

## Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

### Summer Term

Welcome back to the Summer term. We are now entering the last term of the year. The girls are making fantastic progress in all areas of their learning, and really gaining in confidence. This term, we are preparing the girls for their move into Year 2 by encouraging them to take on new challenges, develop their independence and continue to enjoy their learning.

#### English

In English this term, the focus remains on developing sentence structure by consistently using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are also learning new grammar, and this will hopefully encourage the girls to make their writing more imaginative. 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 continue enjoying special activities and books to celebrate reading throughout the year. We will also be learning simple spelling rules, and then be able to apply these in written work. Daily reading at school, and at home is essential for developing strong literacy skills.



#### Maths

The Maths topics for the Summer term include Multiplication and Division, Fractions, Geometry, Money and Time. We are also revising topics completed in the Autumn and Spring terms. The girls are also learning how to use reasoning and problem-solving skills.

We are learning to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and any opportunity you get to practice this at home would really help. The girls are looking at recognising groups and patterns. They will also learn to recognise a half or quarter of a shape. In the second half of the Summer term, we learn about Time and Money. We are consistently learning days of the week, and months of the year. This will then include learning about hours,

minutes and seconds, and being able to tell the time. Regular daily Maths practice makes a real difference to your daughter's progress and understanding.

### **Science**

In Science this term, the children will be learning about Plants. They will learn about the structure of a plant, and they will be able to recognise different plants and trees; Evergreen and Deciduous. We will also revisit learning about the Seasons, where we will look at the season of Spring into Summer, and how this affects plants and their growth over time. The children will continue to develop their observation and questioning skills through practical activities and discussions. Our National Trust visit to Le Hocq will consolidate our learning about marine life and seaside plants.



### **Computing**

This summer term in Computing, children will explore key areas of the NCCE curriculum, including Data and Information and Creating Media. They will learn how to group and organise data through simple sorting activities and begin to understand how information can be displayed. In Creating Media, children will develop their creativity by making digital paintings using basic drawing tools and will also practise digital writing by typing simple sentences and adding images to their work. These activities will help build confidence in using technology while supporting early problem-solving, creativity, and communication skills.

### **Humanities**

In History this term, Year 1 will be learning about Castles, and Significant People in the past. We will explore a variety of Castles, including some significant UK and local Castles, and learn what life was like living in Castles, and how they were important in protecting people who lived nearby, and the nobility. We will continue to use stories, photographs, artefacts and simple timelines to help the children develop an understanding of the past. 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 and learn about Coastlines. This complements the learning on Castles.



### **PSHE**

We are still using the 'Decider Skills' programme and the girls now know and recognise these strategies. The Decider Skills focus for May is Self Care and Values. The girls are encouraged to talk about what situations these skills could be useful, for example, if they are feeling worried or anxious. The PSHE topics for the Summer term include talking about their feelings, and here the girls will look at different situations, e.g. making friends and how they can do this in a kind and confident manner. We have also continued to explore different feelings and how we can help ourselves and others if we are feeling any negative emotions.

### **Art**

In Art this term we are looking forward to Art Week, which has a focus on African Art. We will build on the skills developed during the Spring term, including their understanding of paint work and collage. This half term, our focus will be on Design Technology where the children will explore how to design, make and evaluate simple products using various materials. The aim is to build confidence in using different materials, improve motor skills, and develop an understanding of how everyday items can be designed and made into different objects.



### **Homework**

Homework in the Summer will continue to focus on supporting the children's reading and writing skills. All Year 1 pupils have made significant progress in being able to read and write the Common Exception Words, and they are using these words confidently in their writing. Hopefully, the online learning tools of 'Teach Your Monster', 'Numbots' and 'Spelling Shed' are proving useful. 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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