

# Year 1 Newsletter

# Spring 2019

## English

Phonics continues to be an integral part of Year One writing and reading lessons, 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.

## Topic

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

In art, the children will be extending their drawing and observation skills by looking carefully. They will learn how to mix colours and paint carefully and will also add texture to their artwork by adopting pointillism techniques. They will look at work by Ofose - a West-African artist.

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

In History, we will be we will place cars (old and new) along a timeline, we will look at significant inventors, ask questions about the past and find out the answers with support.

In Geography, will build on our geographical map reading skills by using grid references, using directional and locational language to describe maps, look at photographs of geographical areas to find out about a place and compare Wollaston to the Serrekunda. We will look at both the human and physical features of different places.



*All 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.*



## P.E.

Year One P.E. takes place every Tuesday afternoon. 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 and gymnastics skills.

## Music

The focus this term will be on duration (long and short sounds) and using this to create sequences. The children will learn songs linked to our theme, and practice clapping and playing rhythms on percussion instruments. Year One will also have the chance to take part in a music festival with other local schools.

## 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 a wider variety of religions. They will become familiar with parables and the messages behind them.



## 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; how to keep safe; internet safety and we shall also look at how to take care of our environment and the impact of our choices.

## Computing

In computing, we will be learning how to create our own digital artwork and how to add text to a document and how to record videos and edit them with support. This will be linked to our topic work. We will also be looking at using websites and how to use the internet safely.

## 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, discussing 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, 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.

It is also important to practise Trios at home so that children can embed their knowledge of number bonds ready for Year 2.