



SINGLEGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Local Authority Writing Review and dates for your diary

As part of local authority monitoring and support, Singlegate Primary School on the 12th March took part in an extensive writing review. This review was led by Nick Flesher who is our school Education Partner and a registered Ofsted Inspector and Sigi Leigh the local authority English advisor.

The writing review included a meeting with myself as the English subject leader, where policy and practice were discussed, leaning walks involving Mrs Hart, where the teaching of writing was monitored, meetings with 'key' staff about how English is planned and supported by continuous professional development and a thorough checking of writing books identifying how the children are making progress and whether they are on track to meet the expectation targeted for them.

We were thrilled with the feedback that we received, particularly as 'writing' has been a key priority for school improvement this year.

The **strengths** of the school were identified as follows:

- purpose of the writing is the driver-either linked to a stimulating text or part of the class topic
- the purpose of writing and the audience is monitored closely
- improving children's language is a priority
- engagement of the children e.g. grammar embedded into context
- continual professional development is led by the Executive Headteacher and the Inclusion Manager (grammar and support for children with English as an additional language)
- differentiation to support children with Special Educational Needs - pre-teaching, lots of spoken language practice, mixed ability groups to support learners, use of targeted teaching in class by the teacher and the teaching assistant to accelerate progress
- the environment supports learning effectively
- modelled writing is developed by the teacher
- expectation of outstanding grammar outcomes
- context for writing is supported by school visits and 'launch' experiences (e.g. Tudor, Roman Day)
- targeted teaching moves learning on well
- lots of opportunities for 'talk' and language independently and in adult groups across the age range
- opportunities for writing at length and applying the learning
- teachers' subject knowledge
- monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that **all** children are making progress.

These areas have been identified as needing further development:

- would the use of real photographs enhance development work on language?
- how is the modelling of writing used by the Early Years staff used to support children's learning?
- could the success criteria include the purpose for writing e.g. informing the reader, persuading reader, entertaining reader, instructing the reader.



The areas for development have been the focus since the review and we are feeling most confident about our writing outcomes by the end of this year.

Key dates for the first half of the summer term

Date	Event
Week beginning Monday 23rd April - Friday 4th May	The Big Pedal
Week beginning 23rd April	Extra-curricular activities start
Thursday 26th April at 2.00 pm	FOSS open meeting
Wednesday 2nd May	Year 4 to the Horniman Museum
Week beginning Monday 14th - 17 th May	Year 6 SATs testing week
Monday 21st May	Eco-vehicle homework deadline
Week beginning Monday 21st May	Year 2 assessment week
Wednesday 23rd May	Class photography
Friday 25th May	Attendance MUFTI Day for Westminster, Embankment, Euston, Southwark, Balham, Pimlico and Monument classes
Friday 25th May	Music exams
Friday 25th May	Last day of the first half of the summer term

Mrs N Bull
Executive Headteacher