Writing

Intent

At Abacus, we want our pupils to be able to confidently communicate through their writing, using a varied and appropriate range of vocabulary, supported by a sound understanding of grammatical features and accurate application of spelling patterns and rules. Through our writing approach, our aim is for children to be competent in planning, drafting, revising and editing their writing increasingly independently across a range of text types, adapting their tone and register for the intended audience and purpose. We want all pupils to take pride in their work and demonstrate this through clear, cursive handwriting from Year 1 onwards.

Organisation

The Talk 4 Writing approach is embedded throughout the school. The concept was developed by the author Pie Corbett and is a fun, creative yet rigorous approach to develop writers. Talk for Writing begins with enjoying and sharing stories or non-fiction texts, and during the 'Imitation Stage' the class will focus on learning these off by heart. They will then retell the text using actions and expression (and a text map to support them): this enables them to learn new vocabulary and language structures which they can use in their later writing. During the 'Innovation Stage', children adapt the original text through the shared writing approach by making key changes e.g. to the characters/setting. Finally, they write their own text independently at the 'Invention Stage'.

Inclusion and SEND

Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils, including individualised curriculums for certain students with EHCPs.

Individual and small group interventions are planned to support children with developing their writing skills including phonics, spelling, handwriting, sentence construction and vocabulary development.

Assessment

- Target tracker updated termly
- Ongoing teacher assessment against the success criteria and year group expectations
- Regular spelling tests linked to the spelling pattern taught
- Year group, whole school and external moderation