



Year One Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and are looking forward to the summer months. We enjoyed sharing our Easter holiday stories with each other at the start of the week and are moving on to introducing our Year 1 cross curricular mini-topic for this half term which is "Aliens! Fact or Fiction?" Our cross curricular topic for next half term will be 'The Seaside.' Typically working within the year group will be: Mrs Crellin and Miss Gott (class teachers) Mrs Whittaker, Mr Robinson and Mrs Henson (teaching assistants), Tom Andrew (P.E. specialist) and Mr Newton (music specialist). We are also welcoming Mr Helm, a student teacher, who will be working with Mrs Crellin's class until the end of term.

In English we will be exploring fantasy stories and stories with familiar settings. We will also be looking at a range of poetry and use of rhyme, including predictable and patterned language. Our non-fiction work will encompass information texts, recount writing, instruction writing 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 preparation for the Phonics Screening Check which takes place the week commencing 12th June.

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', where the children will be learning about the weather associated with each season, temperatures and new life. Later in the term we will be learning about 'Growing Plants' where the children will be identifying and naming a variety of plants, describing and naming the different parts of plants and conducting an investigation to see how plants grow and what they need to help them to grow healthily.

Computing 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 collectors' (finding images using the internet) and 'We are Treasure Hunters (using programmable toys). 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 'Founders and Leaders' and Sikhism, belonging, festivals, beliefs and practices. The children will also take part in weekly Circle Time sessions concentrating on the topics of 'Anti bullying', 'Cyber bullying,' 'e-safety,' 'electricity' and 'water safety.'

In Art the children will be developing a wide range of art and design techniques, using colour, pattern, line, shape, form and space. 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 pitch, tempo and rhythm.

P.E. games lessons will take place on a Tuesday morning with Tom Andrews, gymnastics lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon with the class teacher. If the weather is nice the children will take part in athletics activities instead of gymnastics. 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 that they treat it with care and respect.

Although we provide weekly group guided reading sessions within the class, to support this we also require that pupils read regularly at home; we 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 little library where they can select a book to take home for the week.

Note: Dates for your diary -

-We will be having an Alien Café on the afternoon of **Wednesday 24th May** as part of our Enterprise Project.

-We would like to make you aware of a school trip to Saltburn on **Thursday 8th June**.

- More details to follow on both.

We look forward to another enjoyable term. If you need to contact us for whatever reason, please do not hesitate.

Mrs K Crellin and Miss R Gott



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, capital letters and commas.

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.

To develop your child's reading of nonsense (alien) words [Phonics Play website].

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 using mental methods to support addition and subtraction calculations, e.g. doubles and number bonds

You may find the following website useful:

www.sumdog.com

Science

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

Seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, seasonal changes, temperature

Growing Plants: parts of a plant e.g. petals, stem, leaves, roots,

What plants need to grow: light, water, nutrients etc.

History and Geography

We will be learning all about the seaside, where the seaside is located and how the seaside in Britain has changed since the Victorian times, so you may wish to familiarise your child with the different vocabulary associated with the seaside, e.g. coast, sand, beach, sea, cliffs, pier, etc.

PSHE and RE

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

Water safety, safe, e-safety, festival, Sikhs, Sikhism.