

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term

Welcome back to the Spring term. The children have settled well after the break and we are looking forward to building on all the great learning from the Autumn term. This term we have lots of exciting activities planned to help all pupils continue to make progress and enjoy their learning.

English

In English this term, the children will be exploring poetry through the work of *Michael Rosen*, as they really enjoyed listening to some of his poems in the Autumn term. They will listen to, read and perform poems, helping to build confidence and a love of language. Alongside this, our focus remains on developing sentence structure by consistently using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children will also continue to learn to read and write the Year 1 Common Exception Words with increasing confidence. We continue to have daily Read Write Inc. sessions as part of our daily learning of phonics, reading, writing and spelling. We will also be taking part in the National Year of Reading 2026, enjoying special activities and books to celebrate reading throughout the year.



Maths

The Maths topics for the Spring term include Place Value (within 20 and 50) , Addition and Subtraction (within 20) , Length and Height and Mass and Volume. We recently completed the topic of Geometry, which the girls enjoyed. We will continue to link Maths to real-life contexts, such as measuring, counting objects and using numbers in everyday situations, to show how Maths is part of our daily lives.

We are learning to write digits as words (0-20) and any opportunity you get to practice this at home would really help.



Science

In Science this term, the children will be learning about Animals, including humans. They will explore different types of animals, identify their basic needs and learn about how humans grow and change. The children will develop their observation and questioning skills through practical activities and discussions. We are hopeful that this exciting topic will be enriched with a visit to the zoo later in the Spring term, giving the children a valuable opportunity to see and learn about animals in a real-life setting.



Computing

This term, Year 1 will be learning how to use computers safely and responsibly. Children will talk about asking an adult for permission before doing things online and how to be kind when communicating online. They will practise basic computer skills such as using the keyboard and mouse, logging on, and saving their work with their name. Pupils will also learn that work belongs to the person who created it. In our data lessons, children will sort and label pictures to understand how computers organise and search for information.

Humanities

We continue our History and Geography this term. In History this term, Year 1 will be learning about important events and people from the past, both locally and across the UK. Children will explore how life has changed over time by looking at significant events and learning about famous individuals who have made a difference. We will use stories, photographs, artefacts and simple timelines to help the children develop an understanding of the past and how it links to their own lives and community. Pupils will be encouraged to ask questions, share their ideas and begin to use historical vocabulary such as *past, present, before* and *after*. In Geography this term, Year 1 will build on their understanding of the local area by learning more about the parishes of Jersey and the wider Channel Islands. Children will explore where they live, identify key features of their local environment and begin to use simple maps and geographical vocabulary.

PSHE

We are still using the 'Decider Skills' programme and the girls are starting to recognise these strategies. They are able to talk about what situations these skills could be useful, for example, if they are feeling worried or anxious. The PSHE topics for the Spring term include talking about 'Special People' where the girls will identify who the special people in their lives are and why. We have been talking about different feelings and how we can help ourselves and others if we are feeling negative emotions.

Art

In Art this term we will build on the skills developed during the Autumn term, including their understanding of primary and secondary colours. This half term, our focus will be on self-portraits, where the children will explore drawing and painting techniques to represent themselves. We will be studying the work of artist Brianna McCarthy, using her style to inspire their own self-portraits. Children will explore colour, line and shape. The girls will also explore collage, using a range of materials and textures to create self-portraits inspired by Brianna McCarthy's work.



Homework

Homework in the Spring will focus on supporting the children's reading and writing skills. A key priority will be practising the reading and spelling of Common Exception Words, helping the children to recognise these words quickly and use them confidently in their writing. You will also shortly receive a login for Spelling Shed, a learning tool which involves fun and engaging spelling practice. We also strongly encourage daily reading at home, as this plays a vital role in developing fluency, comprehension and a love of books. Thank you for your continued support with homework.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me.

Kind regards

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