

Year 1 Newsletter

Spring 1

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Our Planet!

In this topic, we will be exploring the UK, making comparisons with other countries from around the world and identifying how we can look after our planet and its environment.

Our Key Texts this half term are Augustus and His Smile and Leaf.

Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:

- Listening to and discussing a wide range of stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which we can read independently
- Read aloud many words containing taught GPCs quickly and accurately without overt sounding and blending
- Checking that the text makes sense as they read and correct inaccurate reading
- Say sounds for 40+ graphemes, including one grapheme for each of the 40+ phonemes
- Discussing word meanings, linking new meanings to those already known
- Talk about events in what is read or heard read and link them to his/her own experiences.

Writing:

In Year 1, we will be developing the following writing skills:

- Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- Write sentences by saying out loud what they are going to write about.
- Sequence sentences to form short narratives
- Form capital letters

We will be writing stories, based on the texts 'Augustus and His Smile' and 'Leaf'?

- Use adjectives.
- Use the past tense.
- Use connectives.
- Create a story with a start, middle and an end.

We will also be writing instruction texts, based on '10 Ways to Save Our Planet'.

- Use and or but to link clauses.
- Use time connectives (first, next, then)
- Order instructions clearly.

In grammar, we will be covering the following areas: Understand how words can combine to make sentences; Spell words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught; Spell common exception words; Use the spelling rule for adding -s or -es; Use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences in some of his/her writing.

Our Maths learning this half term:

Multiplication and Division

- Solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division, by calculating the answer using concrete objects, pictorial representations and arrays with the support of the teacher.

Geometry – Shape and Position and Direction

- Recognise and name 2-D shapes [for example, rectangles (including squares), circles and triangles].
- Recognise and name 3-D shapes [for example, cuboids (including cubes), pyramids and spheres].
- Describe position, direction and movement, including whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns.

We will also be developing our understanding of number as part of the daily mastering number work we are completing:

- Continue to practise conceptually subitising numbers they have already explored the composition of.
- Review the composition of numbers within 10, linking these to part-part-whole representations.
- Practise recalling missing parts for numbers within 10.
- Compare numbers within 10, linking this to their understanding of the linear system
- Use the inequality symbol to create expressions, e.g. $7 > 2$, and use the language of 'greater than' and 'less than'.
- Reason about inequalities, drawing on their knowledge of the composition of numbers, e.g. Is this true or false? 3 and 2 is less than 4.
- Develop their recall of number bonds within 10, through the use of exercises which use written numerals but not the symbols $+$, $-$, or $=$.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Our unit of science this half term will be animals. We will cover the following knowledge areas:

- I can identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals
- I can identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- I can describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets)

We will be developing the following enquiry skills:

- Use simple features to compare, group and sort
- Make simple observations using simple equipment.
- Notice patterns and relationships, with support
- Communicate findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language, with support

Computing

We will be developing our keyboard skills whilst continuing to build confidence logging on to a computer independently.

- I can type using two hands.
- I can type accurately.
- I know the basic keys on a computer.

Our digital literacy focus this half term will be on keeping our private information safe.

- I can explain the difference between private and public.
- I can use the Internet without giving away private information.
- I can recognise what my personal information is.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

Geography:

We will be developing our basic geographical knowledge of the UK and the continents of the world. We will be learning about the importance of looking after our planet and consider the importance of reusing and recycling.

We will be developing the following knowledge and skills:

- Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans
- Name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas.
- Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the UK and its countries, and the continents and oceans studied at this key stage.

We will begin to use our geographical language when exploring the UK: for example, looking at human features such as cities, towns, villages and physical features such as coast, rivers, seas and forests.

History

We will be continuing to learn about significant individuals who have contributed to national and international achievements, with a focus this half term on David Attenborough.

RE

We will be exploring the question: 'Why is it important to celebrate the birth of a baby?' We will look at different customs in religions surrounding the birth of a baby, such as baptism, the symbolism behind these and their significance. We will compare and contrast different religions.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art:

- We will be sketching animals and explore using different media, such as ink, charcoal and graphite.
- We will also be developing our painting techniques to sketch and then use watercolours.

We will develop the following skills:

- Investigate textures by describing, naming, rubbing, copying.
- Produce an expanding range of patterns and textures.
- Start to mix a range of secondary colours, moving towards predicting resulting colours.
- Demonstrate experience with impressed printing: drawing into ink, printing from objects.
- Use equipment and media correctly and be able to produce a clean printed image.

Music: Listening

Children will learn about orchestras - how the music sounds, what instruments are used, how it's divided into 'families' and listen to and evaluate some traditional, classical music.

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE:

Our PE units this half term are Gymnastics and Fundamentals.

Gymnastics

Perform short movement phrases, linking jumping actions together and basic shapes. Understand and learn different types of basic jumps and how to land them safely using low level apparatus and mats.

Fundamentals

To develop control and co-ordination in large and small movements, move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space and handle equipment effectively. Pupils try new activities, play cooperatively, taking turns with others, following instructions involving several ideas or actions.

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is 'Diversity and Community':

- Describe aspects of their identity and recognise some similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- Know about some similarities and differences in people's lifestyles, including different groups they and other people belong to.
- Describe places in their community, how they and others might use them, and who is available to help them.
- Understand how they can help look after the school environment and make a contribution to doing so.
- Know what animals and plants need to survive, and how they can help look after them

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Maths: multiplication, multiply, multiplied by, times, groups of, lots of, equal groups, all together, in total, division, divide, share, shared between, equal, how many, each, array.

Shape, flat, curved, straight, hollow, solid, symmetry, symmetrical, corner, side, point, rectangle, circle, triangle, face, edge, vertex, cube, cuboid, pyramid, sphere, cone, cylinder, position, centre, whole turn, half turn, quarter turn

English: noun, verb, adjective, first, next, then, after that, finally, and, because, time connectives, past tense, present tense.

Science: animals, humans, identify, classify, fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, habitat, wing, beak, fin, tail.