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*Headteacher: Mr Peter Allen*

## **Year 1 Spring Term 2023 Curriculum Letter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have worked incredibly hard during the Autumn Term and we look forward to another brilliant term with the Year 1 children and the continued support from all parents.

<b>Topic Focus</b>	Spring 1 – United Kingdom Spring 2 – Terrific Transport
<b>Subject</b>	<i>Main Learning Focus</i>
<b>English</b>	In phonics the children will be learning about the sound families (e.g. the /ai/ sound can be made with a family of different spellings such as <b>rain</b> , <b>play</b> , <b>cake</b> , <b>they</b> , <b>acorn</b> , <b>eight</b> ) and revising all phase 5 sounds taught from last term. In English the children will looking at a variety of different texts about the UK and transport, including narratives, fact files and postcards. We will be using the phase approach in our learning, this is where the children understand the text, learn the skills and then apply these skills in their writing.
<b>Maths</b>	The children will continue to have access to practical experiences in their maths learning this term. We will be looking at addition and subtraction with numbers up to 20. The children will also become familiar with place value numbers up to 50.
<b>Science</b>	In the first half-term, the children will learn that there are four seasons, the names for these seasons and that there are differences between them. We will be thinking about the different clothes we wear in each season and why, the length of day light in each season and how some animals' behaviour patterns are different in different seasons.  In the second half-term, the children will be learning about plants. We will observe a plant growing from a seed, name the basic parts of a plant and learn about different types of plants including flowering, fruit, vegetable and trees.
<b>RE</b>	This term the children will be learning about Judaism and investigating two questions: What makes Judaism special? What do Jews celebrate?
<b>Computing</b>	The children will be learning about early programming concepts this term. In Spring 1, our topic is called 'Moving a Robot'. This includes setting individual commands for bee bots as well as setting a sequence of commands. In Spring 2, the children will continue exploring programming concepts and develop skills around algorithms. This is called 'Programming Animations'.
<b>PSHE</b>	We will continue to have regular circle times and opportunities to discuss worries and answer questions. We will be following the Cambridgeshire Scheme for PHSE beginning with the units; Diversity and Community in Spring 1 and Healthier and Safer lifestyles in Spring 2.
<b>Art and DT</b>	In Spring 1 the children will be learning about the abstract artist Piet Mondrain. We will look at the three primary colours (blue, red, yellow) and how we can use these to create geometric pieces of art. In Spring 2 the children will be researching how vehicles move, and using this to plan and make a bus using wheels and axles.
<b>History and Geography</b>	Through our topics this term, the children will learn about famous people in history including Elijah McCoy, the Montgolfier brothers and the Wright Brothers. They will 'travel' around the UK and learn about the four different countries, their capital cities and famous landmarks around the UK.
<b>Music</b>	This Spring term in music we will be exploring the different sounds we can make with our bodies. In groups children will create their own body percussion composition and use a form of graphic scoring to notate it down. In Spring Term 2 Children will also be learning about the story of 'Peter and the Wolf' by Prokofiev. Children will learn how music and instruments can imitate characters to tell a story. We will be focusing on the instruments in the orchestra.

<b>PE</b>	In P.E we will be continuing to focus on the fundamentals of movement and building our skills of agility, balance and coordination. We will start the term with our Dance unit about weather and then we will learn about gymnastics in the second half of the term.
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### **Home learning**

Thank you for all your help and support with completing home learning tasks in the autumn term, we have been so impressed with the quality of work that has been handed in. We will continue to set home learning tasks on the dates given below for children to complete in their home learning books.

<b>Date out</b>	<b>Due in</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023

Please remember to contact your child's class teacher if you have any difficulties or questions about the home learning tasks.

### **Reading**

Please encourage your child to read regularly at home. The ideal is between 4 - 7 times per week. The children will continue to progress through the ELS phonic sets. The children will be able to change their books on a **Tuesday and Friday** each week, they must remember to bring in their book on these days if it is finished.

We will also be sending a reading for pleasure book home on a **Friday**. The children will be able to pick any book from our selection box to take home. These are not matched to the child's level and are intended for you to look at together, simply to encourage a love of books. Please remember to return this book on a Friday so that it can be swapped.

### **Reading Diaries**

Please complete the reading diaries each time you read with your child. When your child reads 4 or more times and completes a page in their reading diaries they will earn a stamp. You only need to record the minimum 4 reads per week even if they have read 6-7 to allow **only one page per week**. When 10, 20, 30 or 40 stamps have been earned your child will be given a reading certificate. Reading diaries must be brought into school every **Tuesday** so they can be checked. Please make notes in the reading records if the books given have been too easy/hard.

### **Parent Helpers**

Thank you so much for your continued support which has allowed us to do some brilliant activities such as our village walk and our Great Fire of London day.

If you can help regularly, we would love more parent helpers to listen to children read. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help.

### **Year 1 timetable**

A typical week in Year 1 will look like the table below, however each class will do the afternoon subjects on different days to allow enough access to resources such as computers.

