



Year One Curriculum Newsletter Spring 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the year ahead. We have had a busy start to the term and have introduced our Year 1 cross curricular themes for this term which are, Traditional Tales: "What are the similarities and differences between traditional tales?" and Houses and homes: "How are homes around the world different?" and "What's changed in English homes over the last 150 years?" Typically working within the year group will be: Mrs Crellin and Miss Puttick (class teachers), Mrs Dent and Mrs Gibson (teaching assistants), On a Friday afternoon the children will have an enrichment afternoon, which will be covered by Mr Newton, Danny Fowler, Mrs Whittaker and a martial arts coach.

In English we will be exploring traditional stories and rhymes as well as stories and poems with familiar, predictable and patterned language from a range of cultures. Our non-fiction work will encompass information books, non-chronological reports and using simple dictionaries. We will continue our work on punctuation as well as focussing on using our phonics skills in our reading and writing. We will continue to have focused weekly key word spellings, which will be taught in school through a variety of activities including phonics and guided reading sessions. In our phonics we will be focussing on blending (putting the individual sounds together to read) and segmenting (sounding out to spell) with particular emphasis on nonsense (alien) words.

In Maths the children will be concentrating on numbers and the number system, place value, ordering, estimating, generating calculations, rapid recall of addition and subtraction facts, development of mental calculation strategies, solving problems in 'real life' situations, money, measures, shape and space and organising and using data. There will be particular emphasis on, recognising pattern, problem solving and the thinking processes that the children go through to understand and solve a variety of problems. The children will continue to use Numicon to support their learning and calculations in school.

In Science our first topic this term will be, 'The Seasons - Winter and Spring,' where the children will be observing the changes across the four seasons, describing and naming some of the key features of Winter and Spring and investigating changes in the weather over time. Later in the term we will be looking at the topic of, 'Sorting and Using Materials' where the children will be identifying and naming a variety of everyday materials, describing and naming the properties of different materials and conducting an investigation to see which materials will be most suitable to build a house for the Three Little Pigs.

I.C.T. is used generally to support the wider curriculum and specifically through using and developing basic computing skills. We will also be beginning our topics of 'We are storytellers' (producing a talking book) and 'We are TV chefs' (filming the steps of a recipe). Among other things, children will also be learning to keep themselves safe online through E-safety circle times and discussions regarding appropriate use of the internet and search engines. We encourage parents to be vigilant when children are researching and using the internet.

Our R.E. work this term will be focussing on the themes of 'Belonging' and 'Festivals'. Towards Easter we will be learning about the festivals, beliefs and practices of Easter and Palm Sunday. The children will also take part in weekly Circle Time sessions concentrating on the topics of 'Keeping Healthy', 'Disability Equality,' 'Fire Safety,' 'Road Safety,' and 'Railway Safety.'

In Art and DT the children will be investigating materials and using a range of materials creatively to design and make products. In music they will be working with Mr Newton, a specialist music teacher, who will be supporting the children's topic work through songs and exploring the themes of tempo and rhythm.

P.E. games lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon with class teachers, gymnastics lessons and martial arts lessons will take place on a Friday afternoon with specialist teachers. Please ensure children have the correct 'kit' in school throughout the week.

Homework will continue to be based on a points system. Each child will be awarded their certificates from last term if they acquired the correct number of points. They will also be given their homework book back with a new homework grid attached for this half term. Children must earn points by completing tasks set on the grid and bring these in as soon as they complete each task to assist us with marking. It is expected they treat it with care and respect. If the children earn the required number of points by completing their homework grid by the requested date they will receive a certificate to celebrate their hard work.

Although we provide weekly group guided reading sessions within the class, we also expect that pupils read regularly at home; we also ask that they read their book at least twice (depending on length) before bringing it in to be changed. This ensures the children are also developing their fluency of reading familiar texts and supports with their understanding of what they are reading. We would be grateful if you could continue to write a short note in your child's reading record to say how they got on with their reading, remembering that this is a reading record, not a home/school communication book and the comments should be purely associated with reading. Please be assured that we would contact you if needed to and of course you can always communicate with us by writing a note or emailing the school. Alongside group guided reading sessions and regular reading at home the children also continue to have the opportunity to visit the school library every week where they can select a book to take home for the week.

We look forward to another enjoyable term and seeing you for parents evening on **Monday 11th** and **Tuesday 12th February**. If you need to contact us for whatever reason, please do not hesitate.

Mrs K. Crellin and Miss L. Puttick



Below are a few ways in which you could help to support your child at home this term:

English

To encourage your child to remember to use basic punctuation in their writing i.e. full stops and capital letters.

To encourage your child to spell their key/tricky words correctly.

To develop the children's reading and comprehension skills through regular reading at home and asking simple questions about the books that they have read.

You may find the following website useful:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Maths

To practice recognising coins and understanding their individual values.

To practice recognising numbers beyond 20 (up to and beyond 100).

To practice forming all numbers correctly.

To practice partitioning numbers into tens and ones e.g. 34 is 3 tens and 4 ones

You may find the following website useful: <http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

Science

To support the children in understanding and using the following vocabulary:

Seasons: Winter, Spring, weather, snow, ice, hibernate, temperature, blossom etc.

Sorting and Using Materials: different types of materials e.g. wood, metal, plastic, textile,

Different properties of materials: twist, bend, stretch, hard, soft, solid, liquid, waterproof etc.

History and Geography

We will be learning all about different types of houses and homes, so you may wish to familiarise your child with the different names of some different types of houses e.g. semi-detached, terrace etc.

Developing map and atlas skills, locating our local area and finding significant local places on maps. Using atlases to find the countries where different types of houses and homes are found.

PSHE and RE

To support the children in understanding and using the following vocabulary:

belonging, safe, level crossing, healthy, disability, Easter, Palm Sunday.