

# Year 1 Newsletter – Spring Term 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. 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

This term we will be working on addition and subtraction within 20 and place value of numbers up to 50. We will continue to learn to count on and back on a number line, partition numbers, recap and use number bonds to 10 and compare and order numbers and number sentences. Later in the term we will focus on length and height, where children will learn to compare and measure lengths and height with non-standard units e.g. blocks, before then measuring with a ruler. Finally there will be a unit on weight and volume.

## English

Our English learning this term will be inspired by the key texts: 'The Lorax', by Dr Suess and 'Where the Wild Things Are', by Maurice Sendak.

Children will be writing a sequel to The Lorax. 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' as well as know the difference between a statement and a question.

Where the Wild Things Are will be used as a reading stimulus. Children will thoroughly explore the book, focusing on events, characters and settings. This will also be a stimulus for their dance sessions.

Non-fiction writing will be a report about the UK – linking to our Geography work.

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 and try to make it enjoyable. 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. Our lovely monster phonics books are a great way to practise spelling with key words at the front of each book. They also have comprehension questions to ask at the front or back too.

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](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) (focus on phase 3 and 4) and [www.monsterphonics.com/games](http://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/>

### Theme

This half term we will be learning about The United Kingdom of Great Britain.

Children will learn about Europe, the four countries of the UK and their capital cities and the ocean that surrounds the UK.

They will focus on some key landmarks from each country looking at physical and human features.

### Homework

Every Friday an English and maths homework task is uploaded to Class Dojo. Your child can complete these online or write the answers in their homework books and upload a picture.

The spellings are also sent out on a Friday to be tested the following Friday.

### P.E.

P.E will take place on Mondays and children will have Dance every Wednesday. Please remember to bring your child's P.E. kit to school on these days. 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. Children are not allowed to wear earrings (studs should be covered) or any other jewellery and must have their hair tied back.



After February half term we will be learning about Queen Elizabeth II. We are going to start this topic with a royal party (date to be confirmed).

We will be inviting children to dress up for a royal party – a queen, princess, king, prince, a guard etc. or just very smart clothes. We wanted to give you time to prepare a costume and if you have any problems please let me know and we will help out.

If you would like any further information about this half term in Year 1, please send me a message on Class Dojo. Thank you for all of your on-going support!

Miss Macted, Mrs Morley and Mrs Winterbottom