

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER – SPRING 1

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break and thanks again for the kind Christmas wishes, cards and gifts we received in school.

We are looking forward to another exciting half term ahead. We would like to share some key information with you about what your children will be learning in school.



Maths

In maths children will continue to recognise numbers to 10 with a focus on representing numbers using different structures, exploring where the numbers lie on a number line and identifying the difference between odd and even numbers. Children will also learn Addition and subtraction facts within 10 and will start to focus on recognising the place value of each digit in two-digit numbers and compose and decompose two-digit numbers. Later in term, children will be identifying the previous and next multiple of 10 up to 100.

English

Our English learning this term will be inspired by the key texts: 'Katie in London' and 'Wild.'

Children will be writing their own adventure story based on a trip to London which ties in nicely with our Geography topic – the UK. They will be encouraged to use descriptive sentences with capital letters and full stops, finger spaces between words and accurate letter formation of a suitable size which sit on the line. They will also learn how to write extended sentences using 'and.' Non-fiction writing will be a report about an area of the UK which they would most like to visit.

'Wild' will be used as a reading stimulus. Children will explore the book, focusing on events, characters, and settings. Children will answer questions about vocabulary, retrieval questions and questions which require them to read between the lines (use their inference skills)

Please ensure children bring their reading folders to school every day and make a note if your child needs a new book. Please practise reading as much as you can at home to ensure they are confident and have a thorough understanding of their book. Read together, take turns to read, read to a younger sibling or other relative to make it purposeful. Please make sure children have read and re read their books and answered some questions verbally about the key events, characters, and setting.

Children take part in daily phonics sessions, weekly guided reading and regular whole class reading sessions as well as 1:1 reading time with an adult to improve their reading and spelling. You can support with this at home by playing free online games:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk (focus on phase 3,4 and 5) and www.monsterphonics.com/games

Handwriting

Please continue to practise accurate letter formation of lower case and capital letters – this is vital! You can also strengthen your child's fine motor skills through a range of activities - see website for ideas: <https://www.littlelifelonglearners.com/2020/03/8-activities-to-develop-fine-motor-skills-at-home.html/>

Geography

This half term we will be learning about The United Kingdom of Great Britain. Children will learn about where the UK is located in the world, the four countries of the UK and their capital cities. They will focus on some key landmarks from each country looking at physical and human features. We will be sharing our own experiences of the countries of Great Britain and thinking about places they would most like to visit. We will be using our speaking, listening and reasoning skills to explain our ideas and opinions.

If you have visited any of these places and have photos you would like to share, please feel free to bring them in so we can look at them together!

Science

In Science, children will be learning about the human body and our senses. They will draw and label the main parts of the body and explore which body parts are linked to each of the five senses. Children will compare and group body parts, record their findings in simple tables and begin to spot patterns in their results. They will also practice measuring helping them to develop their scientific skills.

Art

This half term we are focusing on the artist Clarice Cliff, a painter who was influential in her work with ceramics. We will be exploring the use of colour, developing our colour mixing skills and experimenting with painting on different surfaces. We will be working towards developing our own versions of her famous ceramic painting "Circle Tree".

P.E

P.E will take place on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** with myself and Mr Hewitt. Please remember to bring your child's P.E. kit to school ready for P.E. sessions to begin this week. A P.E. kit includes a white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers, and trainers. Please ensure that all your child's P.E clothes are clearly labelled with their full name. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure their studs are covered on P.E. days and long hair is tied back.

Homework & Spellings

Homework and spellings will be set every Friday. Homework tasks will be an opportunity for children to practise and consolidate learning that has taken place in class that week. This term we will begin spelling checks every Friday. Weekly spellings will be sent home to practice. Children will complete their spelling check in a spelling book each Friday, which will be sent home so that you can see which ones your children may still need support with. This book should be kept in their school bag.

Uniform

Just a reminder to please check all school uniform is clearly labelled. We have a number of jumpers/cardigans in class that we cannot reunite with their owners due to a lack of labelling. T Shirts, dresses and trousers can easily be mixed up during P.E. sessions, so please ensure these are labelled too! School shoes must be black and white/grey/black socks or tights are preferred.

Thank you for all your on-going support!
Miss Zhu & Miss Akhtar