

Welcome to Year 1!

Spring Term 2024

Welcome back, I hope you've all had a lovely Christmas. We have lots of exciting things planned for the term ahead and I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am! This newsletter includes lots of useful information about the topics we are studying, our routines and some key days and dates.

Geography



'Can I be a weather presenter?'

In our Geography topic, we will be learning about the different countries that make up the United Kingdom and locating them on a map. We will also be naming capital cities for each of these countries and also naming and locating the seas around the UK. We will explore the different types of weather and daily and seasonal weather patterns whilst acting in role as a weather presenter to share our knowledge.

Science

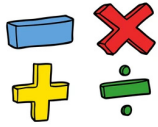
'What shall I wear today?'

In our Science topic, we will be looking at the four seasons and matching them to their months. We will be looking closely at day length changes and keeping our own weather diaries as well as getting scientific and testing variation in wind speed in different parts of our school environment. We will be investigating the weather changes across all of the seasons and describing these changes for example, what happens to some plants and animals when the seasons change.

Literacy

As well as reading lots of texts related to our topics, we will also be reading and writing lots of traditional/fairy tales, letters, poetry with a focus on pattern and rhyme and information texts. Our grammar work will include writing in complete sentences and we will be continuing to punctuate sentences using a capital letters and a full stop at the end. We will also be using a capital letter for names of people, places and the days of the week. We will be continuing with a big focus on Handwriting by continuing to sit correctly at the table and holding our pencils comfortably and correctly.





Numeracy

During topic Maths lessons we will be using our knowledge of place value to solve problems and we will be reading and writing numbers from 1 to 50 in numerals and words. When given a number we will be learning to identify one more or one less and identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line. Some of the brilliant maths language we will be using is: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least.

We will begin to deepen our understanding of number bonds within 20 and add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, as well as solving lots of addition and subtraction problems. This term, we will be diving into mass and volume. From exploring the weight of everyday objects to discovering the secrets behind liquid volumes, our classroom will transform into a hub of discovery and curiosity. Please continue to use TT Rockstars as this is a great online tool for practising times tables which can be accessed from home. Log in details for TT Rockstars can be found in your child's green reading record.

Computing



We will be using iPads, tablets and laptops in a range of subjects. In computing, we will be learning about different aspects of e-safety, including sending and receiving emails. We will be using our keyboard skills to type in simple usernames and passwords, launch appropriate programme to task and open and close a piece of equipment safely.



ART

Together in art this term, we will be creating a colour field painting with our knowledge of mixing colours, we will also be creating our own painting using tints that we have mixed ourselves. We will delve deeper into colours by creating our own individual colour wheels showing six different colours that we have mixed independently. We will have lots of discussions about the artist Monet and we will look at some of his art work before learning to paint in the style that he used. A very colourful and bright half term for year 1!

DT

'Can I be a weather presenter?'

In DT this term will be looking at mechanisms (sliders and leavers) as well as designing and making our own moving story book. We will begin by looking at a range of story books with sliders, levers and rotating parts and thinking of our own ideas for a design. We will use pictures and words to plan our own moving story book about types of weather. We will finally create sliding mechanisms and levers for our own weather information books with the skills that we have developed over the weeks.



RE

'Who is Jewish and how do they live?'

This term we will be learning about Jewish worldviews and ways of life. We will be learning about texts from the Torah and their importance for Jewish people today. We will find out about the mezuzah and the Shema prayer and what they mean for believers. Later in the term we will be finding out about Shabbat and Chanukah, discussing why Jewish people mark these times, what they learn from stories found in the Torah and why they are so important today.

RSHE

This term is RSHE we will be looking at Online Relationships and understanding that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not so we will also look closer at Internet Safety and harms it has and that for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits. Moreover, we will be looking at mental wellbeing and how mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way that physical health is and that we have a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness). Finally, we will be looking at basic first aid so that we know how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary.

Music



This term in music lessons we will be learning about Dynamics, Timbre and Notation. We will be Performing, Composing, Improvising, Listening and Appraising lots of music throughout the term as well as improving our Vocal Skills.

PE

Our PE lessons this term will focus on Dance and Gymnastics. Our PE days are **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays** but please try to ensure your child has a suitable kit (including trainers and a warm jumper) in school every day, just in case additional opportunities arise. We will send kits home for washing at the end of each half term (February and Summer).



Other Information

Please prioritise time for daily reading with your child and record this in your child's green Reading Record book. Your child will be continue to be set a Little Wandle e-book which they will have practised in school. They should be able to read this with fluency. Please ensure your child practises the e-book with you, it really makes a huge difference. In addition, our child will also be given a 'sharing' book'. Please read the 'sharing book' with your child and also record in the green reading record.

Weekly spellings will be set on a **Friday** and tested the following **Thursday**. Please learn your weekly spellings and Year 1 Common Exception Words carefully.

Literacy and/or Numeracy (and sometimes topic) homework will be set on a **Thursday** to be handed in the following **Thursday**. Please continue to practise Numbots as this will underpin all maths we learn in year 1.

Uniform

Please help your child and I, by naming (even if just in biro) EVERY ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM, including coats, shoes, pumps and all those gloves, hats and scarves... they get everywhere! If an item has a name in/on it I can help to promptly return it.

Please continue to encourage your child to come into the school building in the mornings independently. The children have made a great start and settled very well into Year 1!

If you do have any concerns or questions about your child please do not hesitate to contact me. **I am here to help!** I would greatly appreciate it if parents could speak to me in the morning **before 8.50am** so that I can focus on settling the children into class and start the day promptly. Alternatively, you are welcome to speak to me **after 3.35pm** when all the children have been safely dismissed by a member of staff.

Miss Hobson