



Spring 2
Half Term Information for Parents
Year 1

Happy children aiming high.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about Rosa Parks, The Suffragettes and what it means to be equal. They created some fantastic pieces of art and used actions to help them remember facts for their writing. This half-term we will be learning about famous explorers who have captured public imagination, with the main focus on flight.

Theme: One Small Step for Year 1

Cross curricular links:

English: We will be continuing with Read Write Inc as usual. Year 1 objectives will be met through a range of writing opportunities using RWI and links to our topic across the curriculum. Some examples include composing and recording questions they would ask Neil Armstrong in interview; Writing fact files and comparisons between Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus; Composing diary entries in role as Amelia Earhart and writing narratives based on an alien planet! In DT and Science children will be asked to justify their decisions in present their findings to their group or to the class.

Science: Children will explore the properties of everyday materials and what they are used for. They will apply their knowledge of properties of materials to identify why objects will not 'work' e.g. a jelly fence or a glass hosepipe. They will work in pairs/groups to deliver presentations to the class to report their findings.

We will make links to DT, making moving pictures and to music, making percussion instruments.

Geography: Children will continue to develop geographical skills and fieldwork including simple compass directions, locational and directional language. We will look at aerial photographs and simple maps. They will create their own maps and simple plans of the school grounds and classroom.

History: Children will learn about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally, with a focus on the history of flight. They will develop a flight timeline, investigating the chronology from 1783 Hot air balloons - 1976 Concord and present day passenger air travel

We will continue to learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements with a focus this half term on The Wright Brothers and Amelia Earhart. Who were they? Why are they famous? What did they do? Where are they from/did they go? When did these events happen? This half term will also include making comparisons between the explorers Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus

Art & DT: Children will develop a range of drawing techniques by completing a 'Things with wings' drawing activity. They will learn the differences between cross hatching, stippling, shading and creating texture and take note of the difference between techniques used for living things and non-living things. Children will design and make a moving picture such as an air craft e.g. aeroplane to move horizontally across the page or hot air balloon to take off vertically or a rocket orbiting the Earth/Moon. They will learn about sliding and rotating mechanisms that can be used for moving pictures.

Children will also make something special to share at home (Mum's the word!)

Music: Children will be challenged to choose appropriate materials in order to make a specific type of sound and justify their choices. For example - sand and cotton wool balls to make soft sounds and split peas/ pebbles to make louder sounds.

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

Maths: We will continue our work on Place Value and Numbers to 50. Children will be counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10 and applying their knowledge of number in a variety of problem solving and reasoning activities. We will also be looking at Measurements: Length, Height, Weight and Volume. Children will begin to record, compare, describe and solve practical problems.

Computing: Children will learn how to use MS Publisher to create something special (I won't spoil the surprise just now!) Children will be taught how to save their ongoing work in to a specified folder on the pupil shared area and retrieve this to open, edit and amend. They will add images from a specified site or folder.

PE: We will continue with our Gymnastics skills, building on from last half term's floor work. Children will show how they can develop control and coordination using apparatus such as benches, tables and frames.

PSCHE: Good to be Me. Taught by Miss Pickering this half term. Children will complete work to help develop the understanding of what the word proud means. They will be given opportunities to share something that makes them feel proud and talk about their own talents.

RE: Taught by Miss Pickering this half term. Children will learn about Easter traditions, New life and the crucifixion of Jesus.

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 times tables (counting in steps of 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.
- 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

Fortnightly – please encourage the children to complete homework tasks and to return them in order to share with their peers. The homework chosen will be related to the topic therefore it will help in terms of contextual knowledge.

Class Reminders

PE: Monday and 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.

Reading books and records must be in school every day. 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.