

Spring Term 2020



Year 1 Newsletter

Mrs Benning & Ms Davis

Children will be learning:

English This term we will be moving onto another traditional tale, Goldilocks and The Three Bears. Following our Talk 4 Writing programme, the children will continue to devise actions and follow a text map when learning a text/story, before writing their own versions. In the second half-term our text will be 'Billy's Beetle' and we will also be doing some non-fiction writing based on this story. The children will still be exploring and developing letter writing, writing in role and story writing. All children in the UK are tested at the end of Year 1 on their knowledge of phonics. Children need to be able to sound out words using their phonic skills accurately. We will continue with daily phonics lessons and please let us know if you would like any advice supporting your child at home with phonics. We recommend short bursts of daily reading at home.

Maths This term we will continue using the Maths No Problem programme, which incorporates the Singapore Barr method. It focuses on mastery of each topic, which means that your child will be encouraged to have a deeper understanding of each concept before moving on. The workbooks work towards the national curriculum end-of-year expectations. It is a very visual way of teaching maths and children will take part in a lot of practical activities and use a lot of manipulatives, such as unifix cubes and dienes. This term we will focus on developing an understanding of place value, word problems, multiplication and division.

Science This term the children will once again be studying two science topics alongside one another.

Seasonal Change: We will be continuing our topic of seasonal change. This term we will be looking at the seasons of winter and spring and discussing the features of each. We will create our own rain gauge in order to investigate how much rain falls in a certain amount of time. Children will make their own scientific predictions and will be involved in creating their own representations of the data they have collected.

Everyday Materials: As well as this, we will be starting a new science topic studying every day materials and their properties. Children will learn what materials different objects are made from and sort and classify them into groups. They will also be given the opportunity to explore how materials change when they are heated and cooled, through a variety of experiments.

RE Islam: We will learn what the Muslim special book is called and what the symbol looks like. It is explained to children that in the Islam religion God is known as Allah. Children are shown what the Muslim place of worship is called and may look like. We look at *The Day in the Life of a Muslim* and see how special occasions are celebrated.

Christianity: We will learn about the teachings of Jesus and why he is still remembered in Christianity. Children are also taught why Easter is celebrated.

Design Technology We will be linking this to safety and making our own moving pictures to create a safety manual.

Computing This term, children will start to take part in weekly lessons in the computer suite. They will begin to learn about simple programming and coding.

PE (Tuesdays and Fridays) This term, the children will be focusing on dance and gymnastics as a part of their indoor PE sessions. During our outdoor PE sessions, children will continue to develop ball skills and play team games. We are fortunate to benefit from the expertise of a PE coach in our lessons.

Humanities Safety: This term, we will learn all about safety. It is an exciting unit for the children, as it provides us with the opportunity to take them to the fire station! We are also very lucky to have contacts with our local community police officers who will come to visit us in school. Children will discuss how we stay safe and will be taken on a walk around school to think about the possible dangers they might face and how to prevent them. During the second half of the term, we will focus on *The Great Fire of London*.

Art During the second half of term, children will be creating their own artwork based around their study of The Great Fire of London. We will be looking at the artist Colin Ruffell and creating some pieces of work in his style. We will be looking at the London skyline and creating our own sketches and looking at using different mediums such as: marbling; painting and chalk.

Music In music this term, year 1 will be exploring pitch through body movement, singing and vocal sounds; looking at pitch shapes; listening to, comparing and identifying different pitched sounds; and performing action songs with rising and falling pitch patterns. We will also be exploring dynamics and looking at the difference between pitch and dynamics.

We are looking forward to the spring term, filled with lots of exciting opportunities for the children. If you have any questions or need any help please don't hesitate to make an appointment to come and see us.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Mrs Benning and Ms Davis