

Autumn 2, Y1 curriculum letter 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. The following letter is to inform you about our new topic areas that we will be covering this half term. Also attached is a topic web to show how the subjects link together. As you can imagine, as well as being busy with our new topics, we will be fitting in lots of exciting activities in the lead up to Christmas.

We will be inviting you in to watch the KS1 Christmas performance, which I will provide details about in the next few weeks.

We will be 'remembering' and thinking about the First and Second World War during the first couple of weeks in November - how important the sacrifices were of the soldiers, their families, and their impact for future generations.

Come and See

We continue with our topic on '*Belonging*', which helps the children to understand the importance of belonging to different social groups and about being baptised into the church family. If possible, please could send in a photograph of your child at their Baptism, or another Baptism. Thank you.

"*Waiting*", is our topic that leads us through Advent and to the events that took place on Christmas Day.

We will also celebrate the Jewish Faith to teach the children about other faiths during a special week in school.

History: This is our lead topic for this half term; we will be looking at simple timelines to help us to understand when The Great Fire of London took place. We will find out where London is on the map of the UK and look to see how it has changed. We will study historical sources, find out about Samuel Pepys and the impact that the Great fire of London had on rebuilding the city and comparing this to how London looks now.

Reading books - **Monday and Thursday**. Please send your child with their school reading book on these 2 days. If you could fill in the comments section about your child's reading on Seesaw, this helps us to see who has read their book and then Mrs Grayken can change them regularly, in line with their learning in phonics. Extra dojos are awarded for reading homework!

Phonics: We read every day in our small phonics groups, using the Read, Write Inc programme, so children are constantly building on their variety of reading experiences. Please help your child with their phonics homework - it is of utmost importance to them that they can become fluent readers in order to access the rest of the curriculum. Phonics homework will mainly be a 'speeding up word reading' video clip online.

Spellings: Thank you for your support in helping your child learn their spellings. Spelling tests take place on a Friday morning and new spellings sent home via Seesaw for the following week. Everyone seems to be getting used to this system - all homework activities will be uploaded via the Seesaw platform.

Snacks: Please ensure that your child brings a healthy snack Mon - Friday or school toast if that is what you have chosen. One item is sufficient. Fruit is provided in school every afternoon playtime.

PE: We will continue to wear our PE clothes on a Thursday. Please do keep practising independent dressing skills, reversing of jumpers, button-fastening, zips on coats and fastening shoelaces (although Velcro fastenings at this stage are encouraged).

Mrs Garrett covers me on a Wednesday afternoon and this half term she will be delivering one of the Come and See lessons and PSHE.

I hope you find the above information useful. Please let me know if you have any questions about your child or their learning. Thank you,

*Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Cahalin*