



Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2016

Great, Great Britain.



Welcome to Year 1. Your children are settling in nicely and have been enjoying our Creative Weeks. We look forward to an exciting term basing our work around the topic of Great, Great Britain. Your children have 2 teachers this Year, working as a job share. Mrs Goodwin will teach the class on Mondays and Tuesdays, and is in school on Wednesdays. Mrs Dunn will be teaching the children on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Here is a flavour of some of the things we will be covering this term.

Science. This will be timetabled for classroom work as well as extension and application in the inside and outside ICE zones. Your children will work in the ICE zones for part of every day. (Intensive Curriculum Experience zones with children from different year groups learning alongside each other). Science study will focus on the human body, naming body parts and considering how we stay healthy. We will be making fruit salads, cooking breakfasts from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales and studying the effect of exercise on the body. Alongside this we will study the seasonal changes evident in the outside environment and completing a walk to Pocket Park.

Geography. The children will be looking at the characteristics and flags of each of the countries of the UK. We will be encouraging them to think critically by naming things they like or dislike about the area in which they live. They will study our wildlife area, and learn how to maintain our gardens throughout the seasons. This will begin with enjoying the harvesting of the fruits and vegetables that have ripened over the summer.

History. We are going to study the work of some famous British people from the past. We have selected William Caxton and Tim Berners-Lee as two examples. There is a printing press role play area for the children to explore. We will endeavour to transport the children back to a time before computers and the internet!

Art. We will be painting and drawing with lots of opportunities for observational and imaginative work. They will be developing colour mixing

skills, using powder paints. We will also be creating art pieces based on the map of the London underground, tartan material and British landmarks.

R.E. We will be looking at celebrations as a theme and comparing Christian celebrations with those of the Sikh religion in the run up to Christmas. (Sorry to mention that word!).

Computing. We will be learning to program devices and Year 1 will be using Beebots, which are bee shaped toys that can be programmed to move and turn using arrows and numbers.

Our Literacy and Numeracy will continue to build on previous skills, following the National Curriculum. We begin with number and place value. The children will work in small groups in the classroom with focussed activities. There will be tasks set up in the inside and outside ICE zones, designed to allow the children to apply their knowledge to real life situations. There will be lots of weighing, measuring and recording of data opportunities in the garden and at our weather station. We will keep you up to date on the specific skills being taught in the phase newsletters during the term and link our homework to current classroom study on a weekly basis. The children will continue to be monitored for home reading and practising of key words. They are collecting bee stickers to add to their hives this term. 5 reads earn a sticker.

P.E. Our P.E. day is Tuesday this term and the children will be doing Zumba on a Friday. Please ensure that the children have their PE kit in school every day as we like to add in other sessions when the opportunity arises.

Please ensure that your children's possessions are named! We are already experiencing difficulty matching children to jumpers and cardigans and have several identical water bottles that are proving problematic.

That is a lot of information and we have only scratched the surface!

If you want to talk to the teachers we are at the classroom door each morning and afternoon and are happy to speak with you. If you would prefer a longer or private chat please let us know and we will arrange a time for you.

We are anticipating a happy and productive term!

Mrs Dunn and Mrs Goodwin.

