

Year 1 Spring Term 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! A huge thank you from us for your kind wishes, cards and gifts at Christmas, very much appreciated.

The children have all successfully transitioned from Foundation Stage to structured and focused learning in the mornings with some integrated play in the afternoons with curriculum based topic work. They are working hard in every aspect of their school work and we are very proud of their achievements to date. I am sure you will agree that our Nativity was fantastic; giving you a glimpse of what the children can do in just a very short period of time.

Our very busy term will comprise literacy, history, science, geography and art work based around the creative curriculum and these key topics:

Spring 1 - Once upon a Fairytale - key text Little Red Riding Hood

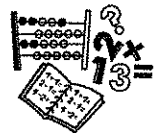
Spring 2 - Toys - key texts various toy stories

I am planning to take the children on a school trip to Sudbury Hall museum supporting our Toys topic during March, further details to follow in a separate letter.

Numeracy:

Here are the term's objectives for developing mathematical understanding. You can help your child with the following:

Number and place value to 100, Counting forwards and backwards to 100 in ones, twos, fives, tens. Addition and subtraction to 20, Multiplication and division using 2, 5 and 10, Measurement of mass using scales, Measurement of money. Please support their understanding of money value by helping them to recognize coins and notes to their value of up to £5 and to give change (this is of course, simple addition and subtraction),



Reading:

January sees the launch of our exciting Beast Quest book challenge to Key Stage One children (See letter sent home 21/12/17). This is where each child reads to an adult and successfully achieves different stages on their individual reading passport. The passport will be stapled into their reading diaries so prevent them getting lost. When you have listened to them and discussed their reading, please initial their passport.

Word recognition is just one small aspect of reading but most important is comprehension so spend quality time chatting to your child about storyline, characters, plot and outcome if reading fiction or the contents if reading non fiction. Ask them if they enjoyed their story. Ask them to explain their response. Ask them what they learned from their book if reading non fiction. Reading regularly read aloud to an adult improves your child's phonic understanding, decoding and blending new words, also fluency, comprehension and reading confidence. **Please sign their reading record so we know who is reading regularly and if books need changing.**

Any parents/carers who have spare time to read with a child within the school day straight after registration or before the end of the day, who can **commit to regular daily reading sessions and are willing to have a DBS check**, please speak to Mrs Lucas or Mrs Owen.

Changing books - Children reading from the structured reading scheme will have their books changed every week if they have read the books provided. Please encourage re-reading these, as many children benefit from discussing stories as it clarifies understanding of the text. Reading books are required in class daily, preferably in a reading folder, so they are available for daily reading sessions.



Bug Club - Bug Club books set every couple of weeks, this enables children to enjoy reading via a tablet or computer format.

Comic and annual donations would again be gratefully appreciated. Thank you to parents who donated in the Autumn term.

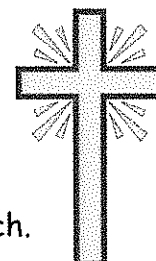
P.E.

P.E. lessons are on a **Monday and Wednesday** this term. **Outdoor** (warm tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers) and **indoor kit** (white tee-shirt, black/blue shorts, plimsolls) are required for **this half term**. No jewellery to be worn. **If your child wears earrings, please remove them before school as they present a safety risk if the earlobe is accidentally caught.** We recommend that if possible, to dress girls in trousers rather than tights and comfortable fitting tops such as the school polo shirt to enable quick and easy independent changing before and after PE lessons.



R.E:

Our RE topics are **Special People, Meals and Change**. School masses will resume this week with mass celebrating the Epiphany on Wednesday 10th January in Sacred Heart Church at 9.15am.



Assembly - Our Year 1 Assembly is provisionally scheduled for Friday 23rd March.

Homework:

Phonics -Key sounds and associated words to support the children's daily teaching of phonics. Practice at home will really support reading development into writing.

Maths - Maths homework is set in line with topics taught in class. This may be set on Mathematics or in their homework book. It is designed for consolidation of maths topics and is encouraged, but not compulsory.

If you wish to send a note via the reading record book please make sure you tell your child to show the note to either of us.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to this term's challenges.

Kind Regards,



Mrs J. Lucas



Mrs A. Owen