



Key Stage One Newsletter Spring Term 2024



Welcome to a new year. We have a lot of exciting things planned for this term and the rest of the year!
The children have had a fantastic start back to school. They are working hard and look great in their smart school uniforms and school shoes.

Please make sure that the children's clothes are all named as we always have a box full of lost property!

KS1 team

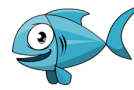
Tadpoles: Mrs Craig

Minnows: Mrs Dakramendjian

Ducklings: Miss Parris

Sticklebacks: Mrs Dearn

TAs and HLTAs: Miss Appleby, Mrs O'Rourke, Mrs Fawkes, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Jain, Mrs Sharp, Miss Clifford and Mrs Morton.



Literacy

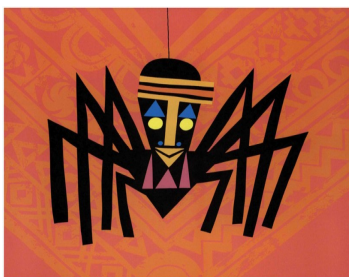
Our Literacy work the first half-term will focus around the stories of Anansi. We will start by focusing on the traditional story of 'How Anansi Got His Stories.' Retelling the story and writing a diary entry from Anansi's point of view.

Following this, we will concentrate on non-fiction writing about spiders. We will learn lots of interesting facts and how to put these into a non-fiction report. We will look at different non-fiction books and have lots of interesting information to include in our writing.

We will also look at the story of 'How Anansi got 8 skinny legs' and write a newspaper report based on this reporting on what happened and thinking about viewpoints of different characters.

In Spring 2 half term, we will be linking our Literacy lessons with our topic of 'trains'. We will be reading lots of the 'Little Red Train' books and writing character and setting descriptions as well as writing our own stories based on the Duffy the train driver.

Read write Inc will continue this term and we will be working on quick recall of the sounds and speedy reading too.



Numeracy

In Year 1 we will start the year by focusing on addition and subtraction, then look at measuring length and height and complete the half term by looking at place value of larger numbers. In Spring 2 half term they will move on to measuring weight and volume and then multiplication and division.

In Year 2 we will be focusing on division using grouping and repeatedly subtracting the same number to find an answer. They will then look at place value; estimating and odd and even numbers and move on to statistics looking at different types of graphs to record data. In Spring 2 half term they will look at shape, fractions and complete problem solving activities and recap methods for adding and subtracting.

Within this, we will also be working on the children's ability to use their calculation skills to solve puzzles and word problems.

Children will also be continuing to complete daily maths drills. You can help them with their maths skills by asking them known number facts, such as times tables. We will also continue working on Multipliers to ensure quick recall of times tables and division facts.



Curriculum information

Science

In Year 1 we will be carrying out lots of scientific investigations using our knowledge of materials and we will be building up our investigation skills. In the second half term we will be learning about the parts of our bodies and doing lots of work associated with the different senses.

In Year 2 the children will be learning about how they can keep their bodies healthy through diet, exercise and practising good hygiene. In the second half term they will be working on answering questions and completing comparative tests to find the best solution to the questions. They will be making predictions and finding conclusions.

Geography

In Geography this half term we will be focusing on St Lucia and learning the human and physical features of the country. We will then compare the UK to St Lucia and look at the different types of weather.

History

After half term, we will be looking at the history of trains. We will look at the chronology of trains, the importance of George Stephenson and how trains changed people's lives. There will be lots of opportunity to compare trains from the past and modern trains.

DT

In DT this half term we are learning how to create a fruit salad from a design brief. We will start to look at the key steps in the design process and carry out product research.

After half term, we will be making our own moving train and carry out lots of research into how to make successful axles.

RE

In RE this half term we will be learning about sacred texts for Christians and Jewish people and then in the next half term we will look at Jewish and Christian values including gratefulness and honesty.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be looking at healthy living and reminding ourselves what we need to do to keep ourselves clean and healthy. After half term we will look at ways of keeping physically and emotionally safe in different situations.

Computing

In Computing Year 1 will look at creating algorithms and Year 2 will be using their knowledge of Scratch to create a simple game. After half term Year 1 will look at online safety and Year 2 will look at computers and technology and how to make them work.

Dates for your diary...

22nd Jan—World Religion Day
23rd Jan—Anansi Storyteller Visitor
W/C 29th Jan - Book week
30th Jan - Bedtime Story 4:30-5:30pm
2nd Feb - Book day—dress up as a book character day.
16th Feb - Break up for half term
26th Feb - Back to school
13th and 14th March - Parents Evening
29th March - Break up for Easter
15th April - Back to school

Reading

Reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance.

Children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. This is why we want children to read at least 4x a week at home and for that they can earn stickers, Dojos and their name on the special reading display.

Please ensure that each time you read with your child you sign their diary.

PE



Tadpoles: Tuesday and Thursday
Minnows: Tuesday and Friday
Sticklebacks: Monday and Friday
Ducklings: Wednesday and Friday

All pupils in Key Stage One need to bring their P.E. kits (black shorts, red t-shirt and plimsolls or trainers) every Monday. Kits can be taken home on Friday for washing.

The PE cup is awarded to the class with the most children in full PE kit, so please ensure your child has the correct kit for each lesson. Every class would love to win the trophy!

Reminders

- ◆ Your child will be given spellings every Monday and will need to practise them ready for a spelling test on Friday.
- ◆ The children will be given homework on Thursday each week. Please ensure that they complete these tasks and return by Tuesday. There is usually an activity set on Teams and Mymaths.
- ◆ Please can you remind your child to bring their book bag and diary to school everyday.
- ◆ Every child needs to have a water bottle, filled with water, in school so that they don't become dehydrated during the school day. Please make sure that the bottle is named.