

Welcome Back

Thank you for helping to make the children's transition into Year 1 a smooth one. We are so pleased at how all of the children have settled in. They have adjusted well to the change in learning style from year R.

In year one the first year group newsletter of each half term will give brief details of the learning that will be taking place during the term ahead.

TOPIC

This half term our topic is called 'Let's Explore'. During this topic we will be investigating and learning about a variety of different things.

As geographers we have been observing weather patterns and creating our own weather diaries for a week. We have looked at some simple maps and tried to add a simple key to a floor plan of our school. We have learnt to identify human geographical features in the local area e.g. houses, shops and roads. As well as this we have learnt to recognise physical features e.g. the pond, the trees and the sea. Later in the topic we will be comparing Baffins in Portsmouth with a Village in Africa using what we've learnt about these features.

As scientists we have been learning about some of the different common plants and trees that can be found in the UK. We have learnt the names of them and discussed the similarities and differences between them. We have created our own flower artwork and labelled it to show we understand and can name the different parts of a plant e.g. flower, stem, leaves and roots.

We will also be learning to identify and name common animals that are birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and invertebrates. We will begin to learn how to group some of these animals by what they eat using the vocabulary 'carnivore', 'herbivore' and 'omnivore'.

Later in the topic we will be carrying out a scientific investigation linked to the story 'Handa's Surprise'. We will be trying to find a way for Handa to get a gift of an ice lolly to her friend in the next african village without it melting!

As artists we have been looking closely at the patterns on some wild animals. We have chosen our own media to recreate these patterns ourselves.

LACEY LIBRARY

Year 1 will be visiting the Lacey library on Tuesday afternoons in rotation. If you are available to help walk the children to the library, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please let your child's class teacher know. The anticipated date of the next visit for each class is detailed below.

Class 4 – 3rd Oct

Class 5 – 10th Oct

Class 6 – 17th Oct

Please note: These dates are subject to change. If the weather is too wet on a class' scheduled date the visit will be postponed until the next week therefore moving the other classes forward a week. We will try our best to keep you informed of dates in these newsletters if they change.

PE

It is good to see the children all with their PE kit. We are currently doing inside and outside PE, so please make sure your child has appropriate PE kit for both sessions. Please remember to remove all earrings on the days your child has PE.

Class 4 – Tues/Thurs

Class 5 – Tues/Fri

Class 6 – Tues/Thurs

HOME LEARNING

As this half terms home learning challenge, we will be sending home a ‘tree spotter’ leaflet for you to complete with your child. Please look out for this leaflet in your child’s book bag.

SPELLINGS

In year 1 there are weekly spellings sent home with a spelling check taking place on a Tuesday. Each child has been provided with a small red exercise book to keep at home in which they can practise their spellings. New lists will be given out by their phonics teacher each week. Super speller certificates will be awarded for any child getting all of their spellings correct. Please help your child practise these spellings at home so that they have a greater chance of success each week.

READING

Well done to those parents who have been recording when they have shared a book with their child in the home/school reading diary, your comments have been most helpful. It is important for the children to read every day to practise applying their phonic knowledge and new reading skills learnt in lesson time.

BEAR HUNT and LIBRARY VISITS

A huge thank you to all of the parents that have volunteered to come on these visits so far this term. Without your help we would be unable to offer the children such enhancements to their learning. We look forward to working together with you on many other adventures this year.

SCHOOL LUNCH – THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER

The Local Education Authority has decided that **Thursday 5th October** will be the Autumn Census day. This date is particularly important in terms of our school’s future allocation of funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals, as the funding we receive will be based on the number of children who have a school meal on this day. **As a result of this decision it is vital that as many children as possible have a school meal on this day to secure the maximum funding for our school.** The special “Lunch at the Movies” menu on this day will be RED: Chicken Hotdog, GREEN: Quorn Hotdog, YELLOW: Cheesy Quesadillas.