

1st November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are now well into the Autumn term and once again we would like to outline the topics we will be covering in Year 1. We ended last half term with an amazing performance and workshop by The Mighty Zulu Nation Theatre Company and it was a perfect way to start our topic on **Africa**. We will also be learning about the changes in nature and festivals that happen in **Autumn**. We will soon be starting to learn songs, dances and the narration for our annual Christmas Nativity production which will take place during the week beginning 10th December 2018.

The children worked really hard in the first half of the term and have come back from their holiday with enthusiasm. It is great to see how keen they are to take part in activities and bring in artefacts and work from home that reinforce our curriculum. Thank you once again for all your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Bond and Mrs Clement

<p>English</p> 	<p>In English this half term, we will continue to focus on writing simple words and sentences with increasing independence, remembering capital letters, fingers spaces and full stops. We will have weekly stories, and will practise writing for a range of purposes with these texts as a stimulus. Our writing will also be linked to our topics with activities such as labelling African animals and writing fact files. We will continue to support the children to develop a neat, cursive, handwriting style with regular handwriting practice and teaching of the correct formation of letters. Our daily phonics sessions will focus on the remaining phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs and the children will apply their knowledge to a variety of reading and writing activities.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>Our maths lessons will focus on developing confidence using a range of different strategies to support addition and subtraction calculations. We will be using practical resources such as counters and numicon, and will be reading, using and understanding the correct symbols. The children will begin to learn number bonds for 5 and 10, and will also generate and remember number facts through fact family work. Finally, we will be naming and learning the properties of common 2D and 3D shapes.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>In science, this half term, we will continue our ongoing topic exploring seasonal changes. We will be learning about what some animals are doing in Autumn in order to prepare for the Winter, and sorting trees into deciduous and evergreen. The children will use their data handling skills to show temperature changes throughout the course of the year.</p>
<p>IT and Computing</p> 	<p>The children will continue to learn about internet safety and use the www.thinkuknow website to promote discussion and an awareness of how to keep safe online. This half term we will also be using the school ipads to find information that supports our topic work using the child safe search engine www.kidrex.org</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>This half term, we will be learning about Remembrance Sunday, and appreciating why people buy and wear poppies at this time of year. We will also be learning about the life of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot and think about different sources of evidence.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>In our Geography lessons, we will be using the atlases to identify the seven continents and have a particular focus on Africa and surrounding oceans. We will be learning about the landscape, climate and physical features of South Africa (home of the Zulu people) and also learning about the wild animals found in the nature reserves in Kenya.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Our artwork, this half term, will be linked to our topics and the children will have the opportunity to use a range of materials such as paint, clay and textiles to create a range of pictures and models. We also have Christmas/Winter 'making morning' to look forward to!</p>

<p>Music</p> 	<p>In our weekly singing sessions in Key Stage One, the children will be learning and performing the songs which form part of our Christmas Nativity production which will take place in December. We will also be learning a range of seasonal songs that form part of our assembly programme.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session each week. The indoor session will focus on dance and developing a sequence of moves to music. The outdoor session will focus on passing and receiving an object, such as a ball, using hands, feet, bats and hockey sticks.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>This half term, we will thinking about "Celebrations". We will learn about the Hindu celebration of Diwali and the children will think about special celebrations in their own lives. As we move towards Christmas, the children will be thinking about the tradition of giving and receiving gifts, and consider the question "Why did God give Jesus as a gift to the World?"</p>
<p>Global Awareness</p> 	<p>Our Global Awareness curriculum will focus on helping others who are less fortunate than ourselves. We will be talking to the children about the shoebox appeal, and how the lives of children from poorer countries can be enhanced by our gifts.</p>
<p>Citizenship</p> 	<p>Our citizenship sessions will focus on our new school values. This half term, we will be thinking about being "Resourceful". We will be encouraging the children to think of solutions themselves and not giving up at the first hurdle.</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading (school books or home books) • Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews) • Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring) • Going for a walk and looking for signs of Autumn. • Using www.kidrex.org to search for information.