

## CURRICULUM INFORMATION – CLASS 1

SPRING TERM 2016

THEME: NOW AND THEN!

### Communication and Language – Listening and Attention, Understanding, Speaking

#### Literacy – Reading, Writing

**EYFS:** Children will be encouraged to sustain attentive listening during whole class and small group activities. You can help by ensuring that children have lots of opportunities to engage in face to face conversation with other people, that they take turns when talking and that they wait for others to finish before making their contribution! Children will be encouraged to speak clearly and audibly when communicating with others and when performing in front of an audience. Many children are unable to pronounce certain sounds at this stage, for example /l/r/th/ in such words as 'lolly', 'giraffe', 'three', 'thirteen'. **This is perfectly normal** but you can help your child by showing them how to make the sounds and getting them to watch your face when you are speaking. It is important because writing develops from being able to hear the sounds in words. Therefore, if children say 'free' instead of 'three', they will spell the word incorrectly. As with all physical skills, practice makes perfect, so if we can start the process of speaking clearly now, we can help children make progress in the future.

Children will explore the use of language to take on different roles and act out familiar stories. You can help by encouraging imaginative play at home, making costumes and masks for dressing up, and using puppets to 'tell' stories. Children will continue to develop their ability to hear and say sounds in simple words, and will now apply these oral skills to reading and writing. **Please continue to help children remember the letters by completing their sound sheets at home.** Please keep all sound sheets at home and revise them often. Remember to use the sound, not the name, when talking about sounds so 'cat' is not 'see, ay, tee' but 'c,a,t'. Also, please remember to make the sounds without an extra 'uh' sound at the end.

We will continue to work on developing correct letter formation according to the letter families. If you are unsure about this, please do come in and ask. I am more than happy to do a short handwriting workshop if people would like more guidance.

**Year 1:** Children will continue to develop their knowledge of digraphs and trigraphs (2 or 3 letters that make 1 sound), and will continue to learn to apply this knowledge more efficiently in their reading and writing. They are becoming confident little writers now so they will be encouraged to think more clearly about how they communicate their thoughts and ideas in writing, creating 'super sentences' with more interesting vocabulary and using joining words such as 'then' or 'because'. During guided reading, we aim to develop fluency by encouraging children to use expressive voices and to pay attention to punctuation. Children will continue to develop their sight vocabulary.

**ALL: Please do continue to complete weekend books every weekend.** All children should be doing some drawing and colouring, and some children will now be keen to have a go at writing independently. Year 1 should be doing as much as possible by themselves. Please resist the urge to get children to copy your writing. It is much more important at this stage that children think about the sounds they can hear in words rather than spelling correctly using letter patterns that don't make sense. It is important that children do memorise tricky words but these are introduced gradually. I will be sending home tricky word lists for you to practise at home.

#### Physical Development – Moving and Handling, Health and Self-Care

On Thursdays, we will be having a PE coach who will support the children to learn to use large apparatus for climbing and balancing safely. Children must have their indoor PE kit (shorts and t-shirts) for this. On

Wednesdays, year 1 will continue to do sport outside with a visiting coach. They must have suitable outdoor fitness clothing and trainers for this. Throughout the week, there will be many opportunities for children to engage in physical play, both indoors and outside. This includes activity to develop fine motor skill, such as construction, modelling, threading, sewing, and art and craft activity. **Please continue to save your 'junk' for us – most of the packets and boxes that you would recycle can be used as long as it is clean and safe! As one of our themes this term is materials, I am keen to collect a variety of 'bits and bobs' for exploration and modelling - fabric remnants, bits of ribbon or lace, wool, buttons from old clothes, offcuts of wood, polystyrene, bubble wrap etc.**

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Making Relationships, Self-confidence and Self-awareness, Managing feelings**

Children will continue to learn to work cooperatively and collaboratively in small groups and with partners. They will be encouraged to be more attentive and considerate of the opinions and ideas of others, and to use talk to resolve disagreements. We will help the children to consider the consequences of their actions and words, and to reflect upon what is right and wrong.

### **Maths – Numbers, Shape, Space and Measures**

**EYFS:** Children will consolidate recognition and writing of numerals to 10 or 20, as appropriate. We will practise reciting the numbers to 100 and we will learn the pattern of 10's numbers – 10, 20, 30 etc. Children will learn to count larger groups of objects and they will learn about adding and taking away. You can help by encouraging children to use their fingers to count, raising 1 finger at a time as they say the numbers. Playing board games is really helpful and also encourages the important skill of turn-taking.

**YEAR 1:** Children will continue to learn to count in 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's to 100, both forwards and backwards. They will learn to recognize doubles of small numbers, and will continue to memorise pairs of numbers that make 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. They will record addition and subtraction calculations in a variety of ways, using pictures, words and symbols. They will be taught how to find 10 more and 10 less using a hundred grid. They will understand how to find small 'differences' between 2 numbers. Children will use coins to pay small amounts and give change.

### **Understanding the World - People and Communities, The World, Technology**

We will begin to understand the concept of change over time. We will explore old and new toys, talking about the past, present and future. You can help by encouraging children to talk with family members or neighbours, particularly the older generation, about their own experiences. If you can send in any old toys, that would be really helpful. Weekend visits to museums will also help the children develop their understanding. We will also be exploring materials. If anybody has skills to share, such as an ability to craft things from wood or textiles, please do let me know. I am keen to encourage people to come in and share their knowledge with the children.

### **Expressive arts and design - Exploring and Using Media and Materials, Being Imaginative**

We will continue to listen to instruments and music from a range of cultures and to sing simple songs from memory. We will provide opportunities to use paint and collage regularly. We will particularly focus upon the creative use of textiles this term, exploring different textures and types of fabric, wool and thread. Again, if you have a skill in this area that you would like to share, please come and see me.

PLEASE VISIT OUR CLASS FACEBOOK PAGE IN ORDER TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CLASS NEWS. THE PAGE IS COMPLETELY PRIVATE AND ONLY REQUIRES YOU TO SET UP A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT. MOST CLASS 1 PARENTS ARE ACCESSING THE PAGE SO IF YOU WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE FACEBOOK, PLEASE TRY TO LINK UP WITH SOMEONE ELSE IN CLASS WHO CAN KEEP YOU INFORMED.

Many thanks for your continued support. Looking forward to a wonderful 2016!