WORKING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN

English: Writing

Intent

The English curriculum at Elmore Green Primary School will develop children's skills in and foster a love of reading, writing and discussion. Our English curriculum is carefully matched to thematic units of work in order to make purposeful links across the curriculum. At Elmore Green, we recognise that it is vital that our children are exposed to a range of exemplar texts, from across different genres and subject areas, to embed ambitious vocabulary choices and secure expectations of writing across the curriculum. We are intent on our students leaving Elmore Green able to communicate effectively in writing and to enjoy being able to express themselves in this way. All pupils will leave our school with the ability to write across a range of forms and adapt their writing successfully, considering the purpose.

Implementation

Writing

In line with the National Curriculum, we ensure that children in each phase is taught the explicit grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives required, building on previous learning as children are ready to progress. All children write daily in an English session and across the curriculum. Teachers plan writing lessons based on 'The Write Stuff' by Jane Considine; these plans are linked to high-quality texts which show clear progression across year groups.

Each phase has a yearly overview of the narrative and non-fiction units of writing that are to be taught. These have been chosen to ensure that the children have the opportunity to write for a range of purposes and audiences, and where possible, these units link to the wider curriculum. Each of these units of work are enriched with experience lessons in which the children are exposed to high quality stimulus to generate rich vocabulary for writing and to develop enthusiasm for writing. Each unit culminates with the children writing independently linked to the teaching they have received. This piece of writing is then assessed to inform future lesson delivery.

Spelling

Spelling is taught according to the rules and words contained in Appendix 1 of the English National Curriculum. Teachers use long term spelling plans to support their teaching and to provide activities that link to the weekly spellings. Children are given spellings to learn each week and Spellzone is used to develop confidence with spelling these words. When marking work, teachers identify words that children have spelt incorrectly from within that child's known ability and the child will practice these as part of their English lesson.

Grammar and Punctuation

Grammar and punctuation knowledge and skills taught as part of English lessons. Teachers plan to teach the required skills through the text type they are teaching, linking it to the purpose of writing to make it more connected with the intended writing outcome. Teachers may also choose to focus on particular grammar and punctuation skills as stand-alone lessons or lesson starters where this need is identified.

Handwriting

In Reception and Year 1, children are taught printed letter formation linked to Monster Phonics, our adopted approach to teaching early reading. As they progress through Year 1, pupils will be introduced to pre-cursive and cursive writing when they are ready to do so. In Year 2 the children will be taught to use cursive script. We use Letter join to support the teaching of handwriting from Y1 onward.

Impact

Our children are exposed to opportunities throughout their time at Elmore Green Primary School to engage in exciting, and ambitious English lessons and then to apply their written skills in a range of contexts.

School data demonstrates that our children achieve well in writing and make good or better progress in writing.