



Class 1

Happy New Year to you all! We are now entering the Spring term and we have lots to cram in so here is your brief overview of what we will be covering throughout this term. Miss Farquhar, our Durham University teaching student will be completing her five week placement this half term, I'm confident that the children will enjoy the learning we have planned, which already includes a trip! I have a feeling that this term is going to be even more successful than last. So thank you so much for all of your continued support, it really is appreciated!

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Hanley

As most of you are now know Little J's, our very own nursery, started last week. I am impressed at how the children have already started to adapt to our class routines but even more delighted with how welcoming, caring and patient their classmates have been towards them.

The Year 1 children, who have more 'formal' work to do have been focussed and likewise, the Reception children know they have to do their activities before joining them. After week one I feel even more certain that our Little J's are getting a fabulous start and your children are a huge part of that so feel free to be as proud of them as I am!



Reading books



Reading books are to go home every night. Listening to your child read regularly really enables them to progress, not only in reading but also other areas of Literacy. Please use www.bugclub.co.uk to access additional books. The children have already brought home their logging on details. This website is extremely beneficial and also has numeracy activities for your child to help them practise basic skills.

Water bottles - Please ensure bottles used in class have your child's name on and are taken home at the end of each day to be cleaned to avoid the spreading of germs. Flavoured water and juice are not permitted.



Outdoor Shoes - If your child hasn't already done so could they please bring in some outdoor shoes (such as wellies) to enable them to play out when the snow comes or on the field when wet.

To avoid potential clothing mix ups please could you write your child's name on ALL of their clothing , P.E. kit, gym & outdoor shoes, jumpers, t shirts, etc.



KS1 Curriculum Overview

English - Throughout the term we will be looking at acquiring a range of skills such as speaking and listening and drama from all genres. Daily Phonics sessions will link in with spellings. These will be done in their Spelling Books will go out each week and their learning will be reviewed on Fridays. We will link our learning in with other areas of learning, for example non-fiction will include writing information about dinosaurs and fiction will perfectly fit in with our traditional tales learning after half term

Mathematics - Daily reinforcement of basic number skills and facts through various teaching methods such as games, partner work and independent challenges. Homework linked into the area being covered will go out on a Friday and is to be returned on the following Tuesday.

Science - The first half term we continue with our 'Seasonal Changes' theme. Sessions will involve discussions, investigations and virtual experiments.

R.E. - The topics we will cover this term are 'Special People', 'Meals' and 'Change' but please see the parents leaflet for more details. We will also spend time looking at Judaism in our Other Faiths Week.

P.E. - Our allotted times for the hall are Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings. Could I please ask that your child keeps a complete kit (white t-shirt & navy/black shorts) in school at all times. The children in Reception will be going swimming on Thursday mornings, accompanied by Mrs Brydon. Please keep the swimming rota handy so you know when your child is due to go. Swimming kits consist of costume/trunks, swimming hat and towel. On swimming days can we advise warm coats and girls to avoid wearing tights.

Computing - The children will have the opportunity to practise their skills through other subjects such as Numeracy, Literacy, and Creativity. They will use various forms of technology such as laptops, iPads, microphones and cameras. We welcome Sally Langdon a computing whizz from Durham Cricket Club on Wednesdays this first half term. She will be introducing skills linked to our Dinosaur topic.

Music - Sofia from The Sage will continue to come into school on a weekly basis to help deliver our music curriculum. Exploring sounds through singing, percussion and ICT will all be covered throughout the year.

Creativity Topic - This cross curricular approach helps link all subjects (Art, D&T, Geography & History) together under a theme. Our topic title this term is 'What happened once upon a time?'. Within this topic we will look at traditional tales but start with 'Dinosaurs' which the children are already very excited about!.

Foundation Stage children will be increasingly included in some of the above sessions, where appropriate and at their level. Their basic skills in English and mathematics will be practised daily either as a whole group, in pairs or one on one. Learning through play is a huge part of this age range and the children will experience this daily.

Little J's will have access to the relevant learning areas for them to learn through play. Mrs Brydon and myself are their Key Workers and at points through the week we will sit and do adult directed activities with them to ensure their progression and development. Little J's will join the Stay and Play session for the first 15 –20 minutes each Wednesday. The Nursery children also require a PE kit, wellies and water bottles in school, all named please.