

# Curriculum Newsletter

Spring is finally here, with the lighter mornings and nights and hopefully brighter days. We have a busy half term planned with World book day, Mother's day and Easter all falling in the next 6 weeks.

## Class 1 (mornings)

I have been very impressed with how the children's reading is coming on. Everyone in reception has worked very hard on learning their letters and blending words. Year 1s are preparing well for their phonics tests, and learning different digraphs. Please continue to listen to your child read as much as possible at home. We aim to listen to everyone at least once a week. If books need changing more often, please encourage your child to change their own.

In English this half term, we will be looking at 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. This is a very funny book made from different letters. We will learn how to write letters as well as look at persuasion.

In maths we will be looking at shape and measures. We will continue with our number recognition and writing. Year 1 children this is recognising numbers up to 100 and reception numbers to 20. Regular practice at home will help this.

I will send texts weekly to let you know what we have been doing and what to work on at home. This is instead of formal homework. Year 1s will start to receive more formal homework in a yellow book. This will go out on a Friday to be returned on a Wednesday.

## Class 2 (mornings)

The children have made a great start to the term, creating some fabulous descriptive poetry this week following on from our work with author Wes Magee. We will begin our whole class guided reading of Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl next week, which will form the basis for lots of different types of writing, including: character and setting description; diaries and possibly some newspaper reports. We will also be doing lots of drama, and holding some in-class discussion and debates.

Reading is a focus area for us this term, so we will be working hard on word decoding, reading speed and fluency as well as building our comprehension skills. You can expect to see a lot of this term's homework being based around comprehension tasks, and in addition to supporting your children with these, you can help them to build their confidence by asking questions and talking about the books they are reading to you at home.

In maths we will be tackling the tricky topic of telling the time, as well as understanding calendars and timetables. We will be continuing to build our calculation skills with further work on all 4 operations, plus lots of problem solving involving time, money and measures.

## Class 3 (mornings)

Following a visit from author Wes McGee, we have World Book Day activities for all of the first week back. Then it's onto information texts, specifically learning how to identify how language, structure & presentation contribute to meaning. We will be writing letters and using a formal register to write an information text, drawing on our research into pre history.

In poetry this term we will be looking at imagery in poems about the sea, and completing work on Thomas Hardy's poem 'The Convergence of the Twain'.

Maths will see us examining shape, area, volume as well as focussing on multiplication and division. No one is yet a times table champion so lots of work still to do!

### Key Stage 1 (afternoons)

This half term our topic will be "Travel and Transport". This will be a history topic, looking at how transport has changed over the years. I am planning a trip to the Railway museum at York, more details to follow.

In art/DT we will be covering a unit called 'Fabricate'. In PSCH we will be looking at Keeping Safe. Our RE topic is "How do we show we care?"

PE will continue in the village hall on a Wednesday afternoon. We will be doing dance and gymnastics.

In Science we will be looking at Seasons and the environment.

### Key Stage 2 (afternoons)

Our primary topic this half term will be Iron Age to Stone Age. The children will be working with some large numbers as they put together timelines and research key dates and changes in lifestyles, tools and technology. They will have some hands on experience of "digging for artefacts" as well as making cave paintings and rudimentary tools.

PE will be at the village hall again and will be a combination of gymnastics and dance. PHSCE will focus on keeping safe, and our RE topic is "How does Jesus inspire us?"

In Science, children in years 3 and 4 will be looking at sound and finding out about the best materials and design to create protection against hearing damage for rock stars, while those in year 5 & 6 will be looking at classification of living things.

We are also lucky to have a specialist IT skills teacher joining us for some afternoons this term to help the children explore online communication such as blogging and website creation.

Miss Pfluger, Mrs McKee and Mrs Keetley