

# Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn 1 2023

Topic: **Oh I do Like to be Beside the Seaside!**

Key text: **The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch**

Dear families, we hope you all had lots of time doing things that you enjoy this holiday and are looking forward to this year!

### Teachers:

Mrs Baranyai: Monday-Wednesday

Mrs Collier Trenchard: Thursday-Friday

### Teaching Assistants:

Miss Gylete: Monday-Wednesday

Mrs Robinson: Monday-Friday

Mrs Lowe: Wednesday-Friday



### Important information

Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school in a PE bag. The children will change into their PE kits on our PE days: **Tuesday and Friday.**

**Please make sure all uniform and PE is labelled with your child's name!**

Please sign your child's reading diary by Friday of each week and ensure you record their daily reading - thank you!

### RE

Our RE learning will focus on *God's Great Plan*. We will learn the story of the creation and ensure that the children understand the order of the 7 days that God made the world. We will then learn about God's love for us all and how we can show God's love through our actions and behaviour. We will then move on to look at how we can make a difference and look after God's world. We will encourage the children to understand that they can look after God's world by being kind to others and caring for things. Linking to our continued Live Simply work, we will also revisit the importance of recycling, collecting rubbish and caring for God's creatures. We will then look at the story of Noah and discuss the reasons why God sent a flood.

### English

Our key text this half term is *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*. We will have lots of fun exploring the text and getting to know the story through role play and retelling. We will ask the children to get their thinking caps on to suggest ideas to Mr Grindling, explaining how he can stop the seagulls eating his lunch! The writing focus for the half term will be writing a letter, so we will then look at the features of a letter including how the writing in a letter is sequenced. The children will then plan, write and edit a letter of their own, focusing on our core year 1 objective of using their phonics to write simple sentences, using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We will also be encouraging the children to form their letters correctly, starting and finishing in the correct place, with their letters sitting on the line.

The children will be introduced to adjectives by tasting different food and describing it! We will have lots of opportunities to practise independent writing within the provision and during their Rainbow Challenge time, and anything that you can do at home to support with this, will be beneficial! In reading, the children will continue guided reading, to really cement their reading skills. Year 1 is an important year for children to really practise reading and use all the skills that they have learnt in FS2. We will be weaving reading throughout all other lessons and encouraging children to understand and talk about a wide range of texts and ensuring that they can answer questions based on what they have read.

### Mathematics

To begin the half term, we will focus on number patterns and aim to help the children understand that counting can have different patterns, focusing on counting in 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s to 100! We will dive into place value and teach the children the about tens and ones up to 20 and then beyond. The children will be expected to begin to solve number problems with place value. Then we will move on to comparing numbers and using the greater than, less than and equals signs. Once the children are secure with counting, number patterns, place value and comparing numbers, we will move on to addition and subtraction. Within our maths lessons, we will encourage the children to practise the basic skills, then show their understanding in a variety of ways, as well as challenging the children with a variety of problems to solve to demonstrate how deep their understanding is. We will use Burn2Learn a lot in maths as well as using lots of concrete resources for the children to consolidate and extend their learning from FS2.

### Design and Technology

In DT, we are linking our learning to our topic and will be making picnics for Mr Grindling! First, we will explore different foods in a picnic along with looking at food manufacturing. We will then design our own picnic and make decisions about what we want to include and why. The children will then learn new skills; weighing ingredients, using a knife and a grater safely. The children will then review and evaluate their picnic and write instructions to Mr Grindling telling him how to make his own.

### Computing

Our focus in computing, will be ensuring the children fully understand the STOP, BLOCK, TELL message and what to do if they feel unsafe online. We will then focus on staying safe online, exploring online experiences that the children may have and how to manage them. We will also learn about online bullying and what it is. All our online safety will be taught through a variety of stories and interactive songs, in age appropriate and engaging ways.

## PE

In PE, we will have one PE session with Mrs Powell (PE Partner) and one session with Mrs Baranyai. We will be focusing on core and dynamic balance, furthering our skills from FS2. We will also be continuing with our travelling movements, hopping, jumping and skipping in order to further develop our co-ordination in our feet. Within our PE lessons there will be lots of opportunities for paired and team work where the children further their abilities to work with and support others.

## Science

In Science our focus is Materials. The children will be taught how to work scientifically by asking questions about what they notice as well as gathering and recording data. We will have lots of practical sessions, including lots of identifying and sorting of materials. We will encourage the children to understand the difference between an object and the material/s it is made from, by going on hunts around school. Using lots of real objects, we will be asking the children to use the correct scientific vocabulary to describe the properties of materials. The words we will be using are; strong, flexible, soft, smooth, bumpy, transparent, opaque, shiny, squishy, squashy, stretchy. Linking our science to our topic, we will be conducting two experiments; "What will I find in the Sandpit?" and "Does everything float?" The children will be asked to predict, test, record and conclude their experiments! It's going to be lots of fun!

## History/Geography

This half term, we will have a History focus beginning with the 1920s and what the seaside was like in the 1920s. The children will learn the similarities and differences between seaside holidays in Britain in the 1920s compared to the 2020s. We will encourage the children to have an awareness of the past, by doing lots of timeline work outside! The children will be learning how to identify similarities and differences between now and in the past, looking at the seaside, schools, clothes and science and technology. We will be expecting the children to use and understand lots of key vocabulary in relation to our history learning, such as past, present, long ago, decade, differences, similarities. Our Geography link will be locating Wetherby on a UK map and finding the coastal areas of the UK on a map. We will link to the children's own experiences of seaside visits within the UK and will be asking for photos of any seaside trips that you might have been on this summer that your child can discuss in school. We will be using the photographs to encourage the children to think about the physical features of the coast that they might have seen.

## Music

In music, our focus will be based around the song "Oh I do like to be beside the seaside!" We will learn how to identify and clap the beat of the song as well as learning the words to the song and we will be encouraging the children to sing enthusiastically! We will then listen to sounds of the ocean and will begin to introduce the language of timbre to help us recognise different sounds that instruments make. We will be asking the children to choose instruments that match the sounds they can hear and we will experiment with creating different effects with our instruments. Finally, the children will have lots of fun, working in ensembles to compose sounds of the sea!

## MFL

We will begin this half term by introducing French to the children. We will start by learning about France as a country and the value in learning French as a second language. We will then begin to learn basic French greetings that the children can say to one another!

## PSHE

In PSHE, we will begin by revisiting our rules and ensuring the children understand the behaviour expected of them in school, in the playground and in the community. Our British Value focus this half term is Democracy. We will also have a focus on our mental and physical health and wellbeing, looking at ways that we can keep our minds and bodies healthy, safe and active.

## Homework

Most importantly, please listen to your child **read 5 times per week for 10 minutes** each time and ask your child a few questions about what he/she has read, linked to the AF questions that we will give you. Please record in their diary each time you listen to them read. Homework diaries are checked and signed by a member of the Y1 team on a Friday.

We will soon begin learning spellings. Your child will come home with new spellings each week and our **spelling test will be held on a Monday**.

Your child will soon be set online homework on Reading Eggs, Maths Seed and Spelling Shed. Login with the same details as they used in FS2.

[Please also see the homework policy on the website.](#)

## Ways to Help Your Child

Parent/carer support at home is invaluable in your child's learning and at our school we are so grateful for the excellent support you provide. Please continue to support your child at home; listening to your child read, reading to your child, KIRFs, Mathseeds, Reading Eggs, Spelling Shed and the homework grid on the Year 1 webpage.