



Dear Parents/Carers,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Thank you all so much for your kind wishes, cards and gifts over the festive period. We truly appreciate your warm words and thoughts and hope you all had a peaceful time over the holiday.

Below is a summary of this half term's curriculum, highlighting the skills and knowledge that we aim to develop.

	Curriculum covered this half-term	Suggestions for home-learning
English	<p>Text Focus/ Writing: Traditional tales - We will be reading different traditional tales, focusing on Jack and the Beanstalk. We will also be looking at 'Starbird' by Sharon King-Chai and will write our own version of the story.</p> <p>Reading: Ongoing home school reading and guided reading in class.</p> <p>Phonics: We will be continuing to learn new sounds and reviewing all the sounds learnt so far.</p> <p>Handwriting: Correct letter formation - focusing on capital letters</p>	<p>Visit a local library and read some Traditional Tales from around the world!</p> <p>Daily reading of school scheme reading books at home.</p> <p>Regular practice of reading and writing Common Exception Words.</p> <p>Support children to hold their pencils with the correct grip and write well-formed letters.</p> <p>Support children to discuss and re-tell stories that they have read.</p>
Maths	<p>Place Value to 20</p> <p>Adding and Subtracting</p> <p>Problem solving with everyday examples.</p>	<p>Practise number bonds to 10 and 20 and write the words for each number to 100.</p> <p>Count forwards and backwards from any given number within 100. http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/</p>
Science	<p>Everyday Materials – we will learn to identify and name everyday materials and will have the opportunities to explore the properties of these materials. Children will also be carrying out simple investigations.</p>	<p>Talk about everyday materials that you see around the home and help your child explain why different materials are used for different purposes.</p>
History	<p>Toys – we will be learning about popular toys today and through to the Victorian period. The children will think about their favourite toys and toys which were popular when their parents and grandparents were children. They will compare toys from today and the Victorian era and think about how they have changed.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about the toys they have and the types of toys you and their grandparents may have had. What materials are the toys made from? Which toys are electronic, the old ones or the new ones? Are there any similarities between the toys?</p>
Computing	<p>This half-term we will be programming using BeeBots. The children will be thinking about directions and giving clear instructions.</p> <p>E-safety</p>	<p>Continue to support your child in developing computer keyboard skills and logging on and off computers. Discuss simple movement instructions and directions. Please continue to support your child with E-Safety by explaining why some online sites may not be suitable for their age.</p>
PE	<p>Yoga and Ball skills</p>	<p>Please practise throwing and catching with your child and discuss mindfulness and meditation, stretching and yoga with your child.</p>
PSHE	<p>Keeping safe.</p> <p>This half term we will learn about why we need a good night's sleep, why medicines are important for our bodies and if used incorrectly can be dangerous, characteristics of healthy family relationships and friendships and exploring our full range of emotions and how these differ from situation to situation.</p> <p>We will also look at respecting physical boundaries, respecting the boundaries of others as well as maintaining those we set up for ourselves.</p>	<p>Discuss your bedtime routines with your children, they can draw these if they like in preparation for the lesson or to make a useful timetable for their wall.</p>
RE	<p>Christianity: Was it always easy for Jesus to show friendship?</p> <p>Children will be thinking about how Jesus was able to show friendship and discuss whether it was always easy or difficult.</p>	<p>Discuss with your child what makes a good friend. How are they a good friend? How do they show their friend they value their friendship?</p>
Music	<p>The children will be composing word patterns in groups. Chanting together rhythmically, marking rests accurately. Recognising the difference between a pattern with notes (pitched) and without (unpitched).</p>	<p>When listening to music, perhaps you can help your child to notice and tap out the rhythm in music and familiar songs which have a strong beat.</p>
Art: Printmaking and Textiles	<p>In printmaking, we will be exploring marks made by printing with a range of objects. We will learn about the techniques of stencilling and relief printing, and we will be creating work inspired by contemporary artist Karen Lederer.</p>	<p>Explore different marks made by printing directly using a range of objects. Children can create different patterns using Lego blocks, sponges or bottle lids. Look at the artwork of Karen Lederer and discuss the colours and how they think the picture was made. Children should be able to express their own opinions and justify it using the correct vocabulary including colours, textures, shapes.</p>



	In textiles, we will explore a range of materials including fabric, oil crayons, chalk and paint to create pieces of art.	
Mandarin	Pets and animals Children will name the different types of animals we keep as pets at home.	

Your continued support with reading and home learning assignments online is greatly appreciated. We look forward to a fun filled and exciting 2024. Please also remember to let us know if you have any concerns you would like to discuss.

With best wishes,
The Year 1 Team