

Year 1 Newsletter

Spring 2020

English

Phonics continues to be an integral part of Year One writing and reading lessons, and as such it is vital that children are practising their speed sounds daily. They need to be able to read the sounds without hesitation and use the sounds when spelling words. In writing, we encourage children to apply their Kinetic Letters knowledge consistently. In order to do this, children must hold their pencils correctly and either lie like a 'strong lizard' or sit at a table correctly when writing. Their letters need to sit on the line and they need to be the correct height and a consistent size. By this point in Year One children should be writing their own sentences independently, discretely and as part of a longer piece of writing. This means that they should be able to say a sentence, write it down and read it back to check that they have used capital letters, spaces between the words and the correct punctuation at the end. At home, Children need to read daily and home reading records need to be signed before we can change their books. We would encourage you to ask questions about the book to check your child's understanding e.g. "Why are the dinosaurs going on a journey?" and "What does festival mean?" This term we will focus on children recognising the features of different types of stories such as journey stories, finding stories, traditional tales, fairy stories and key stories.

Mathematics

This term we will focus on adding and subtracting numbers within 20, place value of numbers below 50, multiples of 2, 5 and 10, measuring length, height, mass and volume. As always, your child will benefit from joining in with any real life maths opportunities at home. Counting objects in 1s, 2s, 5s or 10s, adding amounts and subtracting amounts with practical objects and estimating the length or height of objects or checking food labels that show mass and volume will be both fun and will encourage your child to be confident with numbers. Please also ensure that children continue to go on DoodleMaths as much as possible.

Topic

Our topic this term is called 'Going Places' and will be covered through history, geography and D&T.

In History, we will be exploring different modes of transport and looking at how they have developed over time. We will also look at significant inventors, ask questions about the past and find out the answers with support. Our trip to the Black Country Living Museum on **Wednesday 4th March** will build on our learning as we embark on a 'Transport through the ages' workshop.

In Geography, we will be building on our geographical map reading skills. We will use directional and locational language to describe maps, devise our own simple maps using symbols and learn to use compasses to explore the school grounds.

In DT, the children will have the opportunity to design, make and evaluate a moving vehicle model.



All of the adults who work in Year 1 just wanted to say a huge thank you for all the lovely cards and gifts you gave us for Christmas. We always feel very fortunate to have such kind parents and children at The Ridge.



Art

In art, the children will be extending their drawing and observation skills by looking carefully at imagery and experimenting with lines of different sizes and thickness. They will also be using clay to create sculptures.

P.E.

Year One PE sessions will continue to take place on a Monday and Tuesday. Children will need both indoor and outdoor PE kits in school as this term they will be exploring and developing their gymnastics skills and multiskills. Please can any children with earrings not wear them on these days. Please also make sure all clothes, including ties, are named.

Music

The focus this term will be on duration (long and short sounds) and using this to create sequences. The children will learn songs and practice clapping and playing rhythms on percussion instruments.

R.E.

This term the theme explored by the children will be religious objects and symbols, with a focus on Sikhism. They will be able to find out about the practices and lifestyles of a wider variety of religions. They will become familiar with parables and the messages behind them.

Computing

In computing, we will be learning how to add text to a document and how to record videos and edit them with support. We will also be looking at using websites and how to use the internet safely.

Science

During Science this term the children will learn about materials and their properties and types of animals. We encourage children to pose questions, make predictions based on their knowledge, plan and carry out experiments with support and form conclusions. They will be encouraged to use scientific vocabulary and explain what they discover.

P.S.H.E

This term our themes will include: road safety, keeping healthy, global citizenship, internet safety and we shall also look at how to take care of our environment and the impact of our choices. The children will be having a session with the school nurse focused on having a healthy lifestyle and general hygiene.

Home Learning

The most important way you can support your child is by hearing them read daily at home, encouraging them to use their phonics skills to read, discuss the meaning of new vocabulary and checking their understanding of what they have read.

DoodleMaths is a brilliant resource for supporting children's learning across all areas of maths. Please encourage your child to use this app daily as little and often works best. If you are having difficulty logging in from home, or linking your email to your child's account, please ask for support.

Year 1's class assembly will be on **Friday 13th March at 2:50pm** and will be based on their previous Science topic: Seasons. We hope you will be able to join us!