

# Meerkats Newsletter.



Dear Parents / carers

The following newsletter contains information about the year 1 curriculum which is being covered during the Spring term.

## Literacy

During our English lessons this term we will be covering a range of areas from the English curriculum including drama, descriptive writing, traditional tales from other countries and instructions. These will be covered whilst studying a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts.

We are having a whole class focus on sentence structure and punctuation this term. Children will be reminded of the correct use of capital letters and full stops. They will also need to remember to start their writing at the left-hand side of the page and to continue writing underneath, not above, what is already written. Please remind them of these points when they are completing written work at home.

We are focusing on suffixes ed, ing and es

## Numeracy

The children will be continuing to work on addition and subtraction this term. They will be using and applying their skills from term 1 to complete calculations using larger numbers.

We will also be looking at place value. Children will need to know which order numbers go in and why, what each digit in a number represents and be able to state 1 more and less than a number to 50.

As well as number we will also be learning about measure and this term that will be mass, volume, length and height.

The children will be increasing their speed at making mental calculations through a weekly timed Mental Maths test.

## PE

PE will continue to be on a **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Earrings need to be removed and long hair tied back. Over the course of the term we will be covering ball skills, dance, gymnastics and PE fundamentals.

## Science

This term we are studying materials. The children will have to identify different materials, group them according to criteria and identify pros and cons for them. We will be exploring which materials are best suited for different purposes and completing investigations to help us with this. Children will then evaluate the investigations and determine why materials are better.

## **RE**

In Spring 1 we are learning about Judaism.

The children will make sense of the belief by recognising the words of the Shema as a Jewish prayer, retelling simply some stories used in Jewish celebrations (e.g. Hanukkah or Pesach), give examples of how the stories used in celebrations (e.g. Shabbat, Pesach) remind Jews about what God is like and talking about beliefs and the Torah.

In Spring 2 we will be learning about why Easter is an important celebration for Christians. We will discuss why we have Easter eggs and how it links to new beginnings

## **Topic**

Our topic this term is Granny's attic.

This is a History based topic and covers a larger proportion of the history curriculum. Within this topic the children will find out about toys from the past, how houses and décor have changed, what seaside holidays were like, what was considered entertainment and about schooling.

## **Computing**

For the first half term we are becoming painters. The children will draw a fairy tale character, design a background and then transfer this on to the computer using a paint package.

The second half term sees them being collectors. This will introduce the children to search engines, collecting and collating information and presenting it using pictures and text.

## **PSHCE**

This term we will be covering a unit called 'Keeping safe' which allows the children to recognise the importance of sleep in maintaining a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Recognise emotions and physical feelings associated with feeling unsafe and identify people who can help them. Understand and learn the PANTS rules; Name and know which parts should be private; Explain the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch; Understand that they have the right to say "no" to unwanted touch; Start thinking about who they trust and who they can ask for help.

Understand that medicines can sometimes make people feel better when they're ill; Explain simple issues of safety and responsibility about medicines and their use. Recognise the range of feelings that are associated with loss.

## **Art & design technology**

In the first half term we will be studying Lowry in our Art lessons. The children will mix paint in Lowry colours, paint a seascape and draw simple buildings, find matchstick people in the paintings, talk about what they are doing and draw them in action to assemble a collage, compare paintings and comment on Lowry's colours and paintings

Design technology will be completed in the second half term, where the children will design and make a teddy bear puppet using their sewing skills. They will then evaluate their experience and the creation against specific criteria.

If you would like more detailed information about what we teach please refer to the school website.

You will find curriculum maps on the class page and a detailed progression of skills document under the 'curriculum' tab for each subject.

