

Year 1 Newsletter

Spring 2017

Dear Parents and carers,

We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous gifts and cards. We are excited about the forthcoming term, moving into Spring.

The Year 1 classrooms continue to work alongside each other to provide consistency in teaching and learning.

Dates For The Diary

24th January: Chinese New Year Day

2nd February: Theatre Company—Sleeping Beauty

13th –17th February: Half Term

2nd March—World Book Day

21st & 23rd March: Parents Evening

23 March - Class Photographs

Uniform - Please remember that children should be in correct uniform with a P.E. kit in school and all items of clothing must be named.

Water Bottles - Most of you have already provided water bottles for your children. If you have not done so, please could you send your child in with a clear, named water bottle. **Please note that only water should be in the water bottles. If you wish for your child to have juice at fruit time, please see the office.**

Reading - Thank you for your continued support with your child's reading, it is delightful to see what impact it makes on your child's progress. Please allow your child to read to an adult on a daily basis, and record any comments in their reading records. Reading books will be changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday (unless the book hasn't been read or finished). As some of the books are becoming longer, we do not expect every book to be completed in one evening, and recommend consolidating comprehension by reading the book several times. Please ensure that your child brings their reading folder into school everyday so that they are able to read with a member of the Year 1 team. Please continue to share a range of books with your children, talking about the stories and asking questions to help develop their comprehension skills.

Homework - Homework is given on a Friday to be completed over the weekend and returned on Monday. In Year 1, homework should take about 20 minutes and be as independent as possible. Spelling homework is given on a Wednesday, with a spelling test the following Tuesday.

Our Learning:

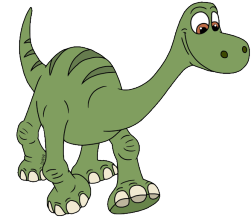


P.E.— As athletes Mrs Holmes, our experienced specialist P.E. teacher, will continue teaching the children ball skills and games on a **Thursday**. As gymnasts we will be learning different ways to move around apparatus safely and effectively. This will take place on a **Friday** for **1F** and **Tuesday** for **1P**.

As **Geographers and Historians** our first topic will be learning about China. We will be learning about the countries location in relation to ourselves using Atlases as well as learning about the history of Chinese New Year.



As **Geographers and Historians** our second topic will be learning '**Dinosaurs**'. We will be learning about the where dinosaur fossils have been found, as well as when they lived and what they ate.



As **Artists and Designers** we will be experimenting with different materials to create symbols, objects and artefacts to celebrate Chinese New Year.

As **Scientists** our first topic this term is '**Everyday Materials**'; children will explore different materials available to them in the environment and their uses.



As **Scientists** our second topic this term is '**Plants**'; the children will learn about the lifecycles of different plants and what is needed for plants to grow.

In **computing** we will begin to explore the world of **coding** and learning new terminology such as, 'algorithms'.



As **musicians** we will be learning about different cultures, music and dances.

As **good citizens** we will learn about Judaism, the symbols, special book and celebrations.

In **PSHCE** we will be looking at '**Dreams and Goals**'. We will discuss overcoming obstacles and steps to success.

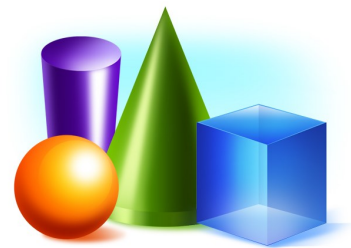


In addition we will be doing the following:



As readers and writers we will continue to focus on handwriting and writing sentences, including adjectives and connectives. We will look at a variety of traditional tales and fantasy stories.

As mathematicians we will continue to develop our number knowledge by counting and sequencing. We will be continue to learn strategies for mental arithmetic. We will also be looking at money and 3D shapes.



Helping at home:

You can continue to help your child at home by practising number bonds to 10 (e.g. $2 + 8 = 10$) as well as doubling and halving. Please also continue to count forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with us.

The Year one team are looking forward to an eventful term.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Murray and Miss Whitehead

(1F Class teacher)

(1PClass teacher)