



Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



EYFS
Summer Term
2022



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What an incredible year the children have had in reception class. The children have all made fantastic progress during their first year at Connor Downs Academy and have now reached the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We are so proud of the children and everything they have achieved this year, both collectively and as individual learners.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This term, the children have continued to think about the importance of taking turns and playing collaboratively with one another. During circle time sessions, we have shared and discussed our thoughts and emotions; this has enabled the children to think reflectively and show sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others. The children have thoroughly enjoyed bringing in items from home, relating to our topics to show and tell. The children speak very confidently to the class and enjoy answering questions from their friends. It is wonderful to see the interest and enthusiasm from the children about all our different topics.



In preparation for their transition, the children have considered the different ways in which they could prepare themselves to meet the exciting challenges that they will face in Year 1. The children were able to recognise the importance of being a 'brave learner' and 'having a go' at learning tasks independently. The children have enjoyed a range of opportunities to spend time within the Year 1 setting. The children are excited to explore the Year 1 outside area.

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Physical Development

During our swimming sessions this term, the children have thoroughly enjoyed developing an understanding of basic swimming techniques and water safety. They have practised moving through the water independently in a range of ways; playing team games to develop their confidence in the water; practised jumping into the water and recognising when it is and isn't safe to do so. The children have shown amazing resilience during each session. Each session was filled with smiles and laughter.

The children have continued to improve their physical skills during sports day practise. We have had so many giggles bouncing up and down the field on our space hoppers.



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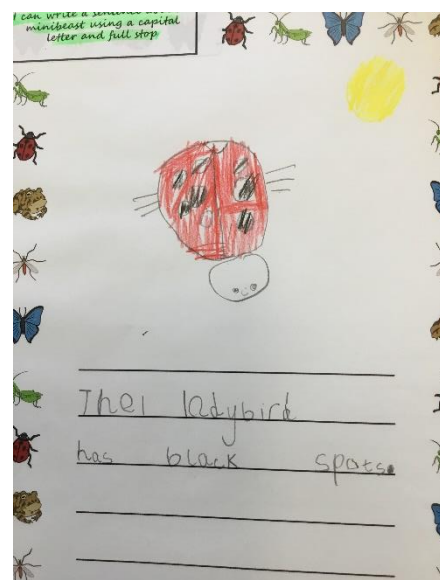
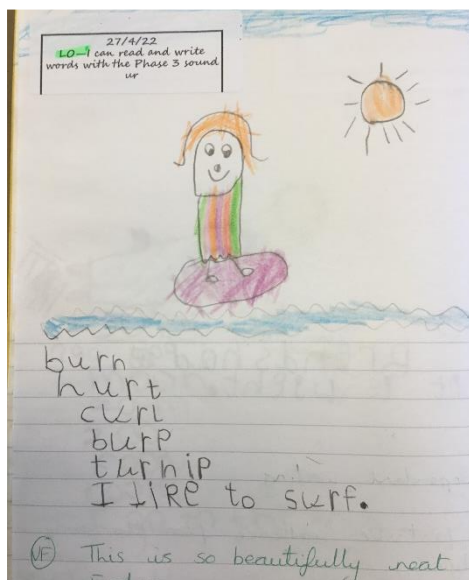
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In the context of our classroom learning, the children have been demonstrating their fantastic pencil control by producing brilliant drawings and pieces of written work. The children's improved pencil control has enabled them to write sentences with precision and skill.



Communication and Language

Building upon the communication and language skills they have acquired so far in the reception class, the children are now able to listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. The children are able to give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in different activities. Story time continues to be a favourite time of our day. The children have also enjoyed bringing in their own books from home for me to read in class.

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Our evolving role play area has generated lots of opportunities for the children to refine their communication and language skills. For example, the under the sea area and the ice cream parlour this term has enabled the children to use fantastic vocabulary relating to our topics.



