

Dear Parent/Carers,

The children were excited to use action figures to create their scenes from the Traction Man story and were very successful in using them to act out the different scenarios. We have some budding actors! 😊

Spelling this week has focussed on adding the –er and –est suffixes to root words. Helpfully, the rules for adding –er and –est are the same as those for adding –ing (see below).

Most words	Root word ends in a y	Root word ends in an e	Root word has a short vowel followed by a consonant
Just add –er/-est	Change the y to an i and add –er/-est	Take away the e and add –er/-est	Double the consonant and add –er/-est

We all enjoyed our Transport launch on Wednesday. We were very impressed with how resilient the children were and the progress many of them made. Many children took a risk and rode their bikes without stabilisers despite not feeling confident. Keep on practising at home and you will get there! 😊

If you are trying to teach your child to ride their bike at home, here are some top tips:

STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE WITHOUT STABILISERS

RUN - BALANCE - FEET ON PEDALS - PEDAL are the 4 steps to pedaling

1. RUN - the child will sit on the bike with their feet touching the ground. They need to be able to propel or push the bike forward with their feet using an alternate foot action 1,2,1,2, etc. If the saddle is too high and the child cannot touch the floor, this will not work. If you can remove the pedals, also to stop them getting in the way, it will help as they are not needed at this stage.
2. BALANCE - lift up both feet together to balance the bike! We also call this gliding, but we are helping the children to learn to balance. Do not be tempted to hold them in any way as this stops the child 'feeling' how to balance.
3. FEET ON THE PEDALS - you now need the pedals back on the bike. These may bang your child's legs when they try to run. Wear wellies or boots, or even better encourage them to lift their feet ABOVE the pedals then put them ON THE PEDALS AND BALANCE. We do not pedal yet we practise this until we are very confidently doing it.
4. PEDAL - don't TELL your child to pedal. Let them do it when they are ready - and they will be!

Steps must be done in order and always start at STEP 1. Don't let your child miss out on any steps.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Haigh, Mrs Shaw and the Year 2 Team