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Together we care, inspire
and achieve excellence

19th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to Vivaldi Class - old and new parents. It has been lovely to meet you and to get to know your children.

During the first 3 weeks we will be ensuring that all children are settling in well and happy to arrive in their classroom in the morning. We will be using the children's learning time to observe and get to know all the children, including their likes and dislikes. We will also be identifying the next steps in their learning.

As you know from your children's previous settings, the children in the foundation stage have a Learning Journal to show their learning throughout their time with us. If you have any WOW moments that you would like to share, please fill in the attached form and send back to school, as your contributions to your child's learning journey are very important.

We will begin by working on the topic of 'The Stone Age.' We will be exploring this topic through different picture books and non-fiction books. Reception children will cover the topic as for year 1, but at their own level. We will also use the children's interests to support their learning. To support the topic, we are very excited about our visit to Celtic Harmony which will be happening in the last week before half term.

Please use the home/ school diary to share any information, concerns or things that you have been doing at home linked to our topic. There will be a 'Come and share' session when the children are settled into the routine of the school, to enable you to share your child's learning in an informal atmosphere. This will also give you the opportunity to share their learning journeys and discuss what they have been learning. This will normally be on a Friday afternoon at the end of the term. The first 'Come and Share' will be on Friday 13th December from 2:00 to 2:30 . **This will give you a further opportunity to look at your child's learning.**

Reception children will have an opportunity for 'Show and tell' when they are focus children. For Year 1 there will be a timetable arranged so that all children have the opportunity to take part. Further information to follow.

Phonics will follow Letters and Sounds, with Phase 1 being embedded across the curriculum for all the children and we have now begun teaching Phase 2 during our daily phonics. Year 1 children are taught with the rest of year 1 at a level appropriate for their learning.

Year 1 children English

We will be using stories linked to our topic, looking at stories set in familiar places, labels, lists and caption, instructions, recounts. In poetry we will look at pattern, rhyme and description.

Y1 and YR

Each week children will be able to take part in our Helicopter Story session, this is where children dictate their own stories which are written down exactly as they are told. Each story is then acted out by the class.

Maths

We will be learning about position, direction, ordinal numbers, patterns, comparing numbers, addition and subtraction, solving problems, comparing, making the same, estimating, ordering, one more and one less, doubling and halving, odd and even numbers and geometry – names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

Topic

Science, History and Geography will be taught through our topic. (YR –Understanding the World)
In Science we will be learning about Rocks and Fossils. In Geography we will be learning how to use maps and atlases and where we have been over the holidays and how it differs from where we live. In history we will be learning about the Stone Age.

DT / Art (YR - Expressive Art and Design)

We will be learning about using a range of materials to design and create. We will use different media and materials to explore different techniques. These will include paint, crayons, pencils, charcoal and sculpture.

Computing

We will be starting with e-safety then creating and using algorithms.

Religious Education

Vivaldi Class will be learning about

- Belonging to a group, including a religious community.
- Celebrations including Purim and Harvest.
- Light as a symbol – Advent, Christingle and Hanukkah

PSHE

The theme this term is Healthy lifestyles and Me and My Relationships, the children will be taught in their year group.

Both Reception and Year 1 children will access independent learning through our continuous provision which will be linked to the children's needs and interests to promote their independent learning and skills.

Any help you can give your child to find out about these topics would be most appreciated.

PE will be on a Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning. Please ensure all clothes are named (permanent marker is ideal or sewn-in labels) and that children have spares in their PE bag. **Please ensure that any earrings or other jewellery is removed and hair is tied back.**

Our library day is a **Friday** [but please return books on a **Wednesday**, if possible]; children will be able to borrow a book and return it the following week.

Home Learning

Year 1 children:

Spellings will be sent home weekly and checked the next week. Please listen to your child read every day. Mathematics tasks will be set on a Wednesday for the following Tuesday.

Reception children

Soon your child will be sent home a reading book, please ensure that you listen to your child read at least 5 mins a day. Your child will be given a Mathematics log-in; maths tasks will be set on a Wednesday for the following Tuesday.

All children will have the opportunity to take our class cuddly toy home for the weekend. During this time, please support your child in writing about their adventures in Mr. Whisker's diary. You may also want to include photographs, but this is not essential.

Please could we also request that welly boots are sent into school. These will stay in school all the time, for outdoor learning. If you have any spare pairs that have been outgrown, donations would be much appreciated! We have all-in-one suits for the children to wear for certain outside activities.

Please could you let us know if anyone different is collecting your child, (a note in the home / school diary is fine), and we are always around after school if you want a quick chat about anything.

Further information regarding any trips or visits will follow. We look forward to an enjoyable term of learning ahead!

Kind regards

Mrs Patten and Mrs Komlosy