

Year 1 Spring Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you all had a great Christmas holiday and all your children are refreshed and ready for the Spring Term. During this term we are delighted to welcome a student teacher into year 1. Our school receives student teachers every year and they are spread out across different year groups. The student will be observing teaching and learning in year 1 to begin with and working with small groups of children to get to know them. As the placement progresses, she will work very closely with me as we plan lessons for her to teach the class. I am sure the children will give her a warm welcome and you will get an opportunity to say hello over the term.



Curriculum

In English we will continue writing stories, non-fiction reports, and instructions. More complex sentence structures will be introduced and the children will be expected to talk about their writing and begin to check their writing makes sense.

In Maths we will be learning to count and compare numbers, adding and subtracting numbers to 20, beginning to understand money and continue measuring.

Our Science topics for this term are 'Seasonal Changes' and 'Identifying Plants'.



Topic

For the first half of the spring term our Geography topic is 'Life in the City'. Using a range resources, we will go on a city journey, studying maps and exploring some features of a number of different cities. The children will learn about some human and physical features of cities and explore some of the different landmarks in Edinburgh and Cape Town. In the second half of the term our topic is Superheroes! This is a cross curricular topic and will link writing, art and music. The children will get the opportunity to design a superhero and we will have a superhero day with year 2.



Reading

Children will be asked to put their reading book and diary in the reading box each morning, so that we can see which books need to be changed. Please feel free to write any comments or questions you may have in here. We expect that all children should read at home a minimum of 5 times per week, this really benefits their progress, but if they want to read more than this then please do! We will be completing reading activities in school every day. This will be through guided reading groups and whole class reading activities. Our daily phonics will supplement this.



Homework

Homework will be put into the plastic wallets by Mrs Boon. The tasks given will relate to work we are doing in class (where possible). There may be additional homework on occasions, for example, where a misconception has arisen in class. Please try and sit with your child while they complete their homework. This will boost their self-esteem, create a positive link between home and school and you can pick up on any misconceptions the children may have.

PE

PE days for the first half term will continue to be Wednesday and Friday. Children should have both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school comprising of:

Indoor PE: White T-shirt, Black/dark shorts, Black pumps - that fit

Outdoor PE: White T-shirt, Black/dark shorts or tracksuit bottoms, Trainers - that fit, Hoodie/Sweatshirt

All PE kit should be labelled (so we can return it to the correct person should anything become lost), in separate bags and they go in your child's locker.

We would like to remind you that no jewellery should be worn for PE. Ears that are newly pierced may be covered for the first 6 weeks. After this time, children must be able to remove earrings themselves or taken out in the morning at home on PE days. This is part of our health and safety policy for all children.



Parents may send in a note from home with their child for the teacher but we ask that parents do not come into the classroom in the mornings, as this is an important time for the adults to settle the children in and initiate a classroom routine. We will have a notice board in the classroom window for updating parents/carers with information/reminders - so please look out for it when you pick up/drop off your child.

Toast money can go in a pot and the children will place their name in a pot to indicate they are having toast that day. **It is preferable that all toast money comes in on a Monday for the whole week, rather than daily** - or you can pay for the whole term/half term at the office and they will let Mrs Boon know.

As we have a sink in the classroom suitable for drinking water, we will supply plastics cups for the children to help themselves to drinks. If you wish to send in a water bottle that is fine, however we do not encourage fruit juices or flavoured drinks to be brought into the classroom. Please remember children are **not permitted to bring toys into school**.

Thank you for your continued support. If you wish to discuss anything with me concerning your child, please don't hesitate to come and see us after school or arrange a convenient appointment. Please remember to look out for special school activities and dates on the School Newsletter & Facebook.

Thanks

Mr Wright & Mrs Boon