

Spring 1 in Year 1

What a half term we've had in Year 1! We have been busy starting our new topic 'Farms and Factories' where we started looking at the potato. The children were so surprised to see how many things were made out of potato.



Children have been really challenged this half term with their writing. They have had to think about all of the basic skills needed – such as capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, using our phonics and our handwriting. The children even accomplished two big writes in one half term retelling the story of The Enormous Turnip and planning their own version of this tale. Their writing has knocked our socks off this half term – even Mrs Donelan was blown away!

Not only have we been authors this half term, by writing our own 'enormous vegetable' story but we've also been a crisp packet designer. After a competition sent from Walkers, we have planned, made and evaluated our own crisp packet for our own crisp flavour – there were some very interesting flavour combinations going on in Year 1.

Thank you for all of your support with reading this half term. The children have been so excited to get their gold stars and we have had so many celebrations. We can really see the impact this is having on the children's reading skills. Just a little reminder, the books being sent home are books that have been specifically chosen for your child's phonics level. These are books that are decodable and allow them to practice the reading skills taught in school. While we encourage the children to read for pleasure, please ensure the school books are read alongside these to support phonics learning.



Following feedback from parents, this half term we have trialled an extra play for children who complete and bring homework in on or before Wednesday. We have seen a huge impact on the children completing homework and making sure it is in the tub independently. While we understand that home life can be busy, homework is an important element of a child's education. All homework set is based on work completed in school, therefore children should be able to complete independently. If you have any queries regarding homework, please speak to a member of the team who would be happy to help.

We are currently finalising the details of a trip for next half term. Please keep an eye out for these letters going out after half term – I'm sure we will need some adult helpers!

Next half term we will have Miss Galluzzo and Mr Robinson in Year 1. They are currently completing their training to become a teacher and will be teaching the children alongside Miss Hogg and Mrs Tacy. We are really excited to welcome them to Christ Church and the children are enjoying working with them!

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our 'Team time' coffee morning. It was lovely to chat to you and show off some really lovely work. A letter will be sent out with dates for the next one soon.

