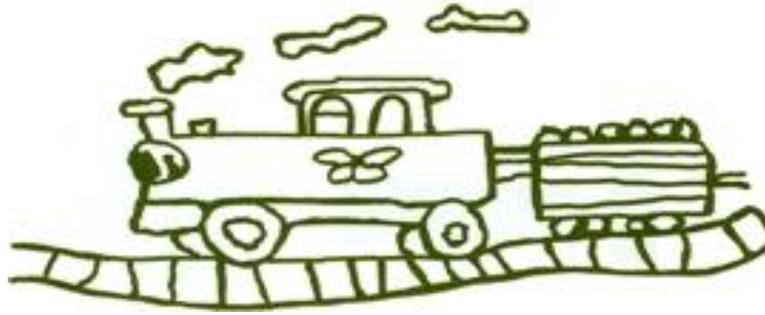


# Grange View C.E



# First School



Welcome to this half terms'  
Topic Information letter  
for Elm and Beech Class

Mrs Chapman  
and Miss Gowland



# Castles

Summer Term (1)



## PE - Games

As the weather hopefully continues to improve we will be starting our Games units. Y1 will be focussing on developing partner work and making up games where as Y2 are practising their bat and ball skills, skipping and inventing rules for games.



PE will be delivered by Mrs Cessford on a **Tuesday for Y1 and Thursday for Y2.** Also all KS1 children will start developing multi skills and rugby with Alnwick Bears on a **Monday.**

**PLEASE ENSURE THEY WEAR THEIR PE KITS AND HAVE EARRINGS REMOVED.**

## RE -



This half term the children will be exploring **Is Judaism the oldest religion?**

The children will be learning all about Judaism as a living world faith. They will be learning about the Torah and the stories that you can find within the Torah. The children will also be learning about important figures to Jewish people and how they link to the Christian faith.

## OUR CLASS TRIP

We were extremely excited to have the opportunity for a trip to a real castle, hence we postponed our topic until the summer term. KS2 often go to Alnwick Castle so we wanted to visit a contrasting style that is near to school.

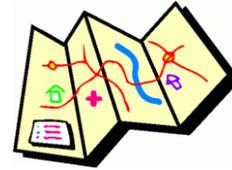
Unfortunately we are unable to go on any trips outside of the school grounds at present due to COVID restrictions, however it would be great if you could send in any pictures at weekends visiting a castle either inside or outside the grounds and share what the children recognized.

## PSHE

The theme this half term is 'Health and wellbeing'. During the term, they will discuss how to keep healthy including exercise, healthy eating, and medicines. Y1 will focus on hygiene routines and sun safety where as Y2 will be focused on teeth hygiene. Later in the term they will consider what makes them unique and how to manage their feelings.

## History/Geography

Our topic this half term is Castles, Castles, Castles. The children will be using maps to identify where castles are located, looking at both human and physical features around them.



The children will be looking at how castles changed and developed over time and what life was like for people who lived in the castle.



## Science -

The children will be revisiting their work on materials this half term. At the beginning of the year the children looked at sorting materials. This will continue around the topic of castles.



They will be thinking about what materials are common in castles that they can visit now and what materials may be 'better' or more sustainable for a future castle. They will also be spending time in the outdoor areas investigating materials in their area.

## Numeracy:

Our key focus this half term is mainly based upon catching up on prior learning missed due to the school closure. For both year groups it will be a main focus on measurement both with length and height as well as Y1 learning about weight and volume. Year 2 will also be continuing their learning about fractions, being able to count in them, and find fractions of amounts, where as Year 1 will secure their learning on related facts and comparing sentences.

## Literacy

### Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations. There will be shared whole class sessions, Year two will have small group guided sessions, and all will have one to one with an adult weekly as well as encouraging a love of independent reading.

### Reading at home

*Last year we re banded all our books and we're excited to continue to develop a love of reading with the children. They will each have a reading record and bring books home on a daily basis - please read with your child as much as you can and sign their record - we have a new reward system in both classes to celebrate their success and hope to have them progressing through the bandings brilliantly, this will help with Y2 SATs and the Year 1 phonic screening.*

### Writing

The children will write in the following genres: Story writing based on the theme of toys as well as simple report writing linked to the theme. They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

### Handwriting

We use a pen pals system in school, where they do daily letter join practise. There are many ways you can help build muscle strength for your child - please ask us for suggestions.

### Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information to their class during news, show and tell and through team building activities.

## ICT -

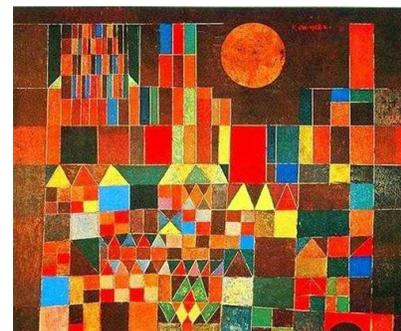
Throughout the term the children will be developing lots of different ICT skills. Initially they will build their confidence in saving and retrieving work on j2e. As useful editing skills such as changing the font size, colour and style as well as alignment.



Later in the term they will use programs such as pages and adobe spark to generate their own images and combine text and graphics to explain their learning about castles.

## Art/DT

The children are going to carry on with their castles topic through the medium of art. They will research Paul Klee and recreate some of his artwork using 3D shapes.



The children will also be designing, making and evaluating medieval soap as part of the topic and their outdoor learning.

## Homework

**Reading** - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages. *We would really like to give the importance and value of reading a big push this year to help create confident, fluent readers throughout school. In Year 1 reading confidence will help greatly with the phonic screening as will fluency and confidence for the Year 2 SATs reading assessments in the Summer.*

Additionally the children may bring home a second book that they have taken out of the library on our Friday visit.

**Spellings and Times Tables** - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer.

With the new expectation of compulsory times table tests at Year 4 there are certain times tables we endeavour to have the children fluent in by the end of each year. **Year 1: 2x and 10x table. Year 2: 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x table.**

Please whenever the opportunity arises help your child continue to practise these number sequences and become more fluent and confident. J2blast on school 360 is fantastic fun for time stable practise!

**Maths / English Homework** - Children will be given some Maths Homework on Busy things on School 360, or through our new School jam online portal for maths homework. These will be available to complete from Friday afternoon to the following Friday morning at 8am. . The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently.

**Thanks for your help and support.**

## Parental Help/Resources

We would very much appreciate your help/skills/resources that would link to any of our topics for this and the following half term throughout the year. If you feel that you could help us and your children out in any way please contact school and let us know.

## Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.

## Forest School / PE Kits (Tues, Wed and Friday)

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies are in school to avoid their school shoes being ruined. Similarly, a warm winter coat /hat / gloves should be in school so that are comfortable. It is intended for forest school to be Wednesday (Y1) and Friday (Y2)

We are intending to do PE on a Tuesday/Friday (Y1) or Monday / Thursday (Y2), so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school at all times, especially if they have done an after school club the kit must return the next day.

Last year, across the whole school there was a high demand for the spare PE kit to be used and as a result we have very limited provisions now. Finally, if your child has had their ears pierced - ideally the earrings should be removed for PE if not we can provide tape.

In general, long hair needs to be tied up for PE but would be best tied up at all times in school.