearing, how when I sat down, it felt like protecting our planet was not strictly important but was essential.

I warn people about our Natural environment and for them not to destroy it. My recent mission is to leave as a critical witness statement and be to warn humanity of an accelerating global climate crisis.

Achievements and Reflections

Throughout my career, I was fortunate enough to present award winning that got a lot of views such as Life on Earth, Planet Earth and Blue Planet, these programmes got over 14.1 million views across the world I also received awards and honours such as BAFTAS Emmys and lifetime honours and a lot more.