

CURRICULUM INFORMATION – CLASS 1

SPRING TERM 2015

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. I will send home a leaflet showing you the letter families. **Please 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. At school, we will be encouraging the children to develop their independence when writing captions and labels to accompany their drawings.

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.

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

On Tuesdays, we will focus on developing expressive movement in response to music. Children need indoor kit (shorts and t-shirts) for this. On Wednesdays, year 1 do sport with a visiting coach. On Thursdays, the whole class will focus on developing agility skills with a visiting coach. For these sessions, **children must have trainers and jogging bottoms. An additional jumper or sweatshirt will be handy.** 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 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! Once the children have transformed the 'junk' into something beautiful, I will send it back to you and it can take pride of place on your windowsill for ever! I am also collecting 'bits and bobs' for sewing and collage, so **please send in fabric remnants, bits of ribbon or lace, wool, button from old clothes** 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 2015!

Vanessa Benjamin-Smith (Class Teacher)

Julie Yarnold, Sonia Bosley (Teaching Assistants)