



Year 1 Autumn Term Newsletter

Welcome to Year 1!

Happy New Year!

I hope you have had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. We are ready for another term of learning, fun and exciting activities.

Learning Journey Topic

This spring, our topic will be *Toys*. Children will explore toys from both the past and the present, giving them the opportunity to play with, observe and learn about a range of traditional toys. They will discover what toys were like in different periods, including Victorian times and the 20th century, and compare these with toys we use today. Through this, children will learn about how toys have changed over time and how they have become more modern.

English

This term, we will begin with a focus on narrative writing. Our goal is to write sequenced sentences to create a short story inspired by *Stanley's Stick*. This will support children in developing sentence structure, using capital letters and full stops correctly, and remembering finger spaces. We will also revisit key grammatical features, such as using a capital letter for the pronoun "I" and challenge ourselves to use the conjunction "and" within our sentences.

Later in the term, we will move on to writing recounts using the past tense. Children will learn to use past-tense verbs and to recount events in the order in which they happened. To support this, we will explore the stories *Ruby's Worry* and *Ravi's Roar* in detail. The children will then plan and write their own recount about a time they experienced a worry or a "roar".

Towards the end of the term, we will explore free-verse poetry. Using the story *Oi Frog!* as inspiration, we will investigate rhyming words before creating our own fun "nonsense" rhyming poems.

Mathematics

This term in Maths, we will begin by exploring geometry, followed by addition and subtraction, before moving on to measurement. Throughout the term, children will continue to practise their arithmetic skills through daily fluency sessions. These will focus on building confidence in counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, as well as revisiting prior learning through short questions and regular reviews.

In **Geometry**, we will learn about 2D and 3D shapes and compare height, length, mass and speed. We will also practise ordering the days of the week and the months of the year.

During our **Addition and Subtraction** unit, we will revisit numbers to 20 using the language of "10 and some more." Children will then apply this understanding to simple problem-solving activities.

In **Measurement**, we will explore money, including making different combinations up to 20p. We will also measure using non-standard units and begin to introduce simple standard measurements.

Other Core Subjects

Science

This term, we will explore the unit *Animals Including Humans*. Children will learn to identify, group and compare different animals, developing their understanding of similarities and differences between them.

Computing

In Computing, we will develop our keyboard and mouse skills through a range of creative activities, such as designing rockets, creating digital materials lists, using drawing software and recording data. Later in the term, we will move on to *Programming*, where children will explore commands, instructions and debugging by using Bee-Bots.

PE

This term in PE, children will begin by exploring gymnastics with our Premier Sport PE coach, before moving on to invasion games, where they will develop skills such as teamwork, spatial awareness and basic game strategies.

With Miss Robinson, the children will take part in cross-curricular orienteering activities throughout the term.

Music

In Music, we will explore tempo by using our bodies and instruments to respond to different pieces of music. We will then move on to pitch through a *superheroes* theme, learning to identify high and low notes and composing a simple tune to represent a superhero.

Messages

PE days will be on a **Monday and Tuesday PM**. Children must have their PE kit in school on these days. Children should have suitable **indoor** and **outdoor** clothes. They will bring their kit home every **Tuesday** for washing. (Please see the “meet the teacher” presentation for a note on earrings)

Library Day is on a **Friday**. If children want to change their library book, they should be in school on this day.

We are looking forward to a brilliant term with your children, please contact the office if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Miss Robinson, Miss Robson, Mrs Hurst