

ST. MARY'S CE SCHOOL, PUTNEY

YEAR 1 BRIEFING LETTER TO PARENTS - SEPTEMBER 2020



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Endurance ~ Compassion ~ Thankfulness

Dear Parents /Carers,

We have been having a wonderful time in Year 1, getting to know all the children. I am so pleased with the way that they have settled in and the speed with which they have learned new rules and routines. The children are clearly keen to be back and to be learning! The coronavirus pandemic will continue to restrict our 'normal' school life and if you are interested in looking at how the school is managing this you should read our return to school risk assessment located on our school website.

During this half term we are informally assessing the children to identify any gaps in learning, hence the curriculum will be amended to reflect this. We are also following the Jigsaw Recovery Curriculum for well-being, giving the children knowledge and opportunities to voice their understanding and experiences from this pandemic and sharing how we can keep each other safe.

The programmes of study for this half term are as follows:

MATHS

Number and Place Value: counting objects to 10, counting and writing numbers to 10, counting backward from 10 to 0, counting one more and one less, comparing groups, comparing numbers of objects, comparing numbers, ordering objects, the number line

Addition and Subtraction: part whole models, related number facts, finding number bonds, comparing number bonds, addition within 10, finding addition facts, solving addition word problems

ENGLISH

We shall be learning to recognise and write capital letters, understand sentence structure, write sentences using appropriate punctuation (capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks and question marks), write and recognise the capital and lower case forms of letters, write and read proper nouns and common nouns, remember and use alphabetical order, turn nouns into plurals and write and use pronouns. We will also be practicing reading with confidence and understanding, answering comprehension questions, practicing handwriting and spelling.

Our Power of Reading Text this half term is 'Ada Twist Scientist'.

Phonics work will focus on sh, ch, th, ng, qu, ar, ff, ll, zz, ck, 'y' (y for 'ee' sound).

RE

Our topic is Judaism. We shall be exploring the importance of symbols, beliefs and teaching in Judaism and reflecting on what it means to be Jewish.

TOPIC 1: SCIENCE (Brainwave - The Art of Learning)

In this unit, we'll be finding out:

- How the brain works
- About the personal goals that help us to become better learners
- How to find out facts
- How to learn and practise skills
- How to wake up our brain
- How to look after our brain

TOPIC 2: SCIENCE and DT - The Circus is Coming to Town

During this unit we will be looking at:

- Materials and the properties of materials
- How the properties of materials can help us to choose what to build with
- How to plan an experiment
- How to conduct a simple experiment
- How to record results and draw conclusions from results

SOCIETY:

- How to stay safe in busy places
- What it's like to be a circus artist

INTERNATIONAL:

- What different people think about using animals in the circus
- What the circus of the future might look like

MUSIC (with Mrs Le Prevost):

In music this term we will be developing our understanding of the key musical elements through singing action songs and playing percussion instruments. We will explore the different ways in which sounds can be made, changed and organised to link in with their class topic: 'The Circus is Coming to Town'. We will learn how to play simple rhythms with a steady beat leading to composing our own simple musical patterns as well as start to use graphic symbols to represent sounds.

ART (with Mrs Adams): Across the school we will be developing our drawing skills this half term. Year 2 will use their sketch-books from the start of the Autumn Term and we will include portraits from art history throughout the year. I will introduce the Class to the proportions of the face using a variety of media.

COMPUTING: We shall be learning about e-safety using the Hector's World programme.

PSHE: We will be covering the topic of 'Being Me in My World.' We will be writing a class learning charter, looking at our hopes and fears for the year, our rights and responsibilities, rewards and consequences.

PE (with Ms Wolkowska- Coach V):

PE will take place on Monday. Children should come to school in PE kits. PE kits will be worn all day. Please ensure your child has the correct **named** PE kit. This half term, pupils will focus on movement and ball skills. They will link a range of movement patterns and find space. In addition, the class will practice throwing and catching individually, dribble, pass and receive using different pieces of equipment. Skills will be applied through a range of co-operative games.

Y1 Home Learning Routines:

ALL HOME LEARNING MUST BE CLEARLY NAMED

Reading It is expected that children will read aloud every night for at least 10 minutes. Inside the front and back covers of the Oxford Reading Tree books, there are useful questions to ask your child to probe their understanding of the text. A sheet containing questions to probe your child's understanding and comprehension skills has been sent home this week. Please refer to these before, during and after reading together. Reading folders should be returned to school every **Wednesday** only, in order to limit the amount of items brought back and forward into school each day. Class teachers will be listening and assessing reading using other books during the course of the week. Reading folders will be returned home every **Thursday** after book change. Could you please ensure that you write in the Reading Journal when your child needs new books, otherwise they won't be changed! Books will be changed, if requested, on **WEDNESDAYS ONLY**. Any other comments or feedback regarding your child's reading are always welcome via the online PACT book.

Handwriting reinforcement is to be completed using the Letter Join online programme (login: lj9376 password: home). As the children have very different needs with regard to handwriting, I recommend you go into the Year 1 folder and choose an appropriate letter pattern to suite your child's ability. In class we are focusing on correct posture for handwriting and basic pattern formation.

Spelling and dictation: Spelling tests will take place on Thursdays and results will be written on the card if it is handed in. Test cards are sent home so that you can see how they did and what your child needs to learn the following week. Dictation sentences that reinforce the spellings learnt and tested in the previous week are also to be completed each week.

Grammar reinforcement sheets will be sent home during the week, for the children to complete and to let you know what we have been covering in class. These do not need to be returned.

Maths home learning: We use the Mathletics online programme to reinforce learning in class each week. Login details for your child have been sent out today. Please make copies of these logins in case they are lost. Mathletics will be set every Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday. Children are encouraged to engage with the other Mathletics online games to support their learning too.

Children are expected to **name and complete all home learning in pencil**

Please can you also encourage your child to hand in their home learning with their Reading Folders every Wednesday.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via the online PACT book if you require any further information or to inform me of other matters relating to your child. As always the best way to contact me is through the use of the Class2019 e-mail. I check these emails by **8.45 a.m.** each day. If you have an urgent matter after this time, please notify the office.

Please check the school website frequently for updates and reminders. The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us (Facebook and Twitter).

Kindest regards,
Kimberley Barrett
(Year 1 Class Teacher)