

Welcome back! We hope that you have all had a fantastic holiday and are looking forward to the new school year. Below are just some of the activities we have planned for the children's first term in Year 1. At all times we aim to help develop the children's 'learning muscles' and the topics will naturally evolve following the children's interests.

Autumn Term Topics

We will begin with our topic, '**Magical Materials**'. This topic will inspire our Science learning along with our English module of learning stories with predictable phrasing. We will explore different materials, how they can be sorted, classified and used. We will also look at how their properties allow them to be changed. The children will then have opportunity to apply this knowledge in exciting, practical tasks. Alongside our story writing, we will also be studying poetry in order to build the children's vocabulary and imagination. Our fiction modules will include predictable phrasing stories such as 'Farmer Duck' and 'We're going on a bear hunt'.



After half term we will be undertaking our '**Cracking Christmas**' topic with a focus on the Nativity story and drama. We will begin to look at the structure of poetry texts.

Maths

Our main focus in the first half term will be the concept of numbers up to 20. We will be exploring and reasoning about number whilst investigating ways of representing and manipulating numbers using a range of materials in practical ways before moving onto pictorial interpretations. This crucial learning will give the vital understanding needed to move onto calculation strategies in the second half term.

PSHE

In year 1, we will be using our excellent Jigsaw scheme of work, starting the academic year with "Being Me", exploring who we are - what makes us the same and what makes us special. We will then move onto "Celebrating Difference" and what we can learn from each other.



R.E

Throughout the first half term we will be exploring what Christians believe God is like. We will be learning about parables, and how we can forgive others, and ourselves, and how God forgives Christians. Our focus parable for the first half term is 'The Lost Son' (Luke 15:1-2, 11-32). After half term we will be focusing on why Christmas matters to Christians.

Music

We are going to use this first half of term to explore a range of different musical genres and aim to identify the types of instruments we can hear within music. We will talk about key features of the genres and how it makes us feel in response.



Computing

This term, we will be looking at computers and how they work. The children often find this tricky, given that they are used to iPads. We will be learning how to be safe when using the laptops and being online. After half term we will begin to think about using computers to group and sort data.

P.E and Games

Along with another regular weekly slot, this term, we will be working on Social Distancing by moving in different ways in our own space. We will also be improving our ball skills using our hands. Children will need to come into school wearing P.E. kits on Tuesdays and Fridays. As all lessons will be outside, could you please ensure your child has a jumper and either leggings or jogging bottoms. You may also wish to provide your child with extra socks.



The children also require a named water bottle in school each day to ensure that they have easy access to fresh drinking water whenever they need it.

Reading

Each week, children will be given 2-3 books for home reading from the school library. Specific changeover days will be given to each child, when we ask you to return the books so new ones can be issued. You will be informed of your day in the first two weeks of term. We wish to encourage the children to do as much reading as possible and appreciate your support in this by listening to them on a daily basis. Reading a book more than once has many benefits and actually aids fluency so please do not be afraid to do this. However, alongside their school reading books, we would encourage you to read any literature you have at home including story books, information books, magazines, leaflets or even cook books. **Please record what they have read in their reading records, detailing page numbers where appropriate**



Homework

Along with reading, children will be provided with a weekly spelling pattern/activity to practise at home, to strengthen the required grammatical spelling rules and to also focus on the 'common exception words' which they will be expected to know by the end of Year 1. Children will also be given a weekly homework focus which will help to consolidate their learning from that week. Due to the current situation all homework will be provided electronically, initially through EvidenceMe or Purple Mash. In line with our homework policy, the expectation is that Key stage 1 children spend 10-20 minutes each day on home learning (to include reading).

We hope you find this information useful. Please feel free to come and talk to us about any issues you may have - after school is generally best - and we will be happy to help you! We look forward to working with you and the children to make this a productive and enjoyable term.

With kind regards,

Miss Sharp and Mrs Miller



Welcome to Year 1 Autumn Term

