

Year 1 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas holiday. We are now at the beginning of the Spring Term and the children continue to work hard to achieve their targets.

This half term your child will be studying:

English – In the first half of term we will be focussing on balanced arguments based on fairy tales. We will develop our understanding of the features of a balanced argument and begin to form our own opinions. We will also continue to focus on handwriting, spelling and grammar e.g. suffixes -s, -es, -ed, -ing, -er, -est and the prefix un-.

Maths – We will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes and making patterns with them. We will also look at ordinal numbers, addition and subtraction within 20 and length.

Religious education- The children will be learning about aspects of Christianity and Sikhism and will visit a local Catholic Church. There will be an Easter Assembly whereby children will showcase their learning to the rest of the school.

Science – We will be finding out about plants, exploring the different parts of a plant and identifying different plants around us and will link this with the **Art** curriculum where we will paint in the style of Van Gogh. We are also going to be finding out about the different seasons and will visit Thames Barrier Park to support our learning.

Creative Curriculum – Our topic is ‘**My Local Area**’

In **History** we will be finding out about different forms of transport and will be visiting the London Transport Museum to support our learning. In **Geography** we will be focus on our local area, developing our mapping skills, understanding how some places are linked to other places and using simple maps of the local area. We will be linking our creative topic to Design Technology this term by constructing a town using different materials.

PSHE: We will be discussing healthy eating and creating our very own healthy menu. We will link this to **Computing** where we will be learning about programming software and will use the program *Movie Maker* to make our very own cooking TV program.

Music – The children will continue with percussion and experimenting with the different sounds they can make.

PE – The children will have two PE lessons every week, one will focus on gymnastics and the other on running, jumping, throwing and catching skills.

Our PE days are **Monday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child brings a PE kit labelled clearly with their name every week. It will be returned to you on Friday.

Homework

Homework is a very important part of your child’s education. It is usually linked to what your child has learned that week or in preparation for something they are going to learn. The homework this term will continue to focus on basic skills - spelling, handwriting and 5 a day numeracy skills. Your child may need support from an adult to read and fully understand what he/she needs to do. Homework is given to the children on Friday and they are expected to hand it in on Thursday. Should your child not bring in their homework by Thursday, they will go to lunchtime detention. From time to time, we will also set the children a project to complete at home linked to the Creative Curriculum or Science. This is a great opportunity for you to work on a fun and creative project with your child.

Reading – important things to remember

- ❖ Please encourage your child to read for **10 minutes every night**.
- ❖ Before reading with your child, read his/her targets (written in yellow reading record) so that you can help them to achieve their targets. We also welcome your responses and comments in the same book.
- ❖ The children can also access a range of books online through **Bug Club**. Your child's log in details will be in their reading log, if you experience problems with this please speak to your child's class teacher.
- ❖ Please ensure that your child brings their reading book to school every day.
- ❖ It is also important to share and enjoy books with your child. Remember that books can be borrowed for free from our school library or your local library. Reading books together will help your child to acquire language, read familiar words and write exciting stories!

Educational Visits

We have two educational visits planned this term. The first is a visit to Thames Barrier Park as part of our Science Curriculum. We will also be making a visit to the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden to our Geography and History Curriculum.

Uniform - Please ensure that your child's name is clearly labelled in all of their uniform. Your child should take responsibility for looking after their belongings, particularly in the playground and when changing for PE. If you find you have the wrong item of clothing returned to you, please bring it to your child's teacher and we will endeavour to return the correct items. If a coat, jumper or other item is left in the playground, it will be taken to lost property, which is accessible through the school office.

We hope this newsletter has been helpful. Please make an appointment to see any of the year 1 teaching staff if you have any worries/questions/etc. Please make sure your child is in school everyday and on time to ensure they don't miss out on valuable learning.

From Miss Basaba and Mrs De Rogatis