



Spring 1  
Half Term Information for Parents  
Year 1

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to another great year. This term we will be focusing learning on Equality and what it means to be equal. This is an interesting topic and very much relevant in today's society.

**Themes:** Spring 1 – What is Equal?

**Cross curricular links:**

**English:** Alongside our Read Write Inc sessions, children will be provided with a variety of reading and writing opportunities linked to our topic, including: fact files, information texts, diary entries and letters.

**Maths:** In addition to our focus maths objectives, following White Rose Maths Hub, we will look at money in relation to pocket money. We will talk about earning pocket money, how much is deemed 'fair' and if older siblings should receive an equal amount to their younger siblings. We will touch on what children do to earn pocket money too. It should make for some interesting discussion on equality and fairness!

**Geography:** Although not explicitly taught this half term we will be finding places on a world map – UK and America, linked to Rosa Parks and Emily Davison. We will also comment on the oceans we would cross to travel to the places identified.

**History:** Our main focus will be on Rosa Parks and Emily Davidson. Who they were and why they are so famous today. We will find out about the brave women (and men) who fought for equality. We will use information texts, images and video clips to find out about these people. Children will be encouraged to compare and discuss changes between 'now and then' with regards to women's rights.

**Computing:** Children will learn how to use PowerPoint to create a simple information text about Rosa Parks and/or Emily Davison. They will learn to insert images and text, save and retrieve their own work to and from a specified file.

**Art:** In art we will look at a range of works that use symbolism for equality/balance such as Ying and Yang, Night and Day, Male and Female. Children will be able to recreate their own version of some of the works looked at using paints, collage materials and clay.

**Music:** Children will be listening to and comparing different genres of music, to include Blues and Jazz. We will have discussions on why these genres were made popular and where they originated.

**RE:** Lifestyles – Valuing diversity and the importance of how we think and behave. Children will look at how Christian values are helpful in the pursuit of equality.

**PSHCE:** The theme in Spring term will be 'No to Bullying'. Looking at treating everyone with respect. This will link to our topic through the work on equality and human rights.

**Subjects being taught separately this half term:**

**Maths:** Number and Place Value - children will be given a range of opportunities to count, read and write numbers to 50, forwards and backwards. We will learn to count in multiples of twos, fives and tens. Activities will allow children to identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations such as the numberline and tens frames, and use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least.

Addition and Subtraction – children will read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (–) and equals (=) signs. They will represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20, add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including zero.

**PE:** Gymnastics will be our main focus in PE for the Spring term. Children will develop balance, agility and coordination through a range of floor and apparatus activities.

**How can you help?**

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn. This includes having all the equipment they need for the day, such as PE kit, reading book and reading record.
- Practise core vocabulary words. Can your child read and spell them?
- Complete homework activities with your child.
- Share your child's school reading book with them, discussing characters, events and opinions. This is best done

often and in short bursts.

- Practise mental maths including counting in 2, 5 and 10, and mental addition and subtraction (What is 16-7?); discuss money, time and measures with real examples. Using watches to tell the time on a weekend will also help. Recognising odd and even numbers.
- Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.
- Please check your child's book bag frequently for letters and other information.
- If you have any interesting topic related artefacts that your child could share for a display or discussion, please bring them into school.

### **Homework**

We will begin handing out homework on a fortnightly basis in the New Year. The homework is not compulsory; however, it will be related to our topic and will benefit the children in their learning journey. The homework will be discussed in class and will be aimed at complementing the work completed and giving children a sense of pride in their efforts. Some activities will be research based; others will focus on completing posters, small pieces of writing or simply free choice tasks relating to the Suffragettes for example.

### **Class Reminders**

Reading books and records must be in school every day.

**PE:** Tuesdays

Please ensure PE kits are in school on all school days to ensure it is available for any extra PE sessions. Children must always have sandshoes. There are labelled boxes under the Y1 coat pegs for PE bags. If your child wears glasses – where possible could you ensure that the glasses for PE have a neck support to prevent the glasses from falling off and potentially being broken.