

Class 1 Newsletter

Staffing

Autumn 1 2020

Dear parents, carers and children,

Welcome to the new school year and Class 1. I am so pleased to be welcoming all the children back to school and into their new Year 1 class.

What will happen during the first few weeks?

As with the first weeks in Reception class, we feel that it is important to establish as many aspects of the daily routine as soon as possible; particularly incorporating the enhanced hygiene expectations we have on our return to school. We will familiarise the children with their new environment – both harnessing nerves and embracing excitement.

Initially, the main focus in the classroom will be ensuring that all children feel welcome, happy and safe on their return to school and in their new learning environment. To support this, there will be a huge focus on the children's personal, social and emotional development, with lots of opportunities for play, creativity, and independent exploration. It is vital that we spend time supporting the children to re-build relationships and friendships that they have been away from over lockdown, re-connecting with both their peers and other adults. We will focus a lot on how we communicate effectively and appropriately with others, and how to play nicely, e.g. 'turn taking and sharing'.

Year 1 will build on the successful principles and approaches encapsulated in Reception but will challenge at a Year 1 National Curriculum Level, however where necessary, time will be spent ensuring that objectives from the 'Early Learning Goals' have been achieved.

Children will learn through adult lead, adult initiated and child initiated challenges. Free play is called 'challenge time' where children have set tasks to complete through independent exploration.

Outlined below is the intended curriculum coverage for the rest of the first half term, however as I will be assessing the children throughout, and working out where there may be gaps in their learning, this is subject to change, and will be adapted where necessary to suit the needs of the children.

Mrs Wibberley will be our class teaching assistant, and will support our learning.

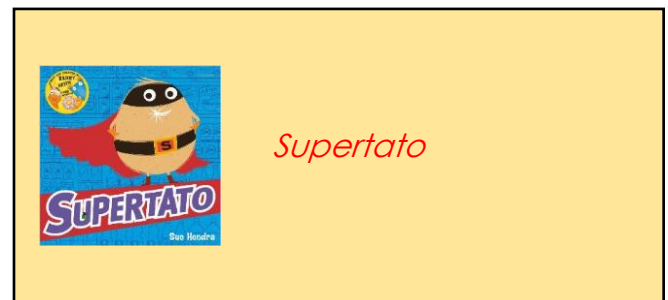
Mrs Wibberley will also be covering Class 1 on a Wednesday afternoon, whilst I am on my PPA.

Phonics – Read, Write, Inc

Over the next few weeks I will be assessing the children on their sound knowledge and recognition. Any writing the children produce independently, including the 'All About Me' writing they complete, will also help me to make initial assessments. Once they have been assessed and grouped accordingly, we will be following the RWI scheme to its entirety in the place of any other English scheme. We feel that it is vital for the children to develop and secure their phonics knowledge and understanding, which will inevitably lead to competence and confidence with their basic reading and writing skills.

Our learning challenge question this half term is 'What is so super about me?'

Topic/English



Supertato

Once we have completed our short unit of work on the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers, as part of our recovery curriculum, we will focus on the book 'Supertato' to drive our topic and to create reading, speaking and listening and writing opportunities.

When writing we will focus on being able to:

- Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly.
- Begin to use capital letters and demarcate sentences
- Begin to use finger spaces
- Form lower case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the correct place

Reading Books

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Once the children have been assessed and grouped accordingly, they will be given a reading book to take home that matches their ability. I will send out additional information about reading books once assessments have been finalised.

In the meantime, I will be giving out reading records next week, which will contain the 100 High Frequency Words and the Year 1 Common Exception Words, stuck into the inside pages, these are words which you can practise reading on sight with your children at home.

Mathematics

In mathematics I will be conducting some informal, practical assessments of the children, followed by work on number and place value:

Number - Place Value/Addition & Subtraction:

- Count to and across 10, forwards and backwards, from any given number
- Count, read and write numbers to 10 in numerals
- Read and write numbers from 1 to 10 in words
- Identify and represent numbers to 10 using objects and pictorial representations, including the number line
- Compare numbers to 10 using the language of equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most and least
- Up to 10, identify one more and one less than any given number
- Recall and use number bonds and related subtraction facts up to 10

Science

Our Science this half term will be discrete and will be linked to our topic 'What is so super about me?'

- Know and name the parts of the body that can be seen

Computing

Our computing work will focus on 'Communicating – Basic Computing Skills'.

- Switch on and shutdown a computer
- Launch an application by clicking it
- Use a mouse or trackpad to click and drag

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will be focussing on the festival of Harvest and the unit 'Jesus was special'.

PSHE

In PSHE our focus is 'New Beginnings'. We will focus a lot on ours and others' feelings, sharing

books they deal with such topics, e.g. The Colour Monster, The Worrysaurus, Ruby's Worry, etc. We will cover the following objectives:

SPRING 2 2020

- I know that I belong to a community. I can help to make the class a safe and fair place. I can help to make my class a good place to learn.
- I can sometimes tell if other people are feeling sad or scared and I know how to make people feel better.
- I know some more ways to calm myself down when I feel scared or upset. I enjoy and am fascinated with learning about myself and others and the world around me.

Art

This half term the focus of our Art will be producing lots of different forms of artwork, including drawing, painting, and collaging, linked to our recovery curriculum and our topic 'What is so super about me?'

Music

Where possible, outside and with the children facing forwards (or in smaller groups), we will focus on performing. Children will:

- Use their voice to speak, sing, and chant
- Clap short rhythmic patterns
- Copy sounds

Physical Education

This half term the children will be taught 'Multi-skills' (on a Tuesday by myself) and on the new slot of Friday morning (by an external sports provider). *Please note the second session of PE this week will still go ahead on Thursday afternoon (10.9.20).

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate kit on these days. As far as possible, we will be doing PE outside. An outdoor kit consists of a white t-shirt, long black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, a long sleeved dark zip up/jumper (or just a school jumper/cardigan) and trainers. **Outdoor PE cannot be done in pumps.** If the weather on a Thursday, does not allow for outdoor PE, we will have to use the hall. Please ensure your child comes to school with a waterproof coat so that these can be worn if necessary.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation. Please, feel free to contact me, via the office, if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Mrs Kent