

Year 1 Spring Newsletter

We would like to welcome you back to the beginning of Spring Term. We hope you enjoyed a restful holiday. We have yet another busy and exciting half-term planned.

Topic:



We will be finishing our current Topic 'Live Green – Shop Carefully' with our visits to SCOOP and the children will be putting together their PowerPoint presentations. We will then begin our new Topic – The Great Fire of London. The children will be producing a number of writing activities including a Diary Entry as Samuel Pepys. They will be using adjectives to make their writing descriptive.

English:



Reading: Your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. Phonics, a very popular and successful literacy programme. Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to: *Read letters by their 'sounds' *Blend these sounds into words *Read the words in a story. Your child will bring home a levelled letter at each re-grouping. This will detail the learning taking place within the daily lessons. Please continue to encourage daily reading at home as building fluency is key to success.

Writing: We will continue to embed our phonic knowledge in all writing activities e.g. topic, science and PSHE. In addition to this, we will continue to complete an extended written task each week. The task may be a retelling of a familiar tale or it may require the children to write their own simple narrative using prompts.

Maths:

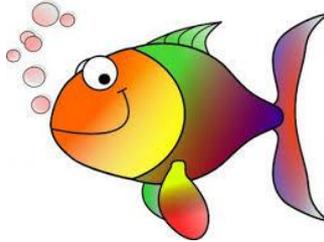


We will begin the term on Chapter 7: Addition and Subtraction within 20. In this chapter pupils will learn different ways to add and subtract numbers within 20. We will then move on to Chapter 6: Shapes and Patterns where we will learn about the different types of 2-D shapes and some basic 3-D shapes. We will focus on grouping shapes according to different criteria. This will also lead to recognising, describing and continuing a pattern, as well as generalising patterns.

Science:

This half term we will be starting a new science unit about Plants. We will be identifying and naming a variety of common, wild and garden plants including deciduous and evergreen trees. In addition to this, we will be identifying and describing the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. We will be dissecting plants and working like real scientists.

Art/DT:



Our main Art focus this term will be linked to a whole school project where we explore how to use feedback to help children make improvements to their learning, based on research on 'Visible Learning' by John Hattie. As part of this project all the children will be developing their drawing skills, based on the theme of 'fish'. They will be drafting and redrafting their designs following feedback and reflecting on how their feedback helped them improve. The children will receive feedback from both staff and other children in their class as research suggests this is a powerful way of enabling improvements to be made. Later in the term, we will be exploring the fish theme by working with local artists.

IT:



In IT, we are focussing on being 'Painters.' This is focussing on the illustrations in children's favourite books and recreating these for ourselves. Our first book focus is Cinderella and we will be retelling the story and drawing our own interpretations of the scene with which we have been presented.

PE:



PE days remain the same; **Monday** and **Tuesday**. This term in indoor PE we will be focussing on Gymnastics. We will be beginning to use different equipment such as benches, dance mats and agility tables and experiment how we can travel differently across these. Outdoor PE will include Invasion Games. We will be working on the children's balance, agility and coordination by using different equipment, such as hoops, basketballs and footballs.

RE:



This half-term, our focus is Christianity. Our question of study will be looking at Friendship and identifying when it is easy and difficult to show friendship. Abbey Owl will be introduced and will be used to discuss the value of friends allowing us to relate this to whether Jesus would have found it easy to always show friendship towards people and why this might have been. We will be linking this closely with JIGSAW Jack and allow a discussion between the two about inclusion in our school.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education):



In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions, our important focus this half term will be on our dreams and goals. We will be discussing different words, such as motivation and positive attitudes in order to help us get through work or situations we might find difficult. We will be linking these to our Core Values and expanding our knowledge of working together with different people in the class.

Music:



In music this half term we will be focussing on the unit 'In the Groove.' In the Groove is written in order to teach the children about the different styles of music. It has been arranged in six different styles: Blue, Baroque, Latin, Bhangra, Folk and Funk. Each week we will listen to and learn a different style of the song and compare the differences or similarities.

Other:

We would like to encourage all children to read every night; this can be anyone of their reading books – RWI, levelled or library. Homework will continue to be given out on Fridays and collected in the following Thursday. 'Show and Tell' takes place every Friday – No toys in school any other day of the week please as they are distracting.

Useful Websites:

- Busy Things **Username** = home8972 **Password** = crazy8362
- Oxford Owl 1A **Username** = year1amisst **Password** = Year1AMissT
- Oxford Owl 1B **Username** = year1bmissd **Password** = Year1BMissD

Key Dates

Monday 7th January = Spring Term Begins