

What did we do?

We visited all classes from Reception to Yr 6.

Reception were recounting the story of Jack Frost using actions.

Year 1 were learning about 'bossy' verbs and were using actions to demonstrate their understanding.

Year 2 were using a story called Man in the Moon and were using actions to recount the story and understand the character of Bob.

Year 3 were discussing zoos and were in character as animals, looking at zoos and identifying reasons against keeping animals in zoos.

Year 4 were writing stories about danger.

Year 5 were discussing a verse from a poem and dramatising it. They also had to put the different verses of the poem in order.

Year 6 were working on discursive writing: SATS for or against?

What did we learn?

We could see that the younger children were using the actions to help them remember and understand the stories. In Y6 the children had post-it notes with a reminder of their targets and what to include. Different tables had different spelling lists to help them. We learned that from our visit that T4W is an effective process for developing confidence and skill in writing.

Positive comments

Classrooms had T4W displays and other prompts eg punctuation wall, handwriting heroes to help with learning and to support writing. Other adults in class were effectively supporting the children eg working in small groups or helping the children when the teacher was explaining the activity. Children were working in whole class groups, in pairs and individually. Learning goals were used in each class. We could see some very high quality writing and some children were able to talk confidently about technical aspects of grammar eg the subjunctive.

Any questions

We spoke to some of the children about what they were doing. They were able to tell us how they use T4W and how it develops as they move up the school. They could tell us about different techniques eg 'boxing up' and the use of story maps and we could see examples of different techniques in some classes.

Future visits?

It would be useful to see the final version of the writing tasks.

Other comments

The children in all classes were engaged with their work and were enjoying learning. They were able to talk confidently about their work.

SIP links

Key issue 2: Improve the attainment in Writing for boys in Yr1

Key issue 3: Improve attainment in Reading and Writing for boys in Yr3

Key issue 4: Improve progress for SEN pupils

GB plan : To continue to improve our monitoring and our links with staff, parents and children.