



## Year 1 and 2 Class Newsletter Summer Term 1 2023 – 2024

Hello and welcome back to our Summer Term!

I cannot believe we are in Summer 1 already; this year seems to be whizzing past. I hope you thoroughly enjoyed the Easter break and have had plenty of time to avoid the rain, make the most of any fleeting sunshine and also have a rest ready for our busy half term ahead.

As always, below is a short outline of what we will be covering this half term. Please have a read through so that you are aware of what your child will be learning. We have a wide range of different topics and units of study to be looking forward to as well as our trip to Oxford Castle on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

### Curriculum

English	Year 1	We will begin by thinking about the past tense and begin writing simple recount of our trip to Oxford Castle. We will focus on using our writing non-negotiables (capital letters, full stops, spaces between our words) and using the capital letter 'I' for a personal pronoun. We will be learning to write in a logical sequence, writing sentences that follow a set of pictures. After our recount writing unit, we will be focusing on information texts. Within this unit, we will be thinking about the features of an information text as well as verbally talking about the purpose of one. We will again, be writing a basic information text that will include simple sentence structures. We will then move onto our next unit which will be poetry! The children will be looking at the <i>Big Book of Blooms</i> to inform and excite, ready for their own poetry about one of the many disgusting, pretty and even flesh-eating plants! The children will have a choice about what plant they would like to write a poem about and then they will collect and collate their ideas into mind maps, filled with exciting adjectives to write a poem about one of the incredible plants mentioned within the text.
	Year 2	We too will be following the same structure as Year 1 for our unit of recount writing. Of course, we will be up-skilling this to a Year 2 level, thinking about different sentence structure types as well as adding more relevant information to make our recount as interesting as possible. Following this, we will start to look at writing some information texts based around our science unit of study – <i>Plants</i> . We will be thinking about the features of an information text as well as starting to develop how we are going to lay out our work and find out relevant and exciting information that someone would be interested in. Finally, our final writing unit will be Poetry. Within this unit, we will be taking the much beloved book – <i>The Big Book of Blooms</i> , from Year 1, to develop our poetry even further. This text has so much scope and produced so much excitement and love from the children that I think they will enjoy using their new Year 2 skills to develop their poetry further. When writing our poetry this half term, we will be writing a structured grammar poem, in which the children will need to follow a set of rules and keep to it, applying their own twists and personalities into their writing to make their poem both engaging and exciting.

<b>Maths</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	We will be starting off our half term by looking at Multiplication and Division. In this unit we will be looking at how we can count and represent our times tables in 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be looking at identifying equal and unequal groups and how we can often use counting in our times tables as a quicker way of counting when things are presented in a certain way. We will also be introducing the multiplication symbol (x) but using the terminology 'groups of' – this will ensure that the children are thinking about the visual representation rather than the abstract understanding of what times actually means. Following our unit of Multiplication and Division, we will start to focus on Fractions. We will be looking at the terminology, whole, half and a quarter. We will be thinking and applying our knowledge to both number and shape. Finally, we will be rounding the half term off with some simple geometry – looking at position and direction. We will be describing turns, position, left and right as well as forwards and backwards, above and below.
	<b>Year 2</b>	We will first be looking at Fractions – recalling and remembering our learning from Year 1. Looking at halves and quarters again, applying what we know to both number and shape. We will then go on to develop our fraction knowledge even further, to look at a third. After this, our unit of study will be time where we will be recalling and reviewing time to the hour and half past the hour. After we have refreshed our memories, we will then start to introduce quarter to and quarter past the hour and then also start to look at time on an analogue clock with 5-minute increments. We will think and learn about how many minutes are in an hour and how many minutes are within a day. Year 2 will also focus on Position and Direction. We will be thinking about how we can use language to describe position, describe movements and also describe turns. We will then be looking at shape patterns and implementing turns into this too.
<b>Phonics</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	As always, we will continue to be using our scheme of Little Wandle to make our way through the plethora of different sounds and tricky spellings within our lessons. We will also be having a focus on the Phonics Screening Test – which will take place in June and is compulsory for all Year 1 students. The children are already very familiar with the process as we have built this into our lessons throughout the entire year. The children will be decoding (using systematic, synthetic phonics) real and alien (made-up) words. The children all really seem to enjoy this and are not fazed by the test-like structure - in fact, they seem to love it quite a lot!
<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	We will continue using Spelling Shed to develop our new spelling patterns this half term. The children are always keen to log on and play interactive games within their learning time! We will begin by looking at the sound 'l' at the end of the word and think about the rules associated with adding either -el or -le. We will have some time together to develop our knowledge and then embed this skill independently whilst playing Spelling Shed games. Following this rule, we will also start to learn and understand the -al or -il at the end of words. We will be looking at how lots of nouns end in -all and how not many adjectives do. We will then start to introduce the concept of homophones. Within this section of our spelling unit we will cover some of the homophones we have already spoken about briefly but we will be getting down to the nitty gritty this time!
<b>Geography</b>	<b>All children</b>	Within our unit of <i>Our Locality</i> this half term we will be exploring the UK in entirety. We will be thinking about what countries are located within the UK, what the UK stands for and how we are going to be able to remember what each of these countries key aspects are like, e.g. thinking about common themes within these areas. We will be looking at the names of the countries, be able to identify these on a map of the UK and also be able to name and locate the capital cities of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. We will be exploring

