

Year 1 Newsletter - Autumn Term 2

Welcome to the second Newsletter of Year 1, outlining our curriculum and ways you can help at home. We are delighted with the way the children have settled and we have all enjoyed getting to know them over the past few weeks. A few reminders;

- The **library books** have been chosen by your child and are brought home for you to share with them. Please remember to return them weekly so they can be changed.
- As the weather is getting colder and wetter, please ensure that your child brings an appropriate coat to school every day and that it is clearly labelled with their name.
- Keep an eye out in your child's book bag on Fridays for their new handwriting home task and please encourage them to practise at home.
- We are looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming parents evening. If you have any trouble booking an appointment, please let us know.

The Year 1 Team

Our key text this half term is...



Literacy:

In literacy this half term the children will be learning actions to support retelling a wonderful story. They will be using the key text 'It was a Cold, Dark Night' to write simple sentences about Ned the Hedgehog looking for a home. They will be introduced to new vocabulary throughout the book and finding out about some of the animals they meet.

Using the key text 'It was a Cold, Dark Night', the children will be focussing on information about nocturnal animals. The writing outcome will be to produce a non-fiction fact file all about their chosen animals.



Maths

This half term the children will be learning to consolidate their learning of numbers to 20.

This unit supports the children being able to step count in multiples of 2 and using this to solve problems. The unit also focuses on odd and even through sorting, ordering and comparing numbers and recognising the relationship between sharing between two and halving in number and shape. We continue by revisiting counting in 1s and 2s. The unit also focuses on number bonds related to addition and subtraction through consideration of the idea of part-part-whole.



Science

During this topic the children will be learning about how animals survive. The children will be learning that animals need food to survive, that all animals are different and so eat different foods (carnivore, omnivore, herbivore). We will find out about how animals move in different ways to get their food (predator/prey) and how animals use their senses to detect their food. Animals have different ways of avoiding being eaten e.g. camouflage, protection, moving away fast and we will be exploring this.



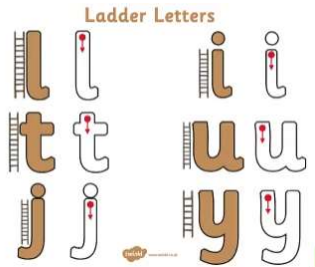
PSHE

The children will be continuing to learn through our PSHE programme Jigsaw. The unit is called 'Celebrating Difference.' Throughout these lessons, the children will consider how they are the same and different from each other. They will understand what is meant by the term 'bullying' and know what to do if they are worried. We will explore using kind words and learn how to give and receive compliments.



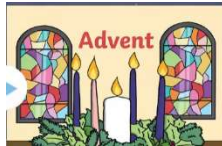
Handwriting

The children will be continuing to learn how to form lower-case and capital letters correctly. We will be learning letters in families of letters which are written in a similar way. We will learn how to write 'ladder letters'.



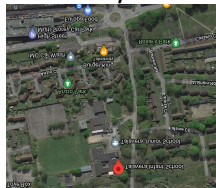
RE (Religious Education)

In R.E the children will be learning about 'Waiting' during Advent in Christianity.



Geography

In Geography this half term, the children will be learning about our school, the grounds and the surrounding area of Aldershot. We will be looking at a selection of maps to see what they show us and how they are used.



Music

Our music learning this term will focus on duration and structure. The children will learn all about exploring, responding to and recognising patterns of long and short sounds and steady beats in music heard and performed.

The children will explore, respond to and recognise simple structures including openings and endings, beginning-middle-end, echoes and responses.

We will be using percussion instruments to demonstrate our understanding of duration and structure and to rehearse and perform to our friends.

Art

This term the children will be developing their painting and drawing skills. They will then learn about an artist called Vincent Van Gogh. The children will have various opportunities to draw on their knowledge of the artist to learn about drawing and painting techniques before making their own pictures.

We will be linking our artwork to literacy and using our knowledge of nocturnal animals and their habitats to create Van Gogh inspired pictures and clay models of animals.

The children will have opportunities to develop their drawing and painting skills throughout this topic.

Computing

The children will be finding out about how technology is used outside school. They will be learning about using technology safely and respectfully and understanding what it means to stay safe online.

The NSPCC have some information for parents about ensuring children stay safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

PE (Physical Education)

In PE this term the units are 'Dance' and 'Send and Receive'. The lessons are designed to support the children develop their skills in a fun and engaging way.

Please ensure that children have a named PE kit in school all the time. It can stay in school and will be sent home at the end of every half term. Please also clearly name the bag.

Reading and Phonics

All children continue to participate in daily phonics lessons, incorporating learning new sounds and recognising the tricky words. There is also a daily writing session within these lessons.

Group reading continues to take place 3 times a week, focusing on decoding, reading with expression and comprehension.

Please continue to practise reading with your child at home as often as possible.