

Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn 2020

English

We teach phonics lessons daily and read as much as possible throughout the school day. We have daily guided reading (small group) sessions and Reading Spine (whole class) sessions. Children will be sent home with spellings weekly and they will be tested every **Friday**. Please encourage your child to learn their spellings daily. Children will also be given a book to read each **Friday** which will need to be returned the following **Monday**. Please sign your child's reading record and feel free to write comments on their reading at home. When writing, the children will be encouraged to try to spell phonetically plausible words and we will be giving children Alphabetic Code charts that will help them in identifying the correct sounds. We will also be sending each child home with one of these for use with independent spelling at home. We are focusing on correct letter formation and pencil grip in line with our Kinetic Letters whole school approach. During our English lessons we shall read, discuss and write journey stories, overcoming the monster stories and instructions.



Mathematics

This term we will focus on number and place value within 10, especially unpicking children's understanding about the different ways to make and represent a number. We will be doing lots of practical counting, including counting one more and one less, which will then lead to addition and subtraction. In Year 1, much of our work is practical to embed understanding. Throughout this time, we hope to perfect children's number formation (writing kinetic numerals clearly and correctly) to ensure clear recording of addition and subtraction sentences. Children will have a Maths Club test every **Monday** in due course, which will test the knowledge of their number bonds.



Topic



Our topic this term is called 'The History of Me' and will be building on the children's understanding of chronology. It will be focused on ordering important milestones in the children's lives and looking briefly at their own family history.

Art and D&T

In Art, the children will be focusing on drawing lines of different lengths and thicknesses and colouring within the lines to create self portraits. They will also be using clay to create 3D Christmas decorations. In D&T, the children will be building freestanding structures.

Geography

In Geography, we will be investigating our school. We will be developing the children's skills in using simple fieldwork and observational skills and also using locational and directional language to describe what is in our school grounds.

P.S.H.E

This term, our themes will include: growth mindset; setting goals; keeping healthy; understanding fairness; how to keep safe and how to deal with our feelings. We shall also look at how to take care of our environment and the impact of our choices.



Music

The focus this term will be for children to recognise the basic style indicators of Hip Hop music. The children will be listening to and following different melodies. The children will practice clapping and playing rhythms using their body.

R.E.

This term, the children will be learning about the Creation Story. This will introduce them to the practices and beliefs that fall within Christianity.

Computing

In computing, we will be learning how to program devices, input instructions and debug programs. We will also consider how to stay safe online.

Science

During Science this term, the children will learn about the changing seasons. I would encourage you to go on nature walks, look at and describe the changes around us as we move from autumn into winter, particularly the changes to trees. Please enthuse your children to ask questions and consider the answers to these questions. Later in the term, we will be exploring everyday materials. Children will look at the differences between a variety of materials and explore their properties.

P.E.

Year 1 will now take part in P.E. every Thursday and will need to come into school in their PE kits. Please can any children with earrings not wear them on these days. This term we shall be exploring and developing our locomotive skills by practicing running and also learning a dance routine.

Behaviour Policy

Children will continue to follow the school Golden Rules and those doing so will be praised, given house points and put onto our class 'Recognition Chart.' Each week, we will have a different class focus and will be looking for every child to get onto the Recognition Chart for demonstrating this behavior. If a child does not follow the Golden Rules, they will be given "the look", followed by a verbal warning if behavior persists. If behavior continues, behaviour consequences will be given to individuals via yellow and red consequence cards. Yellow cards will be followed by a discussion with the adult who gave the card and red cards will be followed up with a phone call home and further conversation with the child. Full details of our behavior policy can be found on our website.

Home Learning

The best way to support your child is by hearing them read daily and encouraging them to use their phonics skills to read. Help them to define words and ask questions that they are puzzled by in the stories that they read. Please continue to use DoodleMaths daily at home as a fun, interactive way to practice their number skills. Trios are used throughout school to test children's number bonds knowledge and their ability to find number facts from the facts they already know.