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WAT wordsmiths



Children from Wimborne Academy Trust's first schools are enjoying vocabulary focused lessons and events this term. Pictured are children from Hayeswood First School during a vocabulary enrichment day where children dressed as characters representing an adjective.

Children from a Dorset education trust are becoming quite the wordsmiths thanks to special events and lessons hosted at their schools

This term, Wimborne Academy Trust's (WAT) first schools have dedicated lessons and special events to expand their pupils' vocabulary.

Youngsters at Colehill and Hayeswood first schools in Wimborne celebrated their learning by coming dressed to school as a word.

To make this more of a challenge all nouns were banned. This meant any child who dressed up as a character had to explain the adjective or adverb they were depicting – from beautiful princesses to fearless superheroes.

Meanwhile Hillside First School in Verwood held its very own 'wacky words' day.

The children had to choose one word to celebrate and to do this had to either dress up as the word, create a poster celebrating the word's meaning or make a wacky hat to describe the word.

CEO of Wimborne Academy Trust, Liz West, said: "A rich vocabulary can massively change children's understanding of the world and their ability to learn new ideas and information.

"This whole process starts in the home and pre-school but children's first school years are also formative for building vocabulary and shaping understanding.

"Our focus days are encouraging children to be daring, experimental and creative in the words they choose.

"This will be a great springboard in creative writing for pupils of all ages as well improving their language skills and helping them articulate more confidently."

Wimborne Academy Trust has seven first schools all taking part in this initiative – Colehill First, Hayeswood First, Hillside First, Verwood CE First, Witchampton CE First, St John's CE First in Wimborne and Merley First.

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