**Year 1 Newsletter**

**Summer Term 2021**

Dear Parent,

I would like to start by saying how impressed I am with how the children have returned to school after the Easter break. I feel they needed that break to rest before starting our final term in Year 1. I am sure this term is going to be a huge success for our Year 1 pupils. I am extremely proud of the progress they have all made so far and I am certain that they will continue to strive to be the best that they can be even in the light of Lockdown. We will continue to learn in the same way as before the holidays working on and mastering basic skills for English, Reading, Writing and Maths. We will continue to use our Linked Learning Room to challenge and explore learning in different ways throughout the week. I will continue to share photographs and messages about the children’s learning via the Marvellous Me App so you can see their achievements.

**Summer Term Curriculum**

This term we will continue to apply our skills to ensure that the children will be equipped and ready for Year 2. To do this we will focus primarily on English, Reading and Maths skills as well as using our Linked Learning Room to provide the children will resources that will broaden their thinking and encourage discussion around their learning. Children will use the seesaw app to highlight their learning journey this term.

During our PSHE time, we will continue to provide the children with opportunities to engage in discussion and will reflect daily on our feelings and emotions. Our PE sessions will be based around ‘fitness fun’ and we will work on pace and agility through ‘Athletics’. We will also continue to work on technique and accuracy when throwing and receiving a ball. Our Geography theme this half term is ‘Our Country’ so we will focus on naming and locating the countries that make up the UK and as well as naming the seas that surround the UK.

Our English genre this half term is Fiction so we will focus on writing ‘Fantasy’ stories based around the story ‘Aliens love underpants’ as a hook we will link in with our Art theme which is looking and creating repeating patterns using the famous artist ‘Kandinsky’ to create some wonderful underpants.

Our Science theme this half term is ‘Plants’ so the children will get their hands dirty and they will plant beans and other plants. The children will then be asked to work scientifically to observe and ask questions around what they have done and be given opportunities to discuss their findings.

Our RE theme this half term will be to look and compare similarities and differences between Christianity and Judaism looking at the resting day on the 7th day ‘Christianity’ and Shabbat ‘Judaism’.

**Reading at home and in school**

Reading at home is incredibly important and it is important to do all you can to practise reading skills at home.

This year, we have had to adapt the programme slightly to ensure that we are following government guidance and advice. The initiative asks for your child to read a minimum of 3 times per week at home. This term, we are asking children to read a minimum of 3 times per week at home from Monday to Friday. This can be any reading material e.g. their reading book, a magazine, a recipe book or even a football programme. Adults at home need to ensure that if their child reads, they sign their reading record as proof of this reading. If your child gains 3 or more signatures in a week, they will earn a star which will be put into their reading record. Reading records will be collected in on a Friday and checked ready to give back to the children on a Monday morning.

**Homework**

Homework in the Summer Term will involve children learning their spellings, in preparation for their weekly test on a Friday morning, and completing their reading practice three times per week. In addition to this, pupils will receive pieces of work which will further support their Phonics and Maths understanding. We are conscious that we do not wish to overburden our pupils but know that many of you enjoy completing extra activities with your children and we would encourage you to continue to do so – please feel free to carry out your own research about your child’s topic. Something like a piece of artwork or a game is always great to share with the class and can add valuable contributions to our curriculum.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me and we can discuss them.

Here’s to a great Summer term!

Thank you,

Mrs Kentfield-Howe