

# Newsletter Spring 1 2018 - Year 1

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break. We have a lot of exciting learning opportunities for your children.



## Topic: Towers, Tunnels and Turrets



**History:** We will be travelling back in time and taking on the role of Royalty. We will be using our drama skills to act out a Coronation ceremony. We will also be exploring what it was like to live as Elizabeth 1 and Queen Victoria. We will also be looking at changes within living memory by exploring how castles have changed over time.

**Design and Technology:** We will be learning about all of the exciting features of a castle and why they were so important. We will then be using different materials to create our very own castles.

**ICT:** We will be learning all about algorithms and how they are used in digital devices.

## Reading

All children will need to apply phonic knowledge and skills as a route to decode words as well as responding speedily with the correct sound to graphemes for all 40+ phonemes, including alternative sounds.

## Writing

Our text type this half term will be 'Rapunzel' We will be exploring the author's use of story language and writing our own recount of the story. We will also be writing a set of instructions on how to make our very own castle. Towards the end of the half term we will be exploring poetry using our senses and writing our own version of the 'Sound Collector' poem.

## Spelling

Children will be learning how to spell common exception words, words containing the 40 phonemes and days of the week.

## Maths

As Mathematicians we will be building on our number bond knowledge and extending ourselves to learn related facts to 10. We will also be focusing on writing numerals in words and identifying properties of common 2D and 3D shapes.

## Homework



We will give children homework every Thursday and they need to return it by Tuesday. There is also a choice of Project Homework. Your child can choose which 3 they would like to complete this half term and bring into school at any time. If your child has a sibling in school and they contribute to their homework this is counted as 1 piece. As you are all aware your child will be taking part in the Year 1 Phonic Screening Check. In preparation we will be sending phonics packs home each week as part of homework. They will be going out every Thursday and need to be returned by Tuesday.

## Reading at home

Enjoy reading with your child at least 4 times per week. This can be their school reading book or book of choice at home. Please record each time they read at home in their Reading Record.

## PE

PE is on a Wednesday. Your child's PE kit needs to stay in school for the whole of the half term. The focus of this half term will be team games and fitness. Y1 will also have the opportunity to engage in specialist PE lessons on a Thursday so please ensure their PE kit remains in school.

## Dates

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Break up for half term.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Back to school.

Phonic Screening Check - Week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

## PD dates

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July