**14th January 2022**

**Class 1 Termly Newsletter**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can’t believe we are into our second term of this school year already! Everyone in Class 1 has settled into Class 1 and have all really developed in the past term which is great to see. As we move into the spring term, we hope to keep up the progress made this year and will be covering some exciting topics for the children to learn about. We will continue to provide a range of opportunities for learning through continuous provision whilst children in year 1 will also have opportunities to learn some subject topics with children in Class 2. Please see below for an outline of what we will be covering over this term.

**Literacy:**

In Literacy this term, we will begin with a focus on a winter theme, exploring what we will often see when we are in winter and describing how these things look and feel. We will also spend some time focussing on dragons and how they link to Chinese New Year and their celebrations. The children will learn the story behind Chinese New Year celebrations and find out about cultures and celebrations that differ from our own. We will learn about the different animals that feature in the story and further our understanding by thinking about animals (including humans) and their habitats during topic and Science work. Further topics will include understanding instructions and how they are different to a normal story book and later in the spring term, understanding what seasonal changes will occur (as hopefully the weather improves!)

Learning to read will continue through a daily lesson of phonics. From this term, we are beginning as a school with the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics scheme and are excited to see it in action in the classroom. Further information and resources will be made available to yourselves in due course. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their time taken to read with your children and help them practice their new sounds and words at home. The continuation of practice at home as well as in the classroom does show in how the children are learning to read and it would be brilliant if this can continue as we move into this term.

**Numeracy:**

EYFS learners will continue their learning based on the following areas:

* Number/place value for numbers up to 20
* Addition
* Measure and Shape
* Early multiplication (doubling)
* Shape and data

**Year 1** pupils will be continue to use ‘Power Maths’ textbooks and interactive resources as they carry on their KS1 maths journey. This term, there will be focusses on:

* Number/place value
* Addition
* Measure and Shape
* Early multiplication
* Shape and data
* Addition/subtraction to 20
* Numbers to fifty
* Weight, length and volume

**Physical Education:**

This term, with the colder weather, PE will mostly be taking place inside the school hall. This term, we are encouraging our creativity as we practice gymnastics and dance in each half term respectively. In gymnastics in this half term, we are focussing on jumps and rolls and will attempt to combine them to make a short routine.

**Communication and Language:**

The children will continue to be given frequent opportunities to talk about a range of subjects across the curriculum and in RSHE, in addition to developing their awareness and use of verbal and non-verbal forms of communication, by talking, sharing and listening to each other during formal and informal contexts. The development of communication and language skills is of great importance and opportunities to develop the children’s confidence and ability in this area is embedded in all learning, whether it is in the form of stories, discussion or music.

**Understanding of the world:**

This is an important area of the curriculum and encompasses many topics and areas of study. We will always look to explore the children’s own interests where possible, in addition to specific topics and units of work that include the following:

* **Ourselves and others**: Talking about people and events that hold personal significance and discussing our own beliefs.
* **Animals including Humans**: Finding out about different animals and comparing them to one another.
* **Traditions** – Chinese New Year.
* **Where we live**: Exploring the daily and seasonal changes in weather and climate.
* **Significant individuals**: Understanding why nurses are important and comparing nurses from the past to those today.
* **Seasonal change:** Investigating the changes as winter changes to spring.

**Art and Design:**

In art and design lessons, the children will explore the idea of weaving this term, using a variety of materials. The children will consider different techniques for different materials, and will be encouraged to think about pattern and colour during the design and making phase of their projects. Additionally, the children will engage in this area of the curriculum by way of the following:

* Experimenting with different instruments
* Dance
* Creating art using different media, e.g. paints, crayons and pastels etc.
* Junk modelling (**feel free to donate any unwanted cardboard boxes and similar resources!)**

**Music:**

The children will continue to receive specialist teaching in music every week courtesy of Mr. Lawrence. Class 1 will be learning about pitch and will prepare themselves for the Easter concert in the second half term. They will also sing songs and rhymes linked to the topic area, among others. Elsewhere, the children will continue to use music in Literacy and, in Numeracy, use singing and chants to help develop their confidence in counting.

**Religious Education**:

The children will learning about Christianity and will listen to traditional bible stories. To begin the term, we will be discussing what good news Jesus brings and then will be investigating why Christians put a cross in the Easter garden.

**Computing**

In computing this term, we will attempt some coding and trying to input some simple commands into programs and little robots. We will also continue to remember why it is important to stay safe online and who we need to speak to if we don’t feel safe.

**Other:**

**Toys:**

Could we please continue to ask that the children do not bring in their own toys, as there is always a risk of them getting broken or lost. It is also worth mentioning that toys are not something we generally celebrate during “show and tell”, although certificates or other outside achievements are very welcome and we would love to see any!

Best wishes

Mr Rackham & Mrs Alves