

Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn 2019

English

We teach phonics lessons daily from 8.55am – 9.20am. We read as much as possible throughout the day with guided reading (small group) sessions and Reading Spine (whole class) sessions. Children will be sent home with spellings weekly and they will be tested every Friday. Please encourage your child to learn their spellings daily. Children will also be given a book to read weekly. Please sign your child's reading record so that we can change their books regularly, and feel free to write comments on their reading at home. When writing, the children will be encouraged to try to spell phonetically plausible words and to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. We are focusing on correct letter formation and pencil grip in line with our Kinetic Letters whole school approach. During our English lessons we shall read, discuss and write journey stories, overcoming the monster stories and instructions.



Mathematics

This term we will focus on number and place value within 10, especially unpicking children's understanding about the different ways to make and represent a number. We will be doing lots of practical counting, including counting one more and one less, which will then lead to addition and subtraction. In Year 1, much of our work is practical to embed understanding. Throughout this time, we hope to perfect children's number formation (writing kinetic numerals clearly and correctly) to ensure clear recording of addition and subtraction sentences.



Topic

Our topic this term is called 'The History of Me' and will be building on the children's understanding of chronology. It will be focused on ordering important milestones in the children's lives and looking briefly at their own family history.



Art and D&T

In Art, the children will be focusing on drawing lines of different lengths and thicknesses, colouring within the lines and drawing dots to show texture. They will also be learning to use a variety of painting techniques and describing work by notable artists. In D&T, the children will have the opportunity to design and make a hand puppet.

Geography

In Geography, we will be investigating our school. We will be developing the children's skills in using simple fieldwork and observational skills and also using locational and directional language to describe what is in our school grounds.

P.S.H.E

This term, our themes will include: growth mindset; setting goals; keeping healthy; understanding fairness; how to keep safe and how to deal with our feelings.

We shall also look at how to take care of our environment and the impact of our choices.



P.E.

Year 1 will now take part in P.E. every Monday and Tuesday. Please can any children with earrings not wear them on these days. Please make sure all clothes, including ties, are named. This term we shall be exploring and developing our dance skills and multiskills.

Cooking

Year 1 children will have the chance to cook once a term. They will be preparing, making and tasting fruit kebabs. We aim to equip children with the skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle and make good choices with their diet.

Music

The focus this term will be on joining in with and following a melody. 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. They will be able to find out about the practices and lifestyles of believers of Christianity.

Science

During Science this term, the children will learn about the changing seasons. I would encourage you to go on nature walks, look at and describe the changes around us as we move from autumn into winter, particularly the changes to trees. Please enthuse your children to ask questions and consider the answers to these questions.

Computing

In computing, we will be learning how to program devices, input instructions and debug programs. This term, we will be focusing on making an online storybook. We will also consider how to stay safe online.

Behaviour Policy

In Year 1, we follow the whole school scheme, "It's Good to be Green." Children will receive a green raffle ticket if they stay green for the half term, which gives them a chance to win a prize during Golden Assembly. If, however, behavior consequences have been given to individuals via yellow and red consequence cards, then those children's names will not be entered into the raffle. They will receive a reflection sheet to be signed by parents and returned to school. Full details of our behavior policy can be found on our website.

Home Learning

The best way to support your child is by hearing them read daily and encouraging them to use their phonics skills to read. Help them to define words and ask questions that they are puzzled by in the stories that they read. Please continue to use DoodleMaths daily at home as a fun, interactive way to practice their number skills. Trios are used throughout school to test children's number bonds knowledge and their ability to find number facts from the facts they already know.