

Class 1 Newsletter Spring 1

We would like to wish you a very happy new year and a warm welcome back to school. This newsletter will outline what your child will be learning about over the next few weeks. Our theme this term is **'What's that sound?'** and our learning will be based around 'noisy' stories. The children have had a fantastic first week back during which we have learnt the story 'We're Going on a Bear hunt' - drawing story maps and creating a large bear cave in the classroom.

Literacy:

We will use stories to help develop the children's listening and language skills. After reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' we are planning to go on our own hunt around school, listening carefully to what we hear and then creating our own story. We then plan to explore other 'noisy stories', create our own musical instruments to make different sounds and then use these in a final carnival parade. We will also develop our writing skills by writing labels, lists and simple sentences, concentrating on remembering to leave spaces between words and using our phonic knowledge to write words accurately. Phonics will continue daily and we will complete learning Phase 3 sounds and then revise using these to read and write words.

Practising saying these sounds and making them into simple regular words all help to develop their reading.

Reading books:

Sharing books regularly is really important for reading development. Encouraging your child to talk through the pictures in the books and tell the story helps them to be able to understand and read the text. You could ask them questions about what they think is happening and why. Encourage them to say the sounds and then blend them together to read the words. If they are able encourage them to blend the sounds in their head and then this will enable them to read more fluently. Many books will have 'tricky words' in which they are learning in school, so encourage them to read these by sight. Individual reading will take place twice weekly in school. Please make sure you make a note in your child's reading record that you have listened to them read each book at least once (a tick or smiley face is fine) and we will change them each week.

Maths:

The children will learn to compare and order numbers to 20 and that 'teen' numbers are '10 and 1 more' etc. They will explore patterns and symmetry practically and in nature. They will investigate doubling and then the link with halving and also begin to learn numbers that add together to make a total of 10. They will revisit measuring length and height and using the correct language.

In art we will explore musical instruments - finding out how to play them and the sounds they make. We will also make our own instruments. In Understanding the World we will learn how to look after and feed the birds that visit our garden. In RE we will learn about special stories in the bible and also in other religions.

Tapestry:

We regularly add observations of the children to Tapestry. It would be great if you could share these with your child and I'm sure they would love to tell you what they have been learning about. It is also fantastic for us to see what they have been doing at home too. Adding a photograph or a sentence about their weekend enables us to have even better knowledge of your child and I know some of you already do this.

Just a reminder that the children have access to the outside classroom throughout the day so please ensure that your child has a coat or waterproof every day.

PE is on Tuesday afternoons so please ensure your child has their named indoor and outdoor kit at school throughout the term.

If you do have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to come in and talk to us.

Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Rodgers