



Year 1 Class Newsletter Spring Term 2



Please find below relevant information for this half term and a summary of what the children will be studying.

Literacy

This half term we will be writing a journey story using the book *Mr Gumpy's Outing* by John Burningham as a base with a focus on writing a descriptive setting. To warm up our model text the children will be learning about the key grammar found in the story which will consist of: **Focusing on key spellings and key vocabulary** - Mr (Tricky words), Outing - What is an outing? "The children squabbled" what is a squabble? **Proper Nouns** - Capital letters for writing character names e.g. Mr Gumpy, **Question Marks** - "Can I come Mr Gumpy?" and **Adjectives** - to describe a setting. When the children know the story well, we will begin to change elements of it to 'Mr Brunel's Outing'. The children will be able to apply the things they have learnt about Brunel and the SS *Great Britain* to this piece of creative writing. E.g. Mr Gumpy becomes Mr Brunel, owned a boat becomes owned a ship and lived by the river becomes lived by the ocean. Of course adding in some amazing adjectives to make it more interesting to read!

When we have finished this fictional unit of writing we will then begin a non-fiction unit of writing which will be all about writing letters. The children will write a thank you letter to Mr Brunel from the children in our story for letting them come on his ship.

You can help with Literacy learning at home by:

- Reading with your child every day
- Learning spellings every day and supervising your child as they neatly write their spelling words.

Phonics

The children will continue to learn phonics every morning and spelling tests will continue to be held every Friday morning. **Please remember that phonics/spelling homework books should be handed in for marking every Friday.** Please continue to help your child learn their spellings each day, little and often is best. When they have completed the practice grid, you could try testing them to check their understanding and make any corrections necessary.

Maths

This half term we will continue following our 2 maths schemes. 'Mastering Number' in our mental maths sessions and the NCETM ready to progress materials for the main part of our maths lessons. Our units for this half term are addition and subtraction facts within 10 and shape. Please find the learning outcomes for this unit by following the link.

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/classroom-resources/cp-year-1-unit-4-recognise-compose-decompose-and-manipulate-2d-and-3d-shapes/>

Numbots - You will have noticed that a couple of weeks ago your child's numbots logins were sent out in their homework folders. Numbots is an excellent resource for developing mental arithmetic in young children. I understand (from experience!) that it is hard to find time every

night to sit with your child and do this, along with the reading and spelling practice but I just ask that it is done as often as possible. The app is available on android and the apple store if your child has a tablet device which makes it more accessible to the children. Certificates will be given at the end of each week for the **most time** spent on Numbots.

History/Geography

Having spent last half term exploring our immediate environment in and around Weare School and the local area, we will now take a comparative look at the City of Bristol. We will use a simple map to find out where Bristol is and how far away it is from Weare. We will compare its size, landscape, facilities and culture.

Alongside this, we will study the History of Bristol and in particular look at the work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Brunel was an engineer of amazing ability being responsible for many innovations and inventions in our local area. He was known for his design of the Clifton Suspension Bridge which spans the gorge over the River Avon to the City of Bristol. Additionally, he designed Bristol Temple Meads Railway Station and the Great Western Railway, one of the wonders of Victorian Britain, connecting Bristol to London. This line was the first ever to carry passengers! But what is known as his greatest achievement was the building of SS Great Britain in Bristol docks. A large steam passenger liner which was launched in 1843. We of course have our **trip to the SS Great Britain on Friday 22nd March 2024**. I will be sure to take tons of photos to share with you all on class dojo!

Science

This half term we will be covering the year 1 science units of **plants**. The children will be taught to:

- Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

During science week the children will be planting and observing the changes of a bean plant (In a jam jar). They will be studying the roots and shoots that develop over the week. The children will record how their bean plants have changed by drawing and labelling their bean plants.

Art

Our art work this half term links beautifully to our science unit of plants where we will study a more classic artist, Vincent Van Gough, and his famous oil painting 'Sunflowers'. We will learn about Van Gough and his life, study the Sunflowers piece of artwork, create colour pallets and replicate this famous piece of artwork using our own interpretations.

PSHE

Our PSHE unit this half term is called 'Healthy me'. Please see the learning intentions for this unit below.

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| 1. Being Healthy | I understand the difference between being healthy and unhealthy, and know some ways to keep myself healthy | I feel good about myself when I make healthy choices |
| 2. Healthy Choices | I know how to make healthy lifestyle choices | I feel good about myself when I make healthy choices |
| 3. Clean and Healthy | I know how to keep myself clean and healthy, and understand how germs cause disease/illness I know that all household products including medicines can be harmful if not used properly | I am special so I keep myself safe |
| 4. Medicine Safety | I understand that medicines can help me if I feel poorly and I know how to use them safely | I know some ways to help myself when I feel poorly |
| 5. Road Safety | I know how to keep safe when crossing the road, and about people who can help me to stay safe | I can recognise when I feel frightened and know who to ask for help |

It just remains to say a huge "Thank You" as always for your continued support of the school and your child's education. Please continue to message me on class dojo if you need any support or any questions answered.

Many Thanks and all the best for this term, Mrs Malcolm and Miss Baker.

Show and Tell Rota

The theme this half term is "You choose". The children can choose what they would like to show and talk about with their friends.

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| Wednesday 28th February | Drew Ada Rhys Aoife Eloise Olivia P Heather |
| Wednesday 6th March | Jake Phoebe Henry Esther Billie Frank Hugo |
| Wednesday 13th March | Stanley Elsie Annabelle Oscar Cheylea Callia Ava |
| Wednesday 20th March | Neema William Fern Ernie Elodie Oliver Olivia G Dom |