

Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Class One

Autumn 2016



Our Themes:

Autumn Term 1 – The Stories People Tell

Autumn Term 2 – Let's Celebrate

CLASS TEACHER: Mrs Stephanie Clayton

TEACHER (MONDAY-THURSDAY): Mrs Samantha Watson

TEACHER (FRIDAY): Mrs Katie Priestley

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Mrs Nadine Crump

Our Key Values:

Caring Commitment to Achieve Co-operation

Independence Happiness Respect



Welcome back to Class One! I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and are ready for an exciting year ahead ☺ The children have all settled in so well and look very smart in their school uniforms! I am looking forward to working with you all again and having another great year! We are all very excited with the learning we have planned for our Autumn term IPC units and our specific Foundation Stage weekly themes. We are also very much looking forward to welcoming back Madam Westerby for our Friday French lessons! Here is what you need to know about the curriculum, along with specific information for Class One. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am available before school, and after school by appointment.

English

During this term we will be linking our literacy with our IPC units. We will begin with fiction writing about Fairy Tales before moving onto non-fiction writing about Robin Hood, and using visual literacy where appropriate. We will continue having a weekly handwriting lesson and lots of further consolidation work. Punctuation and grammar will be taught in every lesson and spellings will be taught and revisited daily in discrete sessions. In addition to this, guided reading will be taught weekly and a discrete phonics lesson is taught before lunch every day. Individual weekly phonics challenges at home will support our learning in school (more is explained at the end of this newsletter).

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will learn about counting, partitioning and calculating; securing number facts, understanding shape; handling data, measure; calculating, measure and understanding shape; securing number facts, relationships and calculating. All the contexts in these lessons, including problem-solving ones, will link to the IPC units where possible.

Science

In Science this term we will be studying 'Seasonal Changes: Autumn and Winter'. After half term the topic will be 'Seeing the Light' which will be contextualised to our IPC unit 'Let's Celebrate!'

R.E

For the first half term we will be looking at 'Living in Harmony: How Do We Show We Care?' Next half term we will be learning about celebration in different religions including, of course, Christmas!

Computing

We will begin with the unit 'We Are Storytellers' and after half term we will be doing 'We Are Celebrating'. We will continue teaching the children about the importance of E-Safety.

PSHE

This year we will be continuing with the new Jigsaw scheme that was implemented last year. In term 1 we will begin with 'Being Me In My World' and after half term the unit will be 'Celebrating Differences'.

P.E

In P.E the children the children will take part in lessons with outside coaches on Wednesday afternoons and swimming lessons on Thursday afternoons. After half term, the children will have one longer PE session with the specialist coaches on Wednesdays only.

International Primary Curriculum

We learn these subjects through our theme. For our themes we have an entry day to enthuse the children and an exit day to celebrate all that we have learned.

Term 1	Term 2
Our theme is 'The Stories People Tell'.	Our theme will be 'Let's Celebrate!'
Our WOW day will explore different fairy tales that we are already familiar with, and creating our own stories to share with the class.	Our WOW day will be one big celebration – the children will choose what they want to celebrate and how they will.
Our exit day will hopefully involve inviting parents in to share our stories that we have written and learned about over the half term.	Our exit day will be an even bigger celebration that involves the whole school.

Term 1	Term 2
As Historians we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About myths and legends from different times in the past. • How to create our own legend about someone we know. • About the gods that people used to worship in the past. 	As Historians we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How people in our families celebrated in the recent past. • How particular past events are still celebrated.
As Artists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How people in the past have represented stories and characters. • How we can use art to tell a creation story. • How to create our own Greek masks. • How to design and make our own dream catcher. 	As Artists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How decorations were used in the past. • How the work of artists is used in celebrations. • How to make images and artefacts that could be used in celebrations.
As Geographers we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About stories from different countries and cultures. • How we can remember an important journey. • How we can make a map of our own imaginary land. 	As Technologists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to plan for a celebration. • How to design and make a product for a celebration.
In Society we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About fairy tales and the lessons that they teach us. • How we can make a modern version of a fairy tale. • About whom we think of as 'heroes' today. 	In Society we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How different people celebrate different events. • How different groups of people have different rules.
In International we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About legendary and mythological characters from our different home countries. 	In International we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the same and what is different between the celebrations in the home countries of the different children in our class.

Important Information

Our weekly homework will continue to be **set on Thursdays** and **returned on Mondays**. Children get house points for each piece of homework they complete to a good standard and I often award merits for super effort, so please encourage your child to complete their homework on time. I set homework that links to our current learning in class, and should mostly be able to be completed independently without the need for lots of adult support (other than reading the task to them). Please ensure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time; I cannot always mark late homework.

There will not be weekly spelling tests this year. Common exception word (CEW) lists have been sent home in KS1 homework books this week for regular practice at home throughout the year.

Our P.E days this year are **Wednesdays** (PE) and **Thursdays** (SWIMMING). Children will need their indoor AND outdoor PE kit for this term so that they are prepared for lessons both outside and in the village hall. Swimming takes place on **Thursday afternoons**; please make sure your child has their swimming kit and that earrings are not worn (or can be removed by the child themselves on these days). A small container to keep them inside would be helpful, as adults will not be held responsible for lost earrings. PE IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM, HOWEVER, CHILDREN CANNOT TAKE PART IF THEY DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL WITH THEIR COMPLETE KIT INCLUDING SUITABLE FOOTWEAR (PLIMSOLLS OR TRAINERS). Please consult the school's uniform policy for the correct PE kit.

Phonics challenges (for those that haven't completed them) will continue to be tested **weekly** (the day is dependent on timetabling commitments but will be near the end of the week). The children respond really well to these, with many completing them before the summer holidays. Please continue to practice these with your child as often as you can, alongside listening to them read every night. THE SHEETS DO NOT NEED TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL OR HANDED IN WITH HOMEWORK.

Children will be able to have their reading book changed as often as they want (by an adult). Remember, every time your child finishes a book and has their reading diary signed, they will get a tick on their reading reward chart. After 10 books they will be given a merit. Bronze (50), gold (100) and platinum (