

# Class 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 2020

Now that everyone has settled back into school, I thought it would be a good time to update you all on the learning that is taking place this term. The children are working incredibly hard and it's lovely to have them all back in school with their friends. Our focus to begin with has been to ensure the children are settled, happy and ready to learn.

In Maths, we are focussing our learning on place value and number. For many children, especially in year 1, they have missed out on finishing their previous year and having a good concept of numbers. We are working hard to ensure the children are confident with their numbers to 20 (in Year 1) and numbers to 100 and beyond (in Year 2). For many children, we are working on forming numbers correctly and understanding the 10s and 1s within a number.

Literacy has been a little different this term. We are using a new phonics programme, Read, Write Inc, which has seen huge progress with the children already. The children are taught within small ability groups for this and our current focus has been sounds. I am currently assessing the children to ensure they are working within the correct group ready to expand their learning with this to reading and writing. Reading books will be sorted accordingly and I will let you know once they will be coming home.

History: We are currently learning about World War II which the children are really enjoying! It's fascinating for them to learn about a time which family members may have experienced. We have lots of discussions and talk surrounding this. Please do send in photographs of anything that you might have at home. It has been wonderful to hear so many stories about life during the war already.

RE: We are looking at Islam this term, focussing our learning on the Quran, places of worship and Ramadan.

Science: Mrs Wilson teaches Science on a Thursday afternoon which currently also links to outdoor learning on Fridays. We are focussing on Seasonal changes and the weather.

Art: We are also linking our art to seasons this term and exploring techniques of painting and drawing. We have used watercolours, sketching and finger paints so far to create various pictures and creations.

Music: The children have thoroughly loved our music project 'I wanna be in a band' and enjoyed experimenting with pitch and pace. We have used our voices and bodies to explore rhythm too.

On Fridays, Class 1 is taught by Mrs Reeves. On Fridays the children complete maths challenge (which focusses on addition, subtraction, number bonds and times tables as they progress through). The children have five minutes to complete as many of the sums as possible, aiming to beat their score from the previous week!

Spellings are also on a Friday for most children. Children get weekly spellings once they progress through the phonics groups and are confident in reading and writing all sounds.

Please remember to send your child in wearing clothes suitable for PE and outdoor learning on a Friday. Wellies and waterproofs aren't currently needed. I will let you know when this changes.

The children are still provided with a fruit snack in the morning but if your child wants to bring in a fruit snack from home that is fine too. They can also bring in a healthy snack if they want (oat bar, cracker etc) but please do make sure it is a healthy sugar free snack.

Please take advantage of the universal free school meals still on offer for children in Class 1. If you do send your child in with a packed lunch, please ensure it is filled with healthy foods for your child. One or two sweet treats in a packed lunch is plenty and healthy foods will ensure they have a continuous supply of energy for the rest of the afternoon.

Thank you for your on going support through this strange time! I'm sorry you can't come into school and have an informal chat about how your child is doing, but if there are any questions, queries or comments please do feel free to dojo me. I am so proud of how well the children are doing. They have adapted so well to the changes and Class 1 is a very happy place to be!

Mrs O'Donoghue