



Creation

Friendship

Wisdom

Forgiveness

Reverence

Respect

Our class newsletters are designed to complement our reporting system. They will provide information about learning intended for the term ahead, ideas as to how you can support your child and will give messages about planned events. If you have any queries about what your child is doing in school, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Parent/teacher consultations for this term are taking place on Monday 5th March. You will be sent a report card beforehand.

Literacy topics this term

Initial Literacy work will be looking at sentence types, word types and punctuation. Children will be practising naming and using word types such as 'Verbs' and 'adjectives' for example and constructing the four different sentence types: statement / question / exclamation / command and making sure they punctuate them correctly. Pointing out punctuation and sentence types when hearing your child read would give them the familiarity needed in order to start using them in their own work.

Later in the term we will be doing a lot of work on non-fiction texts such as instructions and non-chronological reports.

Numeracy topics this term

Multiplication and mental maths skills will be on-going. Time will be covered in the first part of the term. Later in the term we will be covering measurements including money, weight and capacity. All of the measurements units mentioned above (particularly time) can be very tricky for children in the early stages of learning but they are all quite practical, everyday skills which lend themselves to frequent exposure both in and outside of school...pointing out times, taking the children shopping and letting them have a go with money, taking part in cooking where measuring solids and liquids is involved are all great ways for children to really understand WHY and what these skills are needed for.

Other topics for this term

Our first topic of the spring term is 'Changing Materials' with lots of focus on scientific knowledge and investigation as well as an exciting trip to Pizza Express. This will lead very nice into a quick topic on 'Winter' before breaking up for half term. In the second half of the term our topic of 'Wash Days' will have a historical focus, lending itself to 'Changes within living memory' through looking at clothing.

How you can help your child

It is important that children read and are read to on a regular basis so that they experience new vocabulary as well as styles and techniques which they can then start to incorporate in their own writing. We recommend that you try to hear your child read at least 3 times a week. The colour-banded reading scheme book is specific to their reading level/needs and therefore is for reading to an adult (not to themselves).

In the back of the learning journal you will find pages containing key groups of spellings. We highlight words achieved and circle up to five more for each child to focus on next. Practising these at home would be very beneficial as children will feel much more confident when writing if they have a bank of words they can write independently.

As mentioned earlier, letting your children help in the kitchen with weight and capacity skills would be an excellent, and fun, way for the children to learn whilst feeling like they have helped out around the house.

Messages

Each child in Year 1 and 2 has had their learning journal updated with new weekly task sheets and useful topic words. They will continue to work through the same spelling sheets in the back which are updated each time we do a spelling check or the children use these words correctly in an independent writing task.

PE will continue to be on Wednesday and Friday afternoons but we encourage children to bring their kits in on Monday and leave them in school all week so that they are on hand in the event of a mishap.

The school has all the equipment your child needs for each lesson; therefore, we have said that the children do not need to bring in items such as pencil cases. This is not only because we simply do not have space for them in the classroom but because they do in fact cause problems when two children have the same equipment or something goes missing and we don't like to see the children get upset over something that has often been, for example, a Christmas gift.

To support our half-termly themes we may often be looking for resources and role-play equipment to enhance the children's learning. At the moment we would be grateful for anything to do with 'science labs' especially 'changing materials' but please keep an eye out for any further requests that might be written in the Learning Record.