

Year 1's Newsletter

Autumn 2018



Welcome back and a happy new school year to you all! The children have returned to school happy, excited and eager to learn! Thank you for supporting them in this transition as it is difficult for them, but they are coping really well. Miss O'Kell teaches the class Monday to Thursday and Mrs Sheahan teaches on a Friday.

At the beginning of the year, the organisation of Y1 builds on the experiences of the foundation stage including continuous provision areas. There are lots of opportunities for the children to engage in their own "self-initiated" activities as well as "teacher led" and "independent" working groups. We will however gently ease them out of play based activities to more teacher led and independent as the curriculum becomes more demanding as the year goes on. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Sheahan.

Literacy/Phonics

The children will continue to develop their skills in speaking and listening, reading, writing and spelling. Lots of opportunities will be provided for children to read and retell stories and express their opinions of characters, settings and plot. They will focus on writing in sentences, spelling key words correctly and attempting to spell new words using phonic knowledge. They will develop correct letter formation by daily handwriting sessions and the use of capital letters in sentences. They will learn to write captions, lists and labels for a range of different things. The children will continue to develop their knowledge of letters and sounds through a structured phonic programme called Read Write Inc. This is taught three times a week and is streamed by ability. It was rolled out last year and was a great success. Please ensure you support reading at home as we have found it really helps the children. Your child will have spellings and reading every week.

Numeracy

This term the children will develop their knowledge of number and place value as well as their accuracy in counting and number formation. They will add and subtract and continue to develop their learning of shapes. They will practise writing numerals correctly and develop their mental recall skills knowing which number comes before or after a number, odd and even numbers, pairs that make 10 and well as counting on or back in 1s. and 10s to 100.

R.E

A newsletter outlining this curriculum area and the ways in which it can be supported at home has been emailed you separately. It is a core curriculum area and provides lots of opportunities to develop skills and understanding across the curriculum. We also have daily collective worship to encourage and nurture spiritual development. We are holding a collective worship for parents to attend Tuesday 18th September at 3pm.

Science

Our topics are Everyday Materials and My Body. Investigation is a key area of development and the children will use their knowledge to develop their skills and understanding. We do lots of experiments however we include other curriculum areas too

History

Castles is our topic for this term. The children will explore the history that came with this topic and learn lots of interesting facts. This will also be cross curricular linked to Literacy, Numeracy, Art and DT.

Design Technology, Art and Music

We begin by linking this to our topic work and drawing/painting pictures and making models related to this. These subjects will be taught in the shared area where the children have the use of many different resources. As well as lots of opportunities for painting and drawing to help with our class displays, the children will investigate different materials and use these to produce interesting works of art!

Our music lessons this term will firstly begin with a topic called "Sounds Interesting" where the children will explore sounds around them and then a topic called "The long and short of it" where duration will be explored. During all our music lessons the children will learn to sing new songs and hymns linked to our topic as well as using a range of percussion instruments.

Computing

Laptops and iPads are used with a range of programs to support subject skills mainly in English, Math's and Science. This term we are exploring basic keyboard skills and E-safety.

PE

We have PE on a Wednesday and Friday. This term we will be focusing on Dance and Games. We work with a specialist PE teacher (Mr Sheahan) who will lead the PE teaching session on a Friday.

Homework

Homework is now given in a menu style. A copy is on the website. Out of the tasks, children must complete at least 2 of them. More, if not all can be completed if you wish. This proved to be a success last year. Please send in evidence of this for our homework wall.

General Information

Mrs Williams will teach Personal/Social Education (PSHE) on a Monday morning. This term the children will develop their understanding of new beginnings as well as feelings and friends. Mrs Ellison, Miss Ronan, Miss Hewitt are our class Teaching Assistants throughout the week. Library books can be loaned once a week—our library day is a Friday and books must be brought back the following week .

Reading books will be collected on a Monday, changed and given back out on Tuesday and again collected on Thursday to be changed and handed back out on a Friday. Please make sure that you read with your child at home and then sign their record book.

