

Clewer Green CE Aided First School

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'Inspiring Children'

'If the teacher believes in me I know I can do it' - Mia Year 4.

Monday 14th September 2015

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Year 1,

This letter sets out some information about the curriculum we will be covering during the Harvest and Christmas Terms.

Literacy

Our objective this year will be to help your child learn to speak about matters of interest to him or her clearly and confidently; to read with increasing fluency; and to write sentences starting with a capital letter and finishing with a full stop, question mark or explanation mark.

Speaking and Listening

Show and Tell is a good opportunity for the children to practise speaking in front of the class. Please encourage your child to bring in an item of interest, not just a toy. It could be a photograph, a souvenir from another country, a favourite book, etc. Please do not send in anything valuable, fragile or dangerous.

Reading and Writing

Reading is a vital skill. Recent research has shown that children who read for enjoyment will do better in Literacy or Maths. Your child will learn to read much more quickly if you hear your child read their book every day and if you read a book to them on a daily basis.

We will hear the children read in school as often as we can, and we will record the pages we have heard. Please help us by hearing your child read their reading book each day at home, focusing on decoding on the first day of reading, and reading and comprehension on the second day. Please sign the reading record when you have heard your child read.

You may also wish to tick the High Frequency Words in the Reading Record in pencil when your child can read them on sight. Please also encourage your child to learn the spelling patterns in front of the Reading Record, English is a difficult language to learn and the more practice your child has in reading and writing, the quicker they will become fluent readers and writers.

This term we will be focusing on phonics and sentence structure, and going towards creative writing.

Spelling

Spelling assessments will start for children in the Christmas Term. Your child will bring home a sheet with letters or words. Please encourage your child to learn their spellings. Regular practice has been shown to be more beneficial than one long session, so we recommend 5-10 minutes a day rather than 30-40 minutes the day before the assessment.

Maths

You will receive a sheet of Year 1 objectives today which shows the targets your child is aiming to achieve by the end of Year 1. You can have fun with numbers with your child at home, for example, counting when you go up and down stairs, looking at house numbers to see if they are odd or even and spotting 2D and 3D shapes in everyday situations. Card games are a fun way to learn about numbers. Playing board games that involve using a dice will also help your child; Snakes and Ladders is a great way for them to become familiar with the sequence of numbers to 100.

Science

We are studying Seasons up until Christmas and will be recording different types of weather along with making a rain collecting vessel.

Geography, Art and DT

Our topic for the next two terms is Houses and Homes. In Geography we will be exploring our local environment and looking at different types of homes along with their features. In Art/DT we will be using different types of mediums and materials to create different Art work, working towards making a 3D model of a bedroom.

Computing

Children will be using different tools and techniques in Paint to develop their control with a mouse. They will also be learning how put together a sequence of instructions in order to make a moveable toy navigate obstacles.

RE

We are following the Church and the Jewish year.

Music

The children will explore pitch and rhythm.

PE

All the children will do Gymnastics and Dance. In addition, the children will receive a course of football training on Thursday afternoons by a visiting coach at some point during the school year. Each class will also have a block of five swimming lessons at the Leisure Centre in the New Year. When the weather gets colder, the children may wear dark track suit trousers for outdoor PE. Please make sure all uniform, including the PE kit and school coat is clearly named.

Additional information

Fruit or vegetables are provided for the children at break time. Please can children bring in their water bottle every day.

If you arrange for someone else to collect your child at the end of the day, please let us know by phone, written note or simply tell the teacher when you bring your child into school in the morning.

Please ensure all items of your child's uniform, including coat and shoes are clearly labelled.

We look forward to seeing you at the 'Meet and Greet Evening' on 23rd September, where you can find out how your child is settling in and share with us any information that will help us to provide the best education for your child.

If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to us at the start or end of the day so that we can arrange a time to meet up.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Button

Miss Sheppard