

Monday 23rd April 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Class 1 Summer Newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed special times with your family.

We are looking forward to all the exciting learning this term! Please continue to encourage the children to put away their book bag, lunch box and coat themselves as we will begin our transition to Year 1. This means that the children will be attending Monday morning singing assembly during the week and after half term will start joining the whole school for morning break in the main school playground.

Our topic this term is **"Journeys"**. Most of our learning will relate to this.

In **Literacy**, we will be focusing on "Whatever Next" and "Duck in the truck" stories. The children will be learning a skill of storytelling through role play, opportunities to re-tell and change stories as well as create their own!

This term the children will develop their literacy skills by:

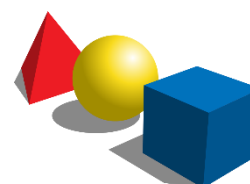
- Learning to read and write tricky words in phonics sessions (so, said, like, do, have, some, come, when, out, what, were, there, little, one)
- Learning to read and write sounds clusters like nt, mp, st, ts, sp, nk, cr, sl, pt, nch, etc
- Learning to read and write compound and longer words like sunflower, windmill, dustbin.
- Writing and reading back our own sentences. Make sure our writing makes sense to others.
- Writing longer sentences using connectives and, because, then, but.
- Writing stories beginning with Once upon a time and finishing with happily ever after.
- Writing on a line, using finger spaces between the words, capital letters in the beginning of the sentence and a full stop in the end.
- Handwriting sessions will focus on letter formation and letter size. Look out for those One armed robot letters, curly caterpillars letters, ladder letters, and zig-zag monsters letters.



Please make sure your child brings their reading book and yellow Reading Record to school **every day**. This needs to be read by your child **every day** and marked in the yellow record book! Every time your child reads at home, they get a sticker and eventually a prize from Class 1 prize jar.

In **Math** this term, the children will be learning:

- Shapes and patterns.
- Adding and subtracting to 20.
- Depth of numbers and numbers beyond 20.
- Doubling and halving.
- Money.
- Measuring (capacity, length, height, weight)



In” **Understanding the World**” the children will be learning about changes of plants and animals through observations of our plants. We will be planting beans, sweet peas, strawberries, potatoes, carrots, and sunflowers. We will observe how caterpillars change into butterflies, and learn to describe the changes and explain why they happen. The children will also learn how to look after plants. We have two house Geraniums in the classroom now and the children will take turns to look after them. We’ve already had a go at predicting what colour each plant would be. Please feel free to add your predictions too!

The story of “Jack and the beanstalk” will be our focus for outdoor learning.

The children will continue to learn to ask a variety of questions through “**Show and Tell**” sessions every Friday. Please support your child by helping them to choose an item related to their life journey. For example a postcard from a holiday, a picture of a pet, Birthday gift or a card, first drawing, fallen out tooth, etc. We will be focusing on speaking about future events and predicting what may happen in the future on their life journey.

Our **Forest School** sessions will still take place on **Thursday mornings** with **Mrs Hazell** and **Mrs Maughan**. Please provide your child with a hat, a long sleeves top and trousers to protect the children from insects and prickly plants. The children will not be allowed to go out if they are not dressed properly. For wet days waterproof overalls are to be worn. Please make sure **all** the outdoor clothing items are **clearly labelled** (including the bag) and are kept in school until the end of ½ term. Look out for our Forest school newsletter.

PE lessons will take place on **Mondays pm**. The children will move to a variety of rhymes and play movement games and team games. We are also going to challenge the children to buttons and shoe laces! So start practicing! Please make sure your child has the correct PE items that are also **clearly labelled** in school every day until the end of ½ term.

The children will continue to receive weekly Learning Challenges on a Thursday in their new “**To and fro**” book which has lines in it for neat writing. The children are expected to do independent writing in their books using their phonetic knowledge. Correcting their spelling is not advised at this stage. Please encourage your child to write!

It is still very useful for us to have your feedback on how your child learns outside the school. Therefore, we will continue with our “**Popcorn Moments**” to celebrate anything that your child learnt, enjoyed or tried for the very first time. Please write it on a popcorn cut-out that are available in the classroom or from a member of staff. Simply hand it to your teacher or place it on the teacher’s laptop in the morning and we will celebrate your child’s achievements in class. As soon as our popcorn hat reaches the top the children will enjoy a special treat! Usually we have a Popcorn Party with music, games and bubbles!

With the weather getting hotter please make sure the children have a hat in school every day and have their all day sun cream applied in the morning.

As always, please let us know if you need further information from us or have any queries at all. This could be done through the office by telephone, e-mail, written letter or verbal message. I am happy to answer any short queries at the end of the day during collection time. Should you need to discuss a matter at length please could you make an appointment at a convenient time.

Kind regards,



Mrs Anna Woolfson.