		some of the UK's famous landmarks through the use of aerial photography where we will become familiar where they are located and decide if these are human or physical. We will be doing lots of different map work to ensure that we are recalling and using our prior knowledge and developing this further.
<b>Science</b>	<b>All children</b>	Our unit for the whole of summer term is <i>Plants</i> . Within this unit we will be starting off learning some key information and then in summer term 2 we will take what we have learnt and apply this to slightly more advanced ideas and concepts. To start us off, we will be looking at identifying and naming a variety of garden and wild plants, thinking about deciduous and evergreen trees – identifying the differences and similarities between these two different types of trees and plants – both in what they do and how they feel to touch. We will also start to explore a basic structure of common flowering plants, including trees. This will include lots of work using magnifying glasses, dissecting flowers and plants as well as starting to have a go at sketching and drawing the parts of a plant and labelling them with the correct terminology. We will plant some of our own seeds to watch and experience the growing process first hand, before we start to look at this in more depth in Summer 2.
<b>D&amp;T</b>	<b>All children</b>	Fabric Faces will be our DT unit this half term. We will be following a specific design criteria to create a purposeful, functional and appealing product. We will be using our design criteria to design a fabric face. We will learn how to select from a range of tools and equipment as well as using a range of different materials, components to complete our fabric faces. We will also, once complete, evaluate our fabric faces in the context of both existing products as well as others from around the room. We will be learning how to sew running stitch, using a real needle and thread. The children may find this is a little tricky to start with but usually with a little bit of time and patients we do get there – mostly!
<b>Computing</b>	<b>All children</b>	Our first unit of study this half term will be <i>Grouping and Sorting</i> . Within this unit we will be looking at how we can sort different items both at the computer and away from it too. The children will be looking at making and answering questions in a quiz style – linked with our previous learning – then have a go at developing a sorting question on their Chromebook. We will introduce the terminology 'algorithm' to describe a logical process. Our next few lessons will be based around the unit of <i>Lego Builders</i> . Within this scheme of work, we will be looking at how to follow simple instructions, and emphasise the importance of following instructions carefully. We will be looking at creating and following simple instructions on the computer and then considering how the order of the instructions affects the results that we see. As always, computing can be a little challenging so any additional time spent at home developing logging on skills and familiarity with Purple Mash is always appreciated.
<b>PSHE</b>	<b>All children</b>	This half term we will be focusing on our new topic <i>Health and Wellbeing</i> . This unit will last the entire summer term. To begin this half term we will start thinking about the importance of sleep. We will think about how sleep is necessary for growth, our immunity to germs and even the fact that sleep = energy! We will talk about how to get good quality sleep and how a bedtime routine might help us get more and even better sleep too. Following this we will start looking at how medicines should be used and how they can help keep us healthy. Additionally, we will be thinking about how we should act around medicines in the house and who should be giving us medicine. We will then start to look at the importance of brushing our teeth, foods that contribute to bad teeth problems and how we can avoid extra trips to the dentist. We will explore the human life cycle, our body parts and look at some of the changes we go through from babies into adults.

RE	All children	Our big question this half term is <i>What makes some people so important?</i> Within this unit we will be studying what this question means to us as well as thinking about who is most important to us and why. Within this, we will also start to look at how other people can influence us and think about if this is always a good thing. We will be exploring who the important people are in different religions and understand what makes them important. We will be asking questions about why people need leaders in life and think about how important they are in the world we live in today. We will then go on to think about what sort of influence these people have on not only ourselves but other people around us too. We will then look at the leaders we have studied and create a list of qualities that make a good leader.
PE	All children	PE days will remain the same on a <b>Tuesday</b> and <b>Thursday</b> so please do ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the day and the weather ahead! As the weather continues to get a little brighter, please do not forget to send your child in with a water bottle, a hat and if they are prone to sun burn – please do apply sun cream before the start of the school day!

As always, you know where I am – please do not hesitate to contact me at any point if you have any questions, queries or concerns.

**Miss Jupp**  
**Year 1 and 2 Class Teacher**