



Spring 1
Year One newsletter

2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year! We would firstly like to thank you for the kind Christmas gifts, cards and wishes you sent us.

We hope you had a fantastic Christmas with your families and that the children made the most of their well-deserved break. It was a long term in which the children did well to learn and adapt to new routines as well as a different curriculum. We believe they are thriving and will continue to enjoy all the learning opportunities this term will bring.

Literacy

We will continue with the Jolly Phonics and Jolly Grammar Programme. Work covered is as follows:

- Looking at stories and poems with repetitive patterns.
- Recognising repetition within writing.
- Writing poems which include a repetitive pattern.
- read words containing taught GPCs and -s, -es, -ing, -ed, -er and -est endings and to read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs
- Vowels-understanding that vowel letters are different from consonants because they can use their names in words ai/ee/ie/oa/ue.
- Alphabetical order- developing the children's knowledge of the alphabet, and their ability to use word books and dictionaries.
- Verbs
- Conjugating verb- joining a verb to a pronoun
- Past tense- understanding that the simple past tense of a regular verb is formed by adding <-ed> to the root.
- We will continue to send grammar tasks home so that you can see what our focus is each week at school, discuss with and further support your child at home. There is no need to return these tasks to school.

Our Power of Reading text will be 'The Emperor's Egg' by Martin Jenkins and 'The Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram.

Numeracy:

- Say the number one more or less and two more or less using a number line or a 100 grid
- Locate 2-digit numbers on a 100 grid and a 1-100 bead string;

- Read, write and say 2-digit numbers and understand them as some tens and some ones
- Revise pairs to 5, 6, 7, 10 and doubles to double 6
- Derive subtraction facts
- Use number facts to solve simple addition and subtraction word problems
- Find pairs of numbers with a total of 8
- Add by putting the larger number first and counting on (numbers up to 100)
- Spotting unit patterns; count on from 2-digit numbers; add a 1-digit number to a 2-digit number
- Name, recognise and know the properties of 3D shapes: cube, cuboid, cone, cylinder and sphere; begin to sort 3D shapes according to properties
- Order and name the days of the week and months of the year; recognise and name the seasons
- Count on and back in tens from any number; begin to count in 5s and 2s recognising multiples of 5 end in 5 and 0; and begin to count in 2s
- Estimate a number of objects within a range and count by grouping into 10s or 5s

Topic

Our topic this half term is 'Time Travellers' through this unit of work the children will step back in time to become a history detective. They will have to find and solve the clues to unlock the mysteries and meaning of past events.

The children will explore historical events by becoming historians, using the key skill of putting together clues, often from very different sources.

On the Wednesday 18th of January the children will put their detective skills into practice by analysing personal objects that remind their classmates of an important event. In order for this to happen the children will need to bring in an object or photo of an important event (other examples of what they may want to bring in could also include a certificate, medal, bridesmaid dress or page boy outfit, invitations, birthday card, thank you card/letter or a newspaper clipping).

The children will be given the opportunity to view each other's collection, using their detective skills to find out about the event the object represents.

RE:

What Is It Like to Live as a Jew?

The children will develop their knowledge and understanding of Judaism. Through this unit the children will learn:

- ❖ Jewish symbols (Star of David, The Torah, etc.)
- ❖ Jewish Sabbath (Shabbat)
- ❖ The Jewish community
- ❖ Jewish place of worship (Synagogue) and Jewish worship
- ❖ Comparisons between faiths

It would be nice for the children to talk to someone about their Jewish faith. If you happen to know anyone who would be willing to talk to the children about their Jewish faith please let us know.

PE: Year 1 will be participating in PE lessons on a Tuesday, with Mr Ellis and have a second lesson on a Friday. This half term pupil's will focus on balance and movement. They will learn to hold positions on different body parts and link these to create a sequence. In addition the class will practice a half turn jump, landing with control and extend the range of methods used to travel on hands and feet. Skills will be applied through a range of co-operative games.

