

5th November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back after what was a bit of a wet half term break! We would like to outline the topics we will be covering in Year 1 this next half term. We will be using seasonal celebrations and traditions to inspire our topic work, starting with learning about Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night, then Remembrance Sunday and moving on to Diwali. Later in the term we will enjoy the theme of Christmas.

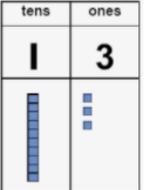
Unfortunately, there will be not be the usual EYFS/KS1 Christmas Nativity Performance this year, but we will try to recreate some of the magic within our classroom setting.

We are super proud of the way the children have returned to school with determination, resilience and increasing independence. They are working so hard and making great progress. It is lovely to share some of their experiences and successes with you on our ClassDojo, and we love seeing what the children have been doing at home on their individual portfolio pages.

Thank you for your support as always. It is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bond and Mrs Clement

<p>English</p> 	<p>Our daily English sessions continue to be phonics based, with lots of work on learning the Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs. We will then use this knowledge to practise segmenting sounds for writing, through 'robot talking' e.g. g-oa-t, to be able to write it. We will also work on sounding and then blending letter sounds for reading. We will use lots of songs, games and whiteboard work to consolidate this before writing labels, captions and simple sentences in our books. Writing will be linked to our topic or based around a picture book. The children are split into 3 differentiated groups for phonics, with some children working in daily, small groups with Mrs Merriman. Through ClassDojo, we will keep you informed of the sounds we are focussing on and the ones we already know.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>We will continue our mathematical learning journey by working on the small steps towards understanding addition and subtraction. The children have very much grasped the part whole model as a tool to help with their addition and we will be using it to support their understanding of number bonds and of subtraction. Over the coming weeks we will give the children their own set of individual, targeted 'Learn Its'. These are addition calculation facts for them to learn off by heart. Later in the half term, we will enjoy learning about 3D shapes and then begin to look at 'teens' numbers as groups of tens and extra ones. Through ClassDojo, we will keep you up to date about what we are learning and make suggestions of ways to support your child at home.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>In science, this half term, we will continue our ongoing topic about healthy lifestyles, including emphasising the importance of good handwashing to get rid of germs. We will be carrying out science investigations around this theme. Within our enquiries and experiments, we will be focussing on the skills of asking questions, observing carefully using simple equipment, performing simple tests and using observations and ideas to answer questions.</p>
<p>IT and Computing</p> 	<p>The children were most excited to start their IT suite sessions on Monday. We we be using these weekly sessions to develop our confidence when using the laptops this half term. We will be focussing on a variety of skills from logging on, opening and closing programmes and developing our publishing skills drawing pictures and manipulating text on the '2Simple 2Publish' programme.</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 as well as Florence Nightingale.</p>

<p>Geography</p> 	<p>In our Geography lessons, we will be identifying seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles.</p> <p>We will be identifying the seven continents of the world and learning the names of the oceans.</p>
<p>Art and Design</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 and textiles to create their artwork. We will be creating clay poppies to symbolise Remembrance and also clay Diya lanterns as we learn about Diwali. We are going to use winter and Christmas to inspire some creative collage and 3D work too.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>As well as learning seasonal songs during our sessions with Mrs Mossman, as we get closer to Christmas, we will be learning a range of Christmas songs and traditional carols.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session each week. The indoor session will focus on developing a sequence of moves and floor exercises from the Key Steps Gymnastics Programme for KS1 children. 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 be thinking about "Celebrations" for both Christians and Muslims, considering the question... 'Why are celebrations important to religions?' 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 Christmas traditions around the world of giving and receiving gifts.</p>
<p>Global Learning</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. We will also be thinking about how the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need events help people in our communities.</p>
<p>PSHCE and 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 • Phonics - play phonics games on https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ • Writing - practise writing/spelling digraphs, labels, notes, letters, cards and stories. • Cooking - weighing and measuring • Going for walks, bike rides and jogs and looking for signs of Autumn. • Creating Autumn art with leaves, twigs, nuts, conkers etc. • Using www.kidrex.org to search for information.