

Year 1 Newsletters – Spring Term

We are so pleased with how the children have settled into Year 1 and adapted to their new routines. We have had a very busy first term and spring term is looking just as exciting! This term we have a visit from Explorer Dome to support our Science learning and after half term, we will be going on a trip to Solent Skies museum as part of our History topic.

English- This term we will be reading several exciting texts. In our writing sessions, we will be building on the skills we developed during autumn term. In our writing sessions we will be developing not only our handwriting but our sentence level skills. It has been wonderful to already see the success that the children have had with their writing since September.



Reading: We are making some great progress with our reading and we hope that you have noticed this at home as well. Children will continue to read three times a week in a small group session. Each session focuses on a different skill: **decoding (beginning to read the words for the first time)**, **prosody (learning to read with expression)** and **comprehension (understanding what they have read)**. Our reading is closely linked to our Phonics sessions. At the end of each phonics block, we will assess the children and then match them with a book based on their ability. These books may stay the same for a while or they may change regularly. Please speak to us if you have any questions.

Phonics: This term we will learning to 'grow the code' further. This means learning that some sounds (phonemes) can be written in more than one way (graphemes).

Grapheme chart Phase 2 and 3

s	ē	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h	b	f	t	j	v
ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	k	rr		bb	ff	ll		vv
						ck								
						cc								
ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo	ar	or	ur	er	ow	oi	ear	air	

Maths

In maths, Spring term is going to be full of new learning in topics we have never done before! We are introducing reading **time** on clocks while also reviewing our knowledge of seasons, months, and days of the week. After that we will be practising our **addition and subtraction** skills by choosing most efficient strategies all the way up to 50. Finally, we will find out what **fractions** are how we can calculate fractions of amounts.

Science: This term we will be exploring everyday materials. We will be identifying the difference between an object and the material it is made from. The children will be able to give examples of objects around them and name the material they are made from. They will also learn some of the properties and why this makes them good for their purpose. For example, the table is made of wood because it is strong and sturdy. We will complete our materials unit by investigating materials that are water-proof.

After half term we will move on to naming body parts.

History- We will be learning about the first flight! As part of this unit, we will be going on a school trip to Solent Skies museum in Southampton (Please keep an eye out for more information!). This is always a fun filled topic where children learn about how the first aeroplane was made, who designed and made them and the impact of flight over the course of history.



Geography- Our topic focus this half term is 'where we live'. This involves looking at our surroundings and talking about what is near to where live and how we journey in our local area. If the weather permits, we will take a walk of our local area.

Computing - In Computing this term we will be looking at grouping and organising data into databases as well as basic robotics (programming simple tasks, like giving directions).

PE- This term we have lots planned! We will be exploring gymnastics, dance and throwing and catching skills.

ART- Our focus this term will be painting. We will be looking at the artist Jean Metzinger and exploring his painting style. We will complete the unit by drawing and painting our own Metzinger inspired artwork.



DT- Our DT topic will focus on mechanisms: wheels and axles. We will be designing and making our own pull-along toy!

RE- For the first half term we will be looking at people that Jesus met. We are looking forward to having our question of faith day where we welcome Southampton City Mission to come and lead our session. These are always enjoyable! After half term our topic will be Easter and we will be looking at the concept of happy and sad.

Music- In our music lessons we will be learning about pitch through the theme of superheroes. We will explore pitch in lots of different ways and then end the unit by composing our own superhero piece of music where there pitch and tempo