

Curriculum Newsletter KS1



Welcome back after what we hope has been a lovely Christmas break and happy 2020! We have been working hard on developing the curriculum, whilst continuing to ensure the children have an exciting environment in which to learn. We wanted to outline some of the areas we will be focussing on over the coming term. Our theme of 'We are Explorers' continues and we have redeveloped areas within the Key Stage 1 provision to support our new learning around the topic of 'Flight'. Each of the classroom areas are designed to ensure that the children can gain the maximum learning potential from each of the core subject – one has a focus of maths, another reading and finally writing for the third. Alongside this, we have continued to develop the 'Discovery Room', which will allow the children to explore, rehearse and challenge their learning further while continuing to promote and develop independence.

Typically, the children will be based with their class teacher – Miss Gott, Miss Williams or Mrs Hughes and supported by Mrs Gibson and Mrs Dent. However, DFC will continue to support in the teaching of the PE curriculum, Mr Newton will be delivering his inspiring music lessons and Mrs Whittaker will also be a regular part of the team.

Our main topic is based around the enquiry question: 'Flight pioneers; brave or foolish?', which will then lead onto a topic based around South Africa, their culture and traditions. This will be our main History and Geography focus for the term. In order to support your child's learning further, we have arranged for a RAF pilot to come into school to enhance their experiences and talk to the children around flight. Linked to this we will be providing a range of writing opportunities through our English work, including narrative, diary entries, newspaper articles, letters and persuasive writing. SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be taught in both discrete lessons and as part of the English session. We have attached the common exception words for Year 1 and Year 2 for you to support your child with at home, along with what is considered to be the most important 25 words which young children need to both able to read and spell correctly. These make up at least one third of all language that children will experience in early schooling.

Maths will follow the national curriculum for both Year 1 and 2 and will primarily focus on the areas of number including division and fractions, geometry, measures and statistics. Much of this work will be practically based to allow the children to continue to develop their understanding of fluency, as well as providing opportunities for challenge and reasoning their mathematical understanding.

Computing work will also link to the flight topic, with children learning how to search the internet responsibly, use images safely and produce presentations. We will also be developing our programming skills. Design Technology will encompass the

children designing, making and evaluating a 'flying machine' to given specifications.

Science will be based around everyday materials and their properties, as well as plants. Wherever possible this work will link to our topic of flight and considering the properties of materials which would be best suited to a 'flying machine'.

Your child will have PE twice a week – please ensure that they have their kit in school for the full week. They will initially need both an indoor kit (shorts and t-shirt) and an outdoor kit (joggers and sweatshirt) as well as a change of appropriate footwear. We have a bank of spare PE kits in school, which will be given to the children if they have no kit. As PE is part of the National Curriculum, it is an expectation that the children take part and therefore require appropriate kit in which to do so. **Please ensure all kit is clearly named.**

The protocols for reading continue to remain the same, with children being encouraged to read at home and return their books when they have read them. These will then be changed and new books sent home. Before sending any books back into school, please ensure that the book has been read at least twice (depending on the length of the book), that your child can discuss the book, make predictions about what might happen next and express their thoughts on the story. Children will also visit the school library, where they will have the opportunity to select a book they wish to read for pleasure. Guided Reading will be taught daily, and this will encompass phonics and comprehension skills. DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) will also be provided throughout each day.

Your child should have received information relating to our new topic and some homework ideas, before the Christmas break and it is pleasing to see so many children already enthused about this and returning to school with some exceptional homework. We will continue to display and celebrate these wonderful achievements within school. We would recommend that over the half term, children aim to complete one piece of homework every two weeks. As well as this we would suggest that the children read daily, as well as working on spellings and phonics across the week.

We will be in contact in the coming weeks with information for Year Two parents around a presentation on supporting reading at home as well as one around end of Key Stage assessments. Please look out for these dates.

We look forward to an enjoyable and exciting term.

Key Stage 1 Team

First 25 sight vocabulary words make up 1/3 of reading and spelling in early years

I	am	see	a	can
we	in	the	and	go
to	like	said	you	is
it	here	come	up	this
my	look	at	me	on

Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words

Year 1

the	they	one
a	be	once
do	he	ask
to	me	friend
today	she	school
of	we	put
said	no	push
says	go	pull
are	so	full
were	by	house
was	my	our
is	here	
his	there	
has	where	
I	love	
you	come	
your	some	

Year 2

door	gold	plant	clothes
floor	hold	path	busy
poor	told	bath	people
because	every	hour	water
find	great	move	again
kind	break	prove	half
mind	steak	improve	money
behind	pretty	sure	Mr
child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs
children	after	eye	parents
wild	fast	could	Christmas
climb	last	should	everybody
most	past	would	even
only	father	who	
both	class	whole	
old	grass	any	
cold	pass	many	