

# Year 1 Spring Newsletter

January 2024

Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely Christmas break.

## English – Writing

In English, we will continue to look at a range of stories and poems. This term we will continue to focus on writing basic sentences using capital letters, finger spaces, ensuring we sound out each word and remembering to use a full stop at the end of our sentence.

We will continue to use our Kinetic Letters scheme to support our handwriting practise by revisiting how to successfully form each letter including knowing where to position these letters on a line. Please look out for each family practise sheet in your child's book bag. This is to keep at home for you to know the language we use.



## Maths



This term in our Maths sessions, we will begin to look at numbers to 20, understanding the place value of each number, finding one more and one less and developing our understanding of each digit. We will be continuing to learn all about addition and subtraction, looking at fact families and exploring the greater and less than symbols.

Please use every opportunity available to incorporate numbers 0-20 within your day to day life. For example, practising number bonds within 10 such as  $5+1=6$  or  $3+3=6$   $7+3=10$  or  $8+2=10$ .

Asking your child to write the numerals and particularly the words (such as 12 and twelve) will help secure their understanding within our lessons.

## Phonics and Reading

We have now learnt our main phase 5 sounds and after some revision, we have now begun this week looking at alternative pronunciations for graphemes already known and alternative spellings for phonemes such as 'a' making an 'ar' sound in father. Each week we will continue to send home the graphemes learnt and their mnemonic to support your child in recognising these fluently within words. Children will continue to read weekly; we are putting a focus on individual reading as well as beginning paired reading at times. Please support your child by hearing them read as often as possible at home- it really does make a difference we promise! We will be checking reading diaries each week and if they have read at least four times or more and it is recorded within their diary they will be rewarded with a Yellow responsibility merit.

Don't forget each Friday your child will receive an E-book on Oxford Owls. This is matched to our focus sounds taught within our Phonics sessions that week. Please sit with your child and read these together, noticing any of our new graphemes. If you need support with this, please speak to your child's teacher.



## Foundation Curriculum

This half term we will teach your child a range of subjects such as:

### Science

Our topic is Polar Places particularly looking at animals, their habitat and their diet. We will be exploring words such as omnivores, herbivores and carnivores.

### Computing

The children will be learning how to program a Bee-Bot, thinking carefully about the instructions needed such as left, right, forwards and backwards. We will also look at how to debug these when we make a mistake. You may want to practise the words left and right with your child in preparation for this.

### Music

We will be learning songs about animals from around the world.

### RE

The children will be given the opportunity to think about fame and what this means to us and others.

### Games/P.E.

We will continue to develop our gross motor skills in our indoors and outdoors sessions with Mrs Tata and Mr Artz

On the day your child has PE with Mrs Tata, please could they wear clothing that will keep them warm outside.

Having gloves is also a good idea for outdoor sessions.

### Geography

Our theme will be all around the world, where we will look at similarities and differences through studying human and physical features of areas within the UK and a contrasting non-European country. We will be learning about the 7 continents and oceans too!

## Other important information

It is really important your child arrives promptly each morning. We start learning from 8.55 am.

At this stage of the year, we often notice that clothing labels such as cardigans, fleeces, coats, **gloves and hats** have faded or disappeared, we would appreciate you checking these so we can ensure items are returned to their rightful owners. Thank you.

Free fruit is provided for children but your child may want to bring their own healthy snack to school to eat during our break.



Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or need support with your child's learning. We are more than happy to help.

Year 1 Team- Miss Gillespie, Mrs Rayner, Mrs Bord and Mrs Cufley