**Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter**

Welcome back after what we hope has been a lovely and relaxing summer break. We have been working hard over the summer to ensure the children have an exciting environment in which to learn and to this end, we wanted to outline some of the areas we will be focussing on over the coming term.

Typically, the children will be based with their class teacher – Miss Anderson, supported by Mrs Gibson. DFC will support in the teaching of the PE curriculum and Mr Newton will be delivering his inspiring music lessons.

Our main topic is based around ‘Wonderful ways to travel’ with the enquiry question: ‘To sail or not to sail?’ This will then lead onto a topic based around planes and trains. We will learn about continents, oceans and our local area in Geography. Amelia Earhart and George Stephenson will be our main History focus for the term. Linked to this we will be providing a range of writing opportunities through our English work, including narrative, poetry, diary entries, 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 for you to support your child with at home. Autumn 1 and 2 spellings and their rules that we will learn each week in English sessions are also attached. We will also have a focus on the quality of writing and ‘beautiful work’.

Maths will follow the national curriculum for Year 1 and will primarily focus on the areas of number, geometry and measures. 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 focus on e-safety initially, before moving onto coding and creating algorithms to solve problems. Design Technology will focus on using different materials to create a boat before moving into an Art unit on creating a train journey picture.

Science will have an initial focus on materials, before moving onto explore seasonal changes and the wild weather!

Your child will have PE on Wednesday and Friday, so please ensure that they come to school appropriately dressed. Whenever possible, the sessions will be outside. Please ensure children’s clothing is labelled with their name as items can often be misplaced.

Your child will shortly receive their reading record along with one reading book. We request that if the book has been read successfully, then please return it to school on Thursday and a new book will be sent home on Friday. 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. Phonics will be taught daily, and this will encompass guided reading and comprehension skills. DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) will also be provided throughout each day.

We suggest that the children read at least 3 times a week and for this to include a variety of books for pleasure. We will also send a homework challenge, which supports children in their current learning at school. We ask that all homework is uploaded onto Class Dojo and we can respond as necessary.

We do acknowledge that some children enjoy taking their learning beyond the classroom and continuing this learning at home. We have designed a child-led homework challenge based around our topic. We will send home a knowledge organiser around wonderful ways to travel. The suggested tasks are on the back of the knowledge organiser. It is then up to your child to explore an area, which interests them linked to the image and their learning. They may wish to find out more information about methods of transport or different explorers and inventors. Children could create artwork based around different methods of transport/journeys or create a new vehicle or machine… the choice is theirs! We will support and encourage the children to generate ideas within school and then share and celebrate their learning with their peers when they share their work via Dojo. We look forward to an enjoyable and exciting term.

Year 1 Team