Literacy

Through our sustained daily phonics sessions, the reception children have now successfully completed Phases 3 and 4 of the phonics scheme 'Letters and Sounds'. The children have all made incredible progress and are now reading and writing words and sentences using their phonic knowledge.

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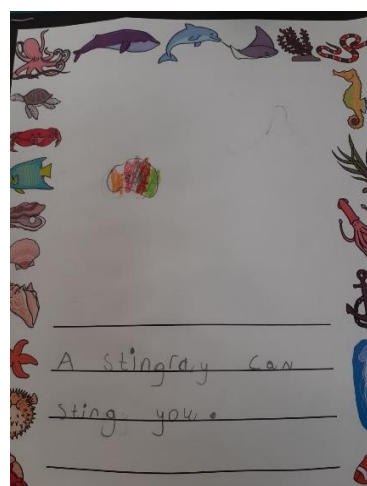
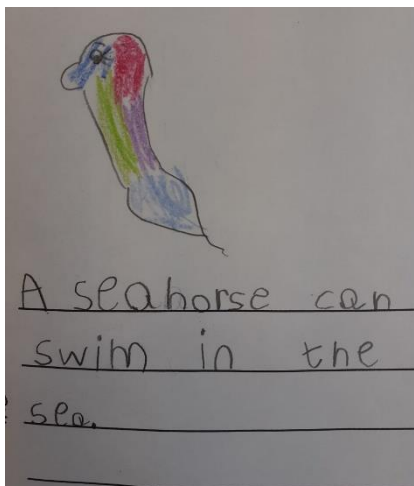
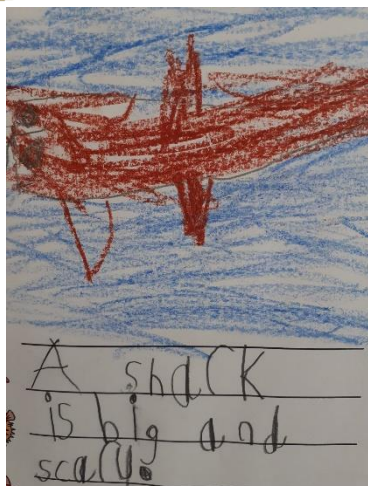
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I have been so proud of all the reception children with the progress in their writing this term. The children are so keen and eager to write, even during playful learning. The children have written some excellent sentences about sea creatures and these are proudly displayed in the classroom.



Mathematics

In Mathematics this term, the children have consolidated their understanding of the core mathematical skills and principles they have explored during their time in Reception. They are now able to count reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, placing them in order and recognising which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they are able to add and subtract two single-digit numbers, counting on or back to

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find the answer. In addition to this, they are able to solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.



During our outdoor learning sessions, linking to our Mathematics learning, the children have practised using everyday language to talk about size, weight, volume, capacity, position and distance. The children have worked together to make a pirate ship. The children tried and tested different ways to make a plank. The children looked at the height and whether the children could jump from the plank into water. The children also made Buckingham Palace, using the large blocks in our outside area.

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Understanding the world

This term the children have shown such a keen interest in our topics of 'Minibeasts' and 'Under the Sea'. The children have explored the topics through reading, writing, art and in their playful learning. We have focussed our role play areas around the topics and activities both inside and outside of the classroom. They are now able to talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.



The children have continued to thoroughly enjoy 'Muddy Monday' sessions with Mr Costello. The children have made observations of animals and plants, considering and 'having a go' at explaining why some things occur and change over time. The children have also continued to have the opportunity to observe, handle and take care of our animals.

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Expressive Arts

The children enjoyed learning and performing the song 'Bob the Builder' this term, for a very special leavers assembly for Mr Lewis. The children successfully learnt the song lyrics and a sequence of dance moves, which they were able to perform with confidence and skill. The children also learnt the National Anthem for the Platinum Jubilee.



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During our exciting topic of 'Under the Sea', the children were very busy making a range of sea creatures. The children made fish, sharks, jellyfish and crabs, which again are proudly displayed in the classroom.



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