

Year 1 Newsletter – Summer 1

Welcome

We hope you have had a lovely break. Thank you to everyone for your support last term and for the wonderful parent's consultation meetings. We hope you enjoyed seeing the progress that your children have made so far this year. It was great to show you how hard your children have been working.

Phonics and Reading

Phonics

Our Phonics scheme is Little Wandle Phonics.

Your child will continue to receive two books this term: a fully decodable book, that closely matches the phonemes (sounds) that have recently been taught in school, and that has been read in school during reading lessons, and a 'reading for pleasure' book. Your child is free to change their read for pleasure book at any point in the school day.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND READING BOOKS AND RECORDS IN TO SCHOOL DAILY, IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.

Please record in your child's reading record every time you hear your child read at home.

Writing

This term we will be continuing to focus on:

- Correct letter formation using our new scheme Happy Handwriting
- Saying and writing simple sentences and recording words using phonic knowledge
- Learn to spell 'tricky' words (linked to the phonics scheme)
- Continue to practise using correct punctuation in sentences (finger spaces, capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks)
- Use ambitious adjectives and verbs in sentences
- Use the conjunctions 'and' and 'because' to join two clauses together
- Using and spelling suffix



Maths

This half term the children will start by learning how to identify and find quarter and half of a shape and quantity. We will then move onto length and mass. The children will compare lengths, measure using non-standard units and introduce standards unit for mass such as kilogram. Finally, we will expand on the number work we have already done by looking at number 50-100 and explore addition and subtraction within 100.



Science Unit: Plants

In this unit, pupils will learn about the key parts of a plant including the roots, stem, leaves and flower. They will investigate how seeds germinate, using a fast-growing seed such as cress. They will find out the conditions that seeds are unlikely to grow in, such as in the darkness or without moisture. The children will learn about deciduous and evergreen trees and will understand the differences between these two types of trees. They will link their knowledge from Seasons and Weather to the leaves of deciduous trees falling in autumn. Finally, the children will look at the parts of plants that we eat, which will help them to prepare for learning about food and farming in Year 2. They will look at common fruit and vegetables and identify which part of the plant we eat, e.g. celery (root), spinach (leaves) etc. This unit introduces botanists and pupils will be encouraged to think about what botanists do when they study plants.



Computing Unit: Digital Writing

The children will learn about: various aspects of using a computer to create and manipulate text. They will become more familiar with using a keyboard and mouse to enter and remove text. Learners will also consider how to change the look of their text and will be able to justify their reasoning in making these changes. Finally, learners will consider the differences between using a computer to create text and writing text on paper. They will be able to explain which method they prefer and explain their reasoning for choosing this.



Art & Design unit: paintings of children

Through looking at paintings of children, this unit explores how art, and in particular paintings by Hogarth, Cassatt and Bruegel the Elder, give us information about the past. The Graham Children by Hogarth provides a focus for the whole unit. The children will consider the hidden messages that the group portrait conveys as well as investigating how the painting shows the difference of the lives of the Graham children in comparison to their own. Copying small sections of the painting will allow the children to consider how to work from close observation, planning where lines and colours should go, colour-matching and using watercolours with different sized brushes.

Geography: The Seven Continents.

Building on children's understanding of spatial sense (their immediate and local area) and the UK, this unit zooms out to encompass the seven continents and five oceans of the world. Children will use globes and will begin to understand that a globe is a 3D model of our Earth showing continents and oceans. They will learn to recognise the north and south poles and the equator and will begin to understand what geographic location can tell us about climate. Throughout this unit children will be forming an understanding that the world is a diverse place, and continents can host many different landscapes and living things.

Music Unit: What can you hear?

In this unit the children learn that we can use music to represent different things and that we can record/create sounds to imitate what we can hear. They start by listening to The Flight of the Bumblebee by the Russian composer Rimsky Korsakov and consider how the composer uses fast music to represent the flight and sound of a bee. In doing so they explore how sounds are made on the violin and flute and discover how the fast moving music of the piece is achieved by the violin and flute players moving their fingers very fast on the strings/keys of the instruments to create different pitches. This builds on their learning that composers can represent animals in sound, first encountered in the unit 'Animals in Music' in Spring A when they listened to Saint-Saëns' The Elephant which they revisit in this unit.



PE

Our **PE lessons** are still on a **Monday and Thursday**. Please could all children attend school in their PE kit.



Children need to have an Academy PE t-shirt, shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings depending on the weather and an Academy Jumper. All children must be wearing trainers. Please also ensure they **do not wear any jewellery and that long hair is tied back**.

PSHE Unit: Relationships

This term the children will learn about different relationships in their lives. We will think about who is in our families and understand that families are all different. We will then move onto friendships and what makes them a good friend. We will continue to develop their understanding of their place in our school community before finishing off with celebrating special people in our lives.



RE Unit: Judaism

Key question: Is Shabbat important to Jewish children?



This term we will link our learning back to Judaism. The children will learn about when Shabbat takes place, how the creation story relates to the Sabbath, explain how the Shabbat is celebrated and explain why having regular time of peace or rest is good for us.

Homework Project



At the end of every term, a selection of homework projects will be sent home for your child to complete. They may select any of the projects set. Projects will be linked to the learning that will take place in the following term. 5 dojos will be presented on completion of a project.

Homework project

Your project could be linked to our next Geography Unit, The Seven Continents.

Your child could,

- Label a world map of the continents.
- Make a 3D model of the Earth.
- Research a continent write facts, draw/paint a picture of the continents.

Your project could be linked to our next Science Unit, Plants.

- Draw/paint a picture of a plant and label it.
- Take photos of plants that you see around the local area.
- Grow a plant and bring it into school.

Weekly homework:

- Read school reading book at least x3 weekly.
- **READING BOOKS MUST BE SENT IN TO SCHOOL DAILY IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.**
- Spellings - linked to phonics or spelling pattern taught during the week. There will be a weekly spelling test linked to spellings sent home. Spellings are sent home every Monday.
- Complete number bond practice on Numbots.



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Rewards



The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.

Class information

Class Teacher: Mr Bradley

Teaching Assistants: Miss McKillop and Mrs Howe

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!



Monday 13th April – School reopens to pupils

Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday

Wed 6th - Fri 8th May – Year 4 Residential

Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May – KS2 SATs

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd May - Walk to school week

Thursday 21st May – Foundation subject parent drop in sessions

Friday 22nd May - School closes to pupils for Half Term

