



Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 1!

We are excited to begin the Autumn Term and start our learning in Year 1. The girls have settled really well and are already showing enthusiasm for the year ahead. This term, we will be building on the skills learned in Reception, and learning how to be more independent learners.

English

We have started the term with the well loved traditional tale “The Three Little Pigs.” The children are all enjoying joining in with the repetitive language and using their scariest wolf voices and scared little pig voices. The repetitive language in this story is helping the children write their own sentences, using some of the spelling patterns taught that week and common exception words. Through teacher support and modelling the children have already started to edit their sentences with a purple pen, checking for capital letters, finger spaces, full stop and does it make sense? We also plan to have lots of fun with this story too, including perhaps a letter left by one of the characters! We have started work on handwriting skills, where we are focussing on the “curly caterpillar” letters first. We will then move onto the other categories, namely “ladder letters”, “one-armed robots” and “zigzag” letters. Read Write Inc. also forms part of our daily learning of phonics, reading, writing and spelling.



Maths

We are currently working on Place Value up to 10, where the girls are exploring the value of each digit within a number, which is the foundation skills of so much numeracy. Place value needs to be explored through the children using lots of hands-on resources, including ten frames, place value counters and number games to help embed their understanding of the value of numbers and what each digit really means. We will then be moving onto addition and subtraction later in the term. The girls also have been learning how to recognise numbers as words. We learn Maths in a variety of ways, through

practical games and activities and using the workbooks provided by the Whiterose Education scheme.



Science

We strive to have cross curriculum links between different subject areas. In science we have been learning about 'Everyday Materials'. The children have been identifying everyday materials, and distinguishing between an object and the material it is made from. This has linked in really well with our story of the 'Three Little Pigs' and 'Toys from the past' in History.

We will also be challenging the children to explore different materials to make the strongest house, which will encourage design and technology skills too. Seasonal Changes will be taught this term, where we will learn about the changes in the four seasons, including an experiment in collecting and measuring rainfall.



Computing

Our focus this term is online safety, how to keep ourselves safe online and who our trusted adults are. Ms Osment will also be focusing on early programming concepts. She will also explore individual commands and algorithms.



History

The children are learning about the past, the present and the future. We have had a visit from Jersey Heritage and the children have loved exploring real toys from the past, which we have on loan for a few weeks to come. The children are learning how they can be historians, by looking for clues which tell us something is new or from the past. Exploring the toys have already encouraged some super discussions about materials and their own experiences of old favourite toys. The children will also be looking at their own timeline by sharing information about themselves using photographs of themselves as a baby, toddler and starting school, to create their own time lines. Thank you to those of you, who have already shared photos.



PSHE

The girls have been learning about themselves and the people around them. We are using a programme called “Life to the Full”. We have been thinking about what it means to be kind to one another, showing respect and being fair. We will be talking about the Zones of Regulation to help the girls talk about how they are feeling, and how this affects their learning. The student service team have also introduced the ‘Decider Skills’ programme to teach children a variety of strategies to help them make the right choices.

Art

We will be exploring art through the seasons and this week I bought some sunflowers for the children to use, to help paint their own in the style of Vincent Van Gough. We will also be learning about Primary and Secondary colours and warm and cool colours and exploring these in our sketch books through different media, including, paint, chalks and watercolours. The girls will also be learning how they can use their sketchbooks to start an idea and develop it. We will also be looking at the work of local artists to inspire us and copy their style.



Cooking

This term Year 1 will be cooking with Miss Bolton, our Food and Nutrition teacher in our Secondary School. The children will learn about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will prepare some simple dishes and use skills such as cutting, spreading and slicing and understand where food comes from.



French

The children have started French lessons with Mrs Parslow, one of our specialist French teachers. They are really enjoying learning French through action songs and fun interactive games.



Homework

Homework is currently focussing on Literacy and Reading and as the weeks progress number. This will supplement their learning in class, and it is very important that this is a positive experience at this early stage. Thank you for your support with homework so far. Little and often is more beneficial and please contact me should you have any queries or concerns with the homework.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mrs Sharkey

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