

27th April 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. It is lovely to see all the children back in school and ready to start their final term in Year 1. Once again we would like to outline the topics and areas of study that we will be covering this half term. We are delighted to see the progress the children have made this year and that they are continuing to be so enthusiastic about learning, and are always pleased to see additional work they have wanted to do at home.

Thank you for all your continued support - it is very much appreciated.

Mrs Rosie Clement and Mrs Lois Bond

<p>English</p> 	<p>In phonics, we will be revising all of our Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds and using them in both reading and writing contexts. We will be continuing to learn alternative spellings for long vowel sounds to help improve independent reading and writing and in preparation for the Phonics Screening Test in June.</p> <p>To continue to improve the pupils' independent writing (which has come on in leaps and bounds since the beginning of the year), we will use a variety of topics, stories and poems to enhance their skills e.g. writing instructions, writing letters, writing reports, writing stories and poems. Pupils will continue to work on developing neat handwriting and their independence when checking for capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. Pupils will work on enhancing the detail in their sentences through using conjunctions like 'and' or 'because'. Finally pupils will continue to work on increasing their stamina and confidence so that they can write even more in a given session.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>During maths lessons, pupils will be developing their skills when counting forwards and backwards (in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s) and expanding their understanding of place value and the 100 square. They will use various resources like Numicon, number lines and 'base ten' to develop their understanding of tens and units. Pupils will be learning to read and write numbers up to 100 in both numerals and words. As well as trying to know all of their 'Learn-Its' off by heart, pupils will continue to focus on developing confidence when using resources and numberlines to solve simple addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculations.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Pupils will continue to learn about seasonal changes and will use our school grounds to look for signs of Spring. They will observe the school pond and try to identify some of the animals living in it. Pupils will also be learning about food chains. Later this half term, the children will focus on plants and will carry out some scientific investigations to find out what plants need to survive. They will label parts of a plant and will try to grow their own plants from seed.</p>

<p>ICT and Computing</p> 	<p>In computing lessons this half term, the children will focus on simple programming. They will be using BeeBots (programmable toys) and Logo (a software programme in which children type in commands to move an icon on a screen).</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>The Geography work this half term will be linked to our science topic, and children will be exploring the school environment to discover the range of plants and animals living and growing in our grounds, including the school pond.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Art sessions will support the topic work this half term and will incorporate a range of different skills such as colour mixing, painting, and drawing. The children will also be using clay to create their own minibeasts. Pupils will make observational drawings of Spring flowers and the minibeasts that they discover in the school pond.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>The children will be learning Springtime songs and new songs that we sing altogether in school assemblies.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children continue to have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session a week. The indoor session this half term will focus on gymnastics. Pupils will be developing a sequence of moves and focussing on posture, control and strength. The outdoor sessions will start with an orienteering focus and then move on to an athletics programme in preparation for Sports' Morning.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE lessons, pupils will be thinking about 'Who is Jesus and why is he inspiring for some people?' The children will listen to stories from the Bible describing the life of Jesus and exploring the lessons that can be learned from these stories.</p>
<p>Citizenship and Global Awareness</p> 	<p>This half term the children will be encouraged to think about how they can care for and look after the plants and animals in our local environment. They will be learning about the countryside code and their responsibility to protect the place where they live.</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading (school books or home books are fine) • Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews) • Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring) • Shopping (using coins and getting change) • Gardening and growing plants • Telling the time • Learning Times Tables (starting with 2s, 5s and 10s,) • Practising tricky 'Learn-Its' • Looking at maps and following directions