Music: **Music with Mrs Le Prevost:** In Year 1 music this half term our topic will be story time and learning how music can be used effectively to tell a tale. Linking in with their class topic of Time Travellers, the children will learn how to identify the contrasting elements of fast or slow (tempo) and loud or quiet (dynamics), while learning their proper musical names, and how they can be utilised to good effect in telling a story. The topic will lead to a performance in groups in front of their peers.

Art: We shall be focusing on printing techniques and creating pieces of artwork inspired by the class topic - 'Time Travellers'.

PSHE:

'Dreams and Goals.' As the name suggests, this theme allows the children to think about their hopes and dreams and will focus on motivation and self-awareness too.

Computing:

We will continue to advance on our general computer skills using technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital information. This also includes the children learning to familiarise themselves with the keyboard and using 'Skoolbo' as an additional medium for learning.

Homework:

Homework routines remain the same as last term; online maths activity set on Thursday to be completed by the following Thursday. One other piece of homework will be sent home on a Thursday and is expected back the following Thursday. This could vary from Maths, Literacy or Topic Work.

Book change will take place once a week on Thursdays. Can I just remind you that following the new scheme introduced last term children will continue to receive 2 books a week. Please continue to use the prompts and questions on the inlay of the book as discussion points with your child. Please use the reading record book for any comments regarding reading including if you require new books.

Spelling tests: will continue to take place every Friday morning and will be reinforced the following week through the dictation homework (sent home Friday due in on Fridays). May I remind you that the purpose of Dictation is to reinforce the spelling pattern learnt the previous week. By moving quickly through the dictation it is hard to ascertain whether the spelling patterns taught have been comprehended fully by the children. Please only complete one week's dictation every week. Dictation will commence in week 2 checking the children's comprehension of week 1 spellings.

Other information:

- Please always keep your child's reading books and reading records in the zipped book bag provided. **This needs to be brought into school daily** alongside their folder containing their PACT book.
- Morning drop off- Please can I ask parents to remember that morning drop off is an extremely busy and important part of the day. Please remember to use the PACT book to communicate play dates, homework issues, PE kit details etc.... For more pressing issues of course feel free to speak to me, however the PACT book is checked daily and is the best way of communication even to arrange meetings about more serious concerns.
- Ramble (our class pet toy) will continue to visit children's homes every Friday. Please keep an eye out for Ramble to come home with your child. We are looking forward to seeing Ramble's adventures this term.

Things to do to help your child:

- Play digraph/word detectives. Encourage them to find digraphs within words e.g. **par**ty
- Make up your own version of boggle (9 square grid, containing a consonant or digraph in each square) encourage your child to find/make words from the letters in the grid
- Help them practice time, days of the week; seasons and months by discussing dates or times they do particular activities.
- Continue to look through the list of tricky words sent home last term. See if your child can find them within their reading books or ask them to find a tricky word in their book; close the book and see if they can write the word then encourage them to use the book to check their spellings.
- Ask your child what they have been learning in class.
- Give them opportunities to visit the library or websites to 'read around' the topic and gather information of interest to them.
- Reminding them to name their homework and hand it in as well as any letters that may be in their folders. As they are now in Year One the children need to take responsibility and complete tasks such as handing in their homework independently. Their folders will not be checked but we will continue to ask if they have handed in their homework/letters/PACT books etc. Please support this by also reminding them of their responsibilities.

May I take this opportunity to express gratitude for all of your support.

Regards, Mrs Alisha McCarthy and Miss Lynda Donlon



Monday 9 th January	Trip to Golden Hinde II (Packed lunch & Pirate costume needed)
Wednesday 18 th January	Children to bring in an object that helps them to remember an important event
Friday 27 th January	Parent Assembly
Tuesday 7 th February	Safer internet Day
Friday 10 th February	Topic Exit Point Open Classroom at 2.15pm