



Dormice Class Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to the spring term! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and enjoyed your family time. We would like to say a huge THANK YOU for the lovely gifts you bought us! We are looking forward to getting stuck back into our learning and will be covering some fantastic topics during the Spring terms.

PSED Personal, social and emotional development

In PSED we will be starting the term by reflecting on our first term in Reception and making wishes and goals for the rest of the year. The children will be engaging in lots of collaborative play and activities to practise turn taking and negotiating ideas. We will be talking about what makes a good friend and listing the qualities that we look for in a friend. We will also be exploring feelings and emotions related to different stories and characters.

Year 1-

During Term 3, we will be looking at a range of different jobs and considering why people work, as well as discussing how strengths enable people to work. In Term 4, we will be investigating the rules and restrictions in our society which keep us safe and healthy, as well as discussing online safety.



Communication and Language

We will be working really hard this term to speak clearly to explain our ideas and give reasons for our decisions. The children will be learning lots of new vocabulary and will be encouraged to use this in their play. We will be listening to and responding to lots of new and familiar stories and rhymes.



Physical Development

In the spring term we will be continuing our daily 'Funky fingers' activities to develop hand strength and fine motor skills. The emphasis for some children will begin to move towards letter formation and pencil control. We will be taking part in our weekly PE lessons in the hall. The children will also learn lots of new games to play in the garden involving negotiating space.

Year 1-

In Term 3 we will focus on our dynamic and static balance, learning to follow simple rules and begin to order instructions, movements and skills. In Term 4 we are going to be building our coordination and counter balance skills through ball games and working with partners.

Phonics

Year R

We will be beginning the next phase of our phonics learning and the children will extend their knowledge by learning about digraphs (sh, ng, ai) and trigraphs (igh, air). We will be learning to identify these graphemes within words and use them in our writing.

Year 1

The Year one children will be continuing to 'Grow the Code' by learning lots of different alternative graphemes for phonemes and alternative pronunciations of different graphemes that they already know.

Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au

Writing

This term we will be continuing to provide exciting opportunities for children to write in their play. We will also be doing lots of writing in response to our topic and stories such as writing facts about birds, writing information about Lunar New year and writing postcards from Scotland. We will also be creating our own story.

Year 1 children will be concentrating on using capital letters and full stops consistently and independently in their writing and joining ideas together using the conjunctions 'and' and 'because'.

Handwriting will be a big focus this term and children will practise forming all letters correctly.



Reading

This term we will be exploring a range of different stories including 'The Go-Away Bird', 'Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car' and 'On sudden Hill'. The children will be encouraged to answer lots of questions about the stories and make predictions about what they think might happen at different points. They will explore different characters and act out stories using role play props and puppets.

Please continue to read a range of texts at home. The more exposure to texts that the children have at home, the more they will develop a love of reading.



Mathematics

This term, we will be growing all of the skills we have previously been learning in maths by applying them to numbers to 10. We will be counting sets of objects and finding the correct numeral to represent different amounts. The children will be using objects to find one more and then one less than numbers from 1-10. We will also be learning about the composition of numbers by our exploration of addition and subtraction.

Outside of number, we will be exploring measures including measuring height, length, capacity and weight. We will also be looking at time in relation to the days of the week and our daily timetable.

Year 1 -

This term in maths, Year 1 will be learning about:

- Place Value within 20
- Addition and Subtraction within 20
- Place Value within 50
- Length and Height
- Mass and Volume

Understanding the World

We will be starting the term by finding out about the birds that like in our environment and by taking part in the RSPB garden bird watch. Later in the term we will be finding out about penguins and comparing the UK to Antarctica, learning about the similarities and differences. We will also be exploring ice and melting. We will be finding out about Lunar New Year and how it is celebrated and later in the term we will be finding out about Burn's Night.



Expressive Arts and Design

Over the course of the Spring term, we will be continuing to enjoy our music lessons from our Kapow scheme which will focus on exploring different sounds including body sounds, nature sounds and environmental sounds.

We will be taking part in a range of art and design activities linked to our different topics including painting watercolour birds, designing and making vehicles using junk modelling materials, weaving tartan and using different materials to print snowy scenes for penguins.



Religious Education

In RE this term we will be focussing on stories from the New Testament. Our key learning question is:

What do Christians believe is special about Jesus and the message he brings?

We will be learning about Jesus and his disciples and some of the stories from the New Testament including some of the miracles performed by Jesus.

Year 1

During the Spring terms, we will be looking at the units:

-Gospel (Digging Deeper) What is the good news that Jesus brings?

-Salvation (Digging Deeper) What does Easter mean to Christians?

Information and reminders

Little Wandle Reading Books

Little Wandle reading books will continue to be sent home on a Friday and should be returned each Monday. We track these books and children will only be issued a new book if they have returned the previous one.

PE kits need to be kept in school

Thank you for your support so far. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to one of us at any time.

Miss Payne, Mrs Panesar, Mrs Wise and Mrs Watson

Naming Clothes

Last term we had quite a large number of clothing items that we had to put in lost property as we couldn't track their owners. Please remember to clearly name ALL items of clothing. This particularly includes hats, scarves and gloves which will undoubtedly be required throughout the spring term.