



Phonics

In year 1 we have continued to have a big focus on our phonics and to use our knowledge of sounds to help when reading decodable words. We are trying really hard to read without blending but if we need to, we blend in our head first. We have focused on lots of new digraphs, using them to read new words and reading our tricky words on sight. We are trying to use these new digraphs in our writing too.



Geography

In Geography this term we learnt the difference between the countryside and a town. We know that we live in a town called Darlington. We also know that we live in a country called England, which is part of the United Kingdom. We can now name all four countries in the UK and we recognise the national symbol for England, the national flower and we know the colours of the flag.



Maths

In maths this term we have learnt to find numbers without relying on counting by using what we know about number and finding patterns such as 'five and a bit more'. We have used rekenreks to help us find numbers within 10 and now within 20. We use 'one push' to find number on the rekenrek once our 'reds are ready'. We have used stem sentences and the part-whole model to find the whole and the 2 different parts that make that whole. We have then started to write this into number sentences. We now know odd and even numbers within 10.



Science

We have learnt about what plants need to grow such as water, sunlight, space and oxygen. We know that plants start off as a seed and then grow their roots, their stem, leaves and eventually the flower. We have learnt the names of some wild flowers such as thistles and buttercups. We have also grown our own flowers from a seed and watered them regularly and watched them grow!



History

In History our topic has been toys from the past. We started by looking at our own favourite toys and what they can do. Then we looked at some old toys. We noticed that toys from the past didn't have lights, sounds and batteries but our toys do. We also noticed that we play with some of the same toys but ours are made from plastic not wood or metal.



PSHE

During PSHE we have thought about feelings and how our words and actions can influence how other people feel. We are trying to respect other people's feelings and other people's personal space. We have also talked about the importance of saying 'no' when we don't want someone to do something to us. During children's mental health week we also discussed our feelings in more detail and read some stories which made us think about what we do when we worry about things. We all agreed it made us feel better to talk about our feelings and share when we are worried or anxious about something. We created a worry box in the classroom to write our worries down and have the opportunity to discuss them if we wanted to.

