

Year 1 Spring 1 Newsletter

Our topic is “Bright Lights, Big Cities”

English

In English we will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction books as a class. Focused texts include: 'Katie in London' and 'The Queen's Knickers' and a selection of non-fiction books about London. We will also be writing a recount of the Royal Banquet event.

Children will be encouraged to break down unfamiliar words using phonic strategies and to discuss what they have read. Children will take part in daily phonic sessions as well as having daily English lessons.

History

As part of our History topic next term, we will investigate changes within living memory. We would like to look at how your child has changed from birth until now. For this, we ask you to send to school (or email if you prefer) 3 pictures of your child:

1. From when they were a baby
2. From when they were a toddler/pre-schooler
3. From the present time

Please send these to school by January 21st, in an envelope with your child's name on it. The pictures will be stuck in your child's topic book along with their comments about how they looked and what changes they noticed. If you prefer your photos to be returned, please write a note on the envelope so we can photocopy them and return the originals to you.

WOW Start

We will start our topic by looking at landmarks from London, the Royal family and we will have a Royal visitor on the 10th of January who will surprise the children. To celebrate this important occasion, we will hold a Royal Banquet in honour of our visitor; the dress code is: **smart clothes**. Please send your child dressed in their smart clothes on the morning of January the 10th and please bring school uniform in a carrier bag so the children can change when the banquet finishes.

Maths

Children will be consolidating addition and subtraction within 10 using a range of strategies.

This learning will also lead children into investigating numbers and moving into comparing numbers up to 20.

We will also investigate 2D and 3D shapes and their properties.

Science

During Science the children will be looking at materials and their simple physical properties. We will identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock.

After that, children will compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple properties.

Art and Design Technology

In Art we will learn to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products. We will develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. Children will find out about the work of a variety of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines and making links to their own work.

PE

In PE this term we will be doing skipping, yoga and gym (taught on each Friday afternoon by Premier Education).

RE

The principal aim of RE is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living. Children will study **Islam** for this term. They will give examples of how stories about the Prophet Muhammad show what Muslims believe about him. They will give examples of how Muslims use stories about the Prophet to guide their beliefs and actions (e.g. care for creation, fast in Ramadan). At the end of the unit, children will be able to give examples of how Muslims put their beliefs about prayer and about Allah into action (e.g. by daily prayer, by using *subhah* beads).

Geography

Children will learn the world's 7 continents and 5 oceans and name, locate and identify characteristics of the 4 countries and capital cities of the UK and its surrounding seas. We will be walking into town so we can learn about local geography. We will update you closer to the time with arrangements for this.

Fantastic Finish:

We are inviting you on the 7th of February, at 2pm, to our '**English Afternoon Tea Party**' to see our work and celebrate our achievements. We will be serving scones and the Queen's favourite sandwiches! So please save the date in your diaries; grandparents are equally welcome.

HOMEWORK:

Topic: We would like to ask you to make a model of a famous building from London or anywhere in the world. Please use junk modelling and we ask that the models are no bigger than 30-40 cm. Please bring your model into school by 14th of January 2019. We will keep them in school until the end of the topic.

Spellings: We will also start sending separate spellings from the Rainbow Spellings. You will get a set of words to practise each week and the children will be tested on them every week. If they get them right, they get new spellings for the next week. More details to follow.

Our **PE days** are:

Thursday morning

Friday afternoon

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school on appropriate days and that earrings are out and hair is tied back.

Dates for your diary:

10.01.2019 - Smart clothes for the Royal Banquet

14.01.2019 - deadline for model homework

21.01.2019 - deadline for photos

07.02.2019 - English afternoon tea party - celebration of children's work