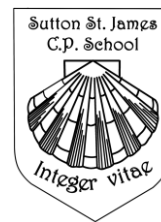




SUTTON ST JAMES C.P. SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Miss Claire Willows



13th January 2016,

Dear Parents,

Big Write and Big Talk

As you will be aware from talking to your children one of the initiatives that we use at school to improve children's writing is that of "The Big Write". Lessons follow a similar format across the school, with the children receiving input on how to make their writing better by using interesting Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation. The children then have a task introduced to them and they have an extended period to write in a particular style.

In order to support the children to have lots of ideas to help them with their writing, it is helpful to have spent some time talking with others before-hand. Therefore we will be continuing to ask you to do 'talk time' at home with your child. This is an opportunity for the children to talk with their siblings /parents /grandparents etc, about the topic/theme for their Big Write Session before they do it to generate ideas, thoughts and opinions. As a school we have decided that it would be helpful for all classes to be writing about a similar theme so that it could be a tea time conversation and include all family members.

The topics/ themes that we have chosen for this term are as follows:

Friday	15 th January – New Beginnings
	22 nd January – Winter
	29 th January – Breakfast benefits
	5 th February – Physical Health
After Half Term	26 th February – Weather
	4 th March – Books
	11 th March – Animals
	18 th March – Famous People/Sporting events

Each class will be given a slightly different focus and the writing they do will be different and age appropriate. For example KS1 may be asked to write instructions for their favourite computer games whereas Year 5 & 6 may be asked to write an argument for children being limited to 30 minutes per day playing computer games. Details of the focus for each class will be sent with the homework each week by your child's class teacher.

The children are welcome to bring in any pictures or notes that they have made about the topic to help to inspire their writing.

We hope that you will support us by spending some time each week talking about the "talk time" topic to help your child to have lots of ideas when they are completing their Big Write.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Willows
Headteacher