



11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break.

The information in this letter outlines the learning experiences that your child will be enjoying this term. The Year 1 team are here to help and support you and your child at Templewood School.

Class teacher  
 Miss O'Sullivan

Teaching Assistant  
 Mrs Alison Jordan

Parent Surgery

Please encourage your child to share concerns with us during the school day, as we would try to resolve them immediately, rather than going home with worries. If you have any problems please book an appointment for our Monday parent surgery. However small the problem, it is always better to deal with any concerns immediately.

Spring Term Curriculum Coverage

The following outlines some of the curriculum activities that the children will be working on this term:

Subject	Content
English	<p><b>Handwriting</b> – Starting to learn in and out strokes to form cursive letters.</p> <p><b>Letters and Sounds</b> – Developing phase 3-5</p> <p><b>Spring 1</b> – Contemporary fiction. Writing simple sentences, spaces between words, using connectives 'and' and 'because' in sentences, book reviews, simple biography, story sequences, reciting and beating the pulse of poems.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Measures – comparing length, height, mass and speed</p> <p>Sequencing events – Days of the Week and Months of the Year</p> <p>Numbers to Twenty – adding and subtracting using "Think 10"; Equality and Balance; Problem solving; Comparison</p> <p>Measures – Coins and combinations to 20p; ordering and comparing</p> <p>Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s</p>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Half- Seasons (Winter and Spring)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Half- Plants</li> </ul>

Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are celebrating – designing greetings cards</li> </ul>
Design and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving Pictures (continued)</li> </ul>
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toys from the past and present</li> </ul>
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belonging to a religious community</li> <li>• Giving up something for Lent - Easter</li> </ul>
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gymnastics</li> <li>• Games</li> </ul>
PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living in the Wider World</li> </ul>

## Homework

### **Reading**

Children should be reading to an adult several times per week. This is to be recorded in their Reading Record books which will be checked throughout the week. Our focus in Year 1 is to comprehend what we are reading; a good way to check this at home is to ask the children questions about what they have just read and see how confidently they can answer your questions.

### **Bug Club**

Please do continue to use Bug Club as part of your reading at home; it is a really good tool for engaging the children in reading and enabling them to think more deeply about the texts by asking questions and playing games.

### **Learning Logs**

Learning Log homework will be set each Thursday (commencing Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January) and is expected to be returned to school the following Tuesday. Each week, we will add an explanation of the week's homework into your child's new Learning Log book. In KS1, the children receive one piece of homework per week – this could be an activity to undertake on Mathematics, some writing, research, maths or creative work. The task should take no longer than 25 minutes to complete.

### **Mathletics**

Please continue to use Mathletics as this will aid the children's fluency in Maths.

### P.E

PE lessons will take place on Wednesday and Thursday. The children should bring a white t-shirt and black shorts or jogging bottoms as their kit. If the children do not have their PE kit, they will be unable to take an active part in the lesson. If this happens on a continuous basis you will receive a reminder.

## Equipment

Can you please ensure that the children have most of the following items in school at all times:

- A rain mac/waterproof jacket
- A water bottle – It is important that children have access to water throughout the day. Could you please continue to make sure that your child brings a named, sports top bottle of plain water each day.
- An art shirt (optional)
- Wellies (optional)

## Toys Topic

If anybody has any 'old' toys they would be happy to lend to Willow class for the term for a display it would be very much appreciated.

I would also like to ask if there would be any family members who might like to volunteer to bring in a childhood toy and talk to the children about it on the afternoon of Tuesday 22nd January. This will help them to meet National Curriculum History objectives (such as asking questions about the past and using a variety of sources) in a meaningful and exciting way. If you would be interested, please email the office or speak to me at the door.

## Educational Visits/Workshops

Each term we look at the appropriateness of planning educational visits and workshops to support our topic areas. This half term we are hoping to have a visit from Hertford Museum sharing 'Nelly's Toy Box' where the children will explore toys and games of the past. We will then be able to loan the toy box for a week after the workshop. A letter regarding the workshop will be sent out but we are only able to run the workshop with the support of your voluntary contributions. In previous years, the contribution for the workshop and loan of the museum items has been around £3-4.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely  
Amy O'Sullivan  
Year 1 Class Teacher