

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter– Autumn

English:

We will begin the term by focusing on constructing a simple sentence. This involves oral sentence rehearsal, capital letters and full stops. We will also be looking at description. We believe that if a child can not say a sentence clearly and accurately they will not be able to record it, therefore we will be doing a large number of oracy based activities. We will then be learning to orally retell well known stories that involve pattern and movement, such as 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. Throughout this term we will be encouraging the children to write more of their ideas down in full sentences. We will provide lots of short writing opportunities. Each time your child writes a sentence please encourage them to check that they have included a full stop, capital letter and finger spaces.

Reading:

Your child will read 3 times a week in school. Please read only a **few pages** each night with them at home and sign the record stating which pages they have read and how they did. As the books become more challenging it is important to read a section and spend the time discussing. Basic retrieval questions are important when listening to your child read e.g.

What colour was Little Red Riding Hood's Cape?

Then maybe stretch to more inference based questions e.g.

Why was baby bear so unhappy when he returned home from his walk?

Your child will also take part in guided reading sessions to enhance their comprehension skills. This will be recorded in their reading record.

Phonics:

Phonics is taught on a daily basis in class. It is vital to regularly practise sounding out and blending words to develop fluency with reading, writing and spelling. The children are learning to apply phonemes in longer words and further developing their ability to apply the digraphs and trigraphs in words.

Classroom Organisation

Year 1 have their PE days on a **Tuesday & Thursday**. Please ensure they come dressed in a red t-shirt, black joggers or leggings and trainers. They can wear their school jumper over the top.

Homework is sent home every **Friday** and must be returned by **Monday**. Please ensure maths is completed in pencil and writing in pen.

There will be a spelling test every Friday. The spelling list has been completed for the half term and has been stuck in at the back on your child's reading record. Your child will be asked to write sentences using those spellings in class so practise is very important. We will send the spelling scores home every Friday so you can see how they did.

We will be changing our Library books every **Wednesday**, the children will bring a new book home that they have chosen. Please share this book with your child, they are not expected to read it on their own.

Our topic for this term is

'Memories, Movement & Me'.

We will be covering all areas of the curriculum within this topic. The aim of this newsletter is to give you an insight into the curriculum and the things the children will learn about this term.

Maths:

Our main focus in maths this term will be number, calculating and we will be introducing place value. It is important for your child to understand numbers and their value. We will be looking at counting forward in steps of 1, 2, 5 and 10 and some children will be able to count backwards. All children will work with numbers according to their needs and we aim to build confidence with numbers up to 50 and then 100. Throughout the term we will also spend time looking at shape, space and patterns.

Please practise number formation with your child at home as some children struggle to form their numbers correctly.

We will be having a big push on times tables in Year 1. The children need to know their 2s 5s and 10s which we will be working on during lessons and mental math sessions.

The children have Numbots logins and passwords at the back of their homework diary. Encourage them to log on and have a play, it is a great resource which we are sure they will all enjoy and it will help them with their times tables.

Foundation Subjects

We teach all of our foundation subjects using a topic based approach and make links between subjects where possible.

Science: We are looking at living things and their habitats in science this term. We will be carrying out various investigations to identify why certain habitats are more suitable and making our very own minibeast hotels.

History: In our history lessons we will be learning all about Florence Nightingale. We will be using elements of role play to bring the past to life and we will be exploring the idea of empathy.

Geography: We are going to be working on locational knowledge in geography. Discussing where we live? Where England is and comparing towns and cities.

Computing: We will be learning about internet safety and using our skills to login. We will also be using a keyboard and practising typing skills.

Art: Our topic is sculpture and we will be focusing on Andy Goldsworthy. We will be using nature and man made materials for our final sculptures.

DT: During our DT we will be identifying various types of wheels and axels and where they are found. We will also be making and designing a sleigh.

HRE: We are looking at who we trust and how to stay safe in our HRE sessions this term. This involves a lot of discussion and encouraging talk.

Music: In music the children will be learning how to use their voice through singing and chants. They will also be using a range of tuned and untuned instruments.

Thank you for all your support during these important settling in days. Many thanks for your patience at home time as it is so important that your child is safe. If you have any queries or concerns, please come and see us or send a note in the reading diary and we will be sure to respond. We do everything we can to make learning fun for your children so if they come home and say they have been playing please do not be alarmed they are always learning.

