

Year 1 Class Newsletter



Summer 2023



Welcome back to school!

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. This is our final term in Year 1! It has gone so fast, but I know we will all be working hard to get prepared for our Phonics Screening and to get ready for our next phase in learning as we move into Year 2.

English

In English this term we will be looking at stories and trying to mimic their writing. We will be creating our own story based on the book 'Handa's surprise'. We will also be focusing on our phonics and getting the children prepared for their phonics screening check. The children will focus on using their senses to create a poem.

Reading

This term we will read 'Handa's surprise' and use this as a building block to create a piece of writing. We will also continue to make our way through our class Reading Spine, which you can see on our school website. As well as being classic stories, our Reading Spine helps expose the children to a wide variety of high quality texts.

Maths

In Maths this term we will begin by looking at multiplication and division. Here we will learn how to create arrays and equal groups. We will look at multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Next, we will learn about position and direction, so that we increase our knowledge around positional language. Finally, we then learn about money and time towards the end of the term. Children will learn through practical activities as well as writing in their mathematics book. It would really help if you could find practical ways at home to support their learning.

Science

This term we are studying plants and as in previous terms, we will continue to observe and learn about seasonal changes. During the study of plants, we will conduct various experiments and discover what conditions are needed to help plants grow the healthiest. We will also plant some vegetables of our own! Children will learn all about the life cycle of plants and name some basic parts of a plant such as flower, stem, root and leaf.

R.E

In R.E this term we will be learning about the season of Easter. We will talk about Pentecost, the day Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. We will learn about important holydays within the church. We will then discuss together how we can show we are sorry. Children will learn that God always forgives us if we are truly sorry. We will also discuss how God helps us to be kind to others.

Geography

This term we will be using the book 'Handa's Surprise' as a starting point to learn all about Kenya. The big question being, 'Are all environments the same in every county?' Children will look at the similarities and differences between Kenya and The United Kingdom, learning about the difference in landscape and animals that are native to their relevant countries.

History

Our history focus for this term will be 'Women in History'. We will learn about important women that have had an impact in the world. We will study Mary Anning who was a famous fossil finder and discoverer of dinosaur skeletons. We will also learn about Florence Nightingale who was a famous British nurse. We will discuss the impact they had on people and why they are important.



Art and Design

This term we will be using Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth I as a focal point. We will study different portraits and how art work has changed through time. We will then create our own portraits of ourselves by taking our photos and studying them carefully. We will then learn about the very first postage stamp, the Penny Black. We will then design and create our very own stamp to represent our school!



Design and Technology

During this topic children will revisit their learning from Year 1 about explorers. We will look at Captain James Cook and how he discovered new land. The children will make a flag to claim new land. They will look at some aboriginal weaving and aboriginal textile prints to design and make a bag. Skills will include cutting textiles, decorating textiles, threading beads and creating simple weaving using paper.



RSHE

This term in RSHE the children will explore how we are created to live in the community. Here we will explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community through service, through dialogue and through working for the Common Good. We will hear the stories such as, The Good Samaritan. We will also be introduced to the Trinity, the eternal existence of God in three persons. (The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit) Finally, we will discuss our rights and responsibilities within local and global communities.

Computing

In computing this term we will be learning about coding. The children will learn the basics of what coding is, having previously learned about algorithms and how they are simply a set of instructions.

Music

Children will look at having fun with improvisation. Using the skills they have learnt in previous topics, the children will learn to improvise and create a piece of music.

P.E

Our P.E this term will focus on our throwing and catching skills and athletics. The children will learn simple techniques that will help them to improve their catching ability. They will then participate in some athletics to prepare them for their sports day. They will practise the long jump, sprinting, hurdle racing and many more sporting events.



Reminders

Water Bottles: Please provide your child with a water bottle for them to use in class. (Water only and a separate one from the one they have in their packed lunch box please).

P.E. Kit: Please send your child to school in full PE kit each Wednesday. This should consist of plimsolls, a white t-shirt and navy shorts. In colder weather they are welcome to wear a plain navy tracksuit and trainers. Please note leggings are not part of our PE kit.

Reading: Your children will receive their new reading books across the term, along with their reading diaries. We ask that you have your child read to you every night. This will help the children build upon their learning and develop fluency. The reading dairies will be checked each day, your child will get two reading books for the week, we suggest that they read them both more than once. In addition your child will receive a love of reading book that you can share with your child or even have a go at reading themselves. They will also have a free choice book that they can decide to keep for the week.

Homework: Homework will be given each Friday and is due on the following Friday. Spellings should be practised daily with your child—little and often is the best way to retain knowledge. Times tables are also to be practised daily in your child's timetable book.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please feel free to contact the school office to arrange a phone call. Thank you for your support.

Mr. Bradley and Mrs McCabe