



Spring 1 - 2018
Year One Newsletter



Dear Parents/carers

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

We hope you had a fantastic Christmas with your families and 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.

Here is an overview of the curriculum coverage for the first half term.

Literacy

We will continue with the Jolly Phonics and Jolly Grammar Programme. In phonics we will be focussing this term on split digraphs/alternative sounds. Grammar will focus on initial consonant blends, alphabetical order, verbs, conjugating verbs, and past tense.

The children will consolidate their learning from last term on joining words and clauses using 'and', using the suffixes -s and -es, the prefix -un, using -ing, -ed, -er and -est where no change is needed in the spelling of the root word, spelling the 72 tricky words correctly, using spaces between words, demarcate sentences using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks.

Our Power of Reading text will be 'The Emperor's Egg' by Martin Jenkins and 'The Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram. Through these stories the children will explore the concepts above by writing lists, captions and through lots of discussion. The children will also have opportunities to express their views on the story and their likes and dislikes, giving reasons for their answers making predictions and inferences

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

'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. This unit takes a range of different historical events and asks the children to become detectives, using sources to uncover information and raise questions which they can then go on to answer. One of the specific events we will explore is - the first moon landing and some of the sources the children will have access to include paintings, books, posters, DVDs, trips (asking historical experts) and learning about an event by interviewing someone who was there.

Our entry point (The entry point is the Wow factor, an activity and introduction to the topic which motivates learning – the hook that inspires learning through passion for subject and makes learning enjoyable) to this topic will be a class trip to Fulham Palace on the 8th of January where the children will gain first hand experience through roleplay and looking at artefacts of life as a Victorian.

On the 17th 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, thinking up questions to find out more about the event the object represents. The children will also consider what an object can tell us and what it can't as well as taking note of the variety of ways an event can be marked, recorded and remembered.



RE:

Why Do Christians Make and Keep Promises to God?

This unit builds on children's knowledge of belonging to a Christian community.

The children will develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity.

Through this unit the children will:

- + Explore the idea and meaning of belonging;
- + Learn about infant Baptism - Christian ceremony in which parents / carers and godparents promise to bring up a child in the Christian faith;
- + Learn the important event of Jesus' Baptism;
- + Learn what a Christian Wedding entails- an act of worship in which promises are made to God and each other, what marriage means for Christians;
- + Learn how promises are important in both Christian Baptism and Christian marriage.

If your child has been baptised or had a naming ceremony please send in any mementos and/or photos to school.

We will visit St Mary's Church to learn about the promises made at a Baptism ceremony, I am awaiting confirmation on a date so I will send more information separately when details have been finalised.



PE:

Year 1 will be participating in PE lessons on a Tuesday, with Mr Ellis and on a Thursday with Mrs McCarthy. This half term's activity will be gymnastics. Pupils will focus on maintaining balance while moving along apparatus and perform basic jumps. In addition the class will practice a variety of rolls and balancing on different body parts. Skills will be linked into basic sequences and applied through a range of co-operative games.



Music:

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:



Mrs Forsyth will continue to provide specialist teaching of Art lessons. In class Year 1 will explore art through our Power of Reading text The Emperor's Egg drawing and painting the landscapes of Antarctica.

PSHE:



'Dreams and Goals.' As the name suggests, this theme allows the children to think about their hopes and dreams. Children will have the opportunity to:

- Reflect on a dream they would like to achieve
- Contemplate what will help them to remain motivated even in the face challenges
- Explore what resilience, perseverance and determination means
- Work together to achieve a collective goal
- Consider how they can help others to achieve their dreams
- Celebrate success.

These concepts will be explored through Jigsaw Jack and a range of activities, storytelling and games.

Computing: The children will continue with coding from last term alongside further reiteration of e-safety on Safer internet day on the 6th of February. They will also begin to explore the topic 'Say Cheese' where they will learn to use ICT to present information, enter, save, retrieve and revise information. They will be learning to work with text, tables, images and sounds.

Home learning:

Home learning routines remain the same as last term but the days in which they are set and need to be completed by have changed.

An online maths activity, Grammar sheet and dictation will be set on **Friday** to be completed by the following **Wednesday**. A topic based sheet will be sent home in week 3. This will be a detective challenge where the children will interview a family member, neighbour or family friend and ask questions about a memorable event in their life.

Book change will take place once a week on Thursdays. 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 **Wednesday**). 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 each 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 to keep their home learning tasks and any letters/leaflets/handouts from the myself or the office.
- 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 electronic PACT book to communicate play dates, home learning issues, PE kit details etc.... For more pressing issues of course feel free to speak to me, however the PACT emails are 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 diagraph/word detectives. Encourage them to find digraphs within words e.g. party
- 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. Ask them questions such as what did we do last season/year/week/month to help them grasp the concept of time.
- 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 home learning 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 home learning tasks independently. Their folders will not be checked but we will continue to ask if they have handed in their home learning tasks/letters/reading folders 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 8th January	Trip to Fulham Palace (Packed lunch needed)
Thursday 11th January	Class Recorder Lessons- recorders needed
Friday 12th January	Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 17th January	Children to bring in an object that helps them to remember an important event.
Monday 22nd January (date TBC)	Trip to St Mary's Church - Baptism
Wednesday 7th February	Topic Exit point Open classroom at 9.15 - 10am
Friday 9th February	Celebration Assembly