

Class 1 Newsletter

Spring 1 2023

Dear parents, carers and children,

Dear Parents, I would like to send our most heartfelt thank yous once again, for our generous and thoughtful Christmas gifts. I hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and are ready and raring to go again for a fun and exciting Spring Term of learning. ☺

Staffing

Mrs Meadham will be covering Class 1 on a Wednesday, whilst I am on my PPA and ECT time.

Phonics – Read, Write, Inc

RWI will continue to take place Monday-Thursday. The children are grouped according to their phonic ability, and the teaching they receive will be specifically at their level. Groupings will be re-assessed at the beginning of this half term.

Within each group's 45 minute session the children will be taught and have the chance to practice and perfect (**Speed Sounds**):

- Identifying and recognising phonemes and alternative phonemes (ay/ai)
- Blend sounds in (Set 1-3) unfamiliar words (real and nonsense)
- Segment spoken words into phonemes and represent them as graphemes

The lesson will also include **daily reading practice**, where they will:

- Segment and blend sounds in words
- Read simple decodable sentences with expression and fluency
- Develop a deeper comprehension of what they read.

Within the same groups the children continue to **develop their early writing skills**:

- Holding a pencil comfortably to write (with the correct grip)
- Using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces
- Forming both lower and upper case letters correctly, starting and finishing in the same direction.
- Using known phonemes to spell words

Our learning challenge question this half term is **'Why did dinosaurs rule the world?'** Our topic lessons will be a mixture of both history and science.

History – Within living memory (significant people)

Within this unit children will cover the following objectives:

- Name a famous person from the past and explain why they are famous.

Science – Animals including humans

- Know how to classify a range of animals by amphibian, reptile, mammal, fish and birds
- Know and classify animals by what they eat (carnivore, herbivore and omnivore)
- Know how to sort by living and non-living things

English: Talk-Through Stories/Writing



The children will continue to take part in 'Story Time' and 'Vocabulary Time' lessons daily. These sessions will include the opportunity for the children to grasp a deep understanding of a story; characters, settings, plots, etc. As well as a real emphasis on the vocabulary used within the stories; discussion about word meanings, and when and how we might use a word in different contexts.

In addition to this the children will take part in daily writing sessions in which they will respond to and use the stories we share in story times as a stimulus for a variety of different, purposeful writing such as, letters, instructions and stories. In these sessions there will be more of an emphasis on the composition/editing objectives of writing for Year 1:

- Compose a sentence orally before writing
- Sequence sentences to form short narratives and information texts
- Re-read what they have written to check it makes sense and discuss it with peers/teacher

Reading Books, Book Bags and Records

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Thank you for all your efforts reading at home. It has been fantastic to see all the reading that has been going on! May I ask that you continue to read every night with your child, even if it is for five minutes, it really is noticeable in class those children who do this.

Please continue to ensure reading books and bags are in school on a Tuesday, so we can take in and swap the RWI books ready to be given out on Thursday of that week. **It is imperative that the children continue to read their book throughout the week they have it at home, so that they have ample opportunities to practice their blending, expression and fluency, thus aiding their progression in class.**

Again, please use your child's reading record to record any independent, shared, or even stories read by yourselves, and we will aim to look at and communicate back to comments written at home every two weeks.

We encourage you to read a wide selection of books at home with your children and Class 1's suggested book list (posted on Google Classroom). Thank you once again for your continued support and cooperation. ☺

Mathematics

In mathematics we will continue to focus on and extend our knowledge and understanding of: Number and Place Value, addition and subtraction, as well as a focus on geometry (shape) also:

- Recognise and name common 2D/3D shapes
- Count, read and write numbers to 20 in numerals and words
- Identify and represent numbers to 20 using objects and pictorial representations, including the number line
- Recall and use number bonds and related subtraction facts up to 20
- Add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including zero

Computing

Our computing work will continue to focus on 'Using Technology'.

-Using a camera, visiting a website, recording/playing back sound, creating, organising, manipulating and retrieving digital information.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will be focussing on the unit: Diocesan Theme: 1.2 God and creation/[Understanding Christianity Unit: 1.2 Who made the world?](#)

Within the unit they will learn about the story of creation and its importance for Christians.

PSHE

Our new Jigsaw unit is: **Dreams and Goals**. Within the unit children will learn about aspirations, how to achieve goals and how to understand the emotions that go with this.

Art

This half term the focus of our Art will be producing lots of different forms of artwork, including drawing, painting, printing repeated patterns and collaging, linked to our topic 'Why did dinosaurs rule the world?'

Music

We will continue to focus on singing. We will use resources and songbanks from both Charanga and Sing up. 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 learning about health and Fitness' on a Wednesday afternoon by Mrs Meadham, alongside focusing on '**ball games**'. On a Friday afternoon, the children will be taught '**dance**' by an outside PE agency. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate kit on these days. Either trainers or pumps can be worn, however pumps will be more suitable for ball games and dance, so if possible, a drawstring bag can be brought into school with a pair of pumps and spare socks for the children to wear during these sessions (this can be kept in school).

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,

Miss Phillips and Mrs Meadham