

Welcome back Class 1



Welcome back, I hope you've all have a great Easter break and are ready to engage in our new learning experiences. Our topic this half term is '**Memory Box**'. During this topic we'll be thinking about memories from our past and looking at changes that have happened in our lives so far. Our History focus will be on toys and understanding how they have changed over time from when our grandparents were little to the present day. We'll be learning about Richard Steiff who designed the very first jointed teddy bear. In Science, we'll be learning all about different plants and the conditions needed for growth. We'll have a go at growing and looking after our own plants and tracking their growth in a plant diary. We'll also be studying the work of a famous botanist; Agnes Arber.

We have two very special visitors coming at the end of April who will be teaching us all about toys in the Victorian era and allow us to explore and handle old toys and games. More information to follow.

This half term we will be looking traditional tales; **The Gingerbread Man, Hansel and Gretel, Snow White and The Three Billy Goats Gruff**. Our focus for the beginning of the half term will be instruction writing for gingerbread and a candy house. We'll then move onto working on our language choices to describe characters and settings.

Daily Sounds Write phonics sessions, alongside active and written handwriting sessions will be a part of our weekly routine, which will help with our gross and fine motor skills, leading to improved handwriting. We shall be having a big push on phonics this half term in preparation for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check in June.

The Year 1 and 2 children are a part of guided reading sessions in small stage appropriate groups. They will be listening to stories, talking about the stories and applying their reading skills. There will be a focus on reading and interpreting the text to understand the story at a deeper level. We aim to read with your children individually at least once a week. However please do remember that we read several times a day individually, as part of a small group and a whole class and this is not documented in your child's reading diary. Please spend time looking at this with your child as often as possible and ensure that your child's book is in school EVERY DAY.

This term our Reception children will be counting to 20 and beyond. Looking at manipulating, composing and decomposing numbers. We'll be learning about odd and even numbers and making doubles.

Our Year 1 and 2 Maths focus will be on Fractions; recognising parts and wholes, half, quarters and thirds before moving onto unit and non—unit fractions. We'll then move onto Time, looking at days of the week, months of the year and then onto minutes and hours. Our Year 2 children will be telling the time to 5 minute intervals.

Class 1's PE sessions will continue to be on a
MONDAY and FRIDAY.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY!

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the correct kit and that it is named.

Our PSHE focus this half term is **Relationships**. We'll be learning our relationships with our family and friends. Learning about different types of families and how to be a good friend. We'll be looking at the qualities of the important people in our lives and understanding the people that help us. Appreciating people will be a big part of this topic and understanding how to show people how we feel.

Ways to help with learning at home this term

Weekly spellings will be sent home for the Year 1 and 2 children, to be tested on a WEDNESDAY. Please take a look at these each week and help your child to spell the words independently. Mrs Stevens posts these via Seesaw each week.

Reading—Please ensure that your child's reading book and diary comes to school every day. Please remember to write in your child's diary every time you read with them. We very much value your support in listening to your child read. Sharing books together is a fantastic way to nurture positive reading habits. Bedtime stories where you model the reading is hugely beneficial.

Homework challenges— Each child will receive a homework challenge menu via Seesaw. There will be enough tasks to complete at least 1 per week based on our topic. You can choose any way that you would like to record your experiences, for example, you can use pictures, photographs, writing, cartoons or you could stick souvenirs in your book. You can also choose the order in which you complete the challenges. Please don't worry if you do not get chance to complete all of the challenges, they are designed for you to pick and choose which activities you would like to do with your child and that fit around your family life. Each week we will choose a selection of work to be presented to the class to develop social and communication skills. We do hope that you can complete as many challenges as possible so that your child can share their successes with their peers and school staff.

Many Thanks for your continued support

Miss Timbrell and the Class 1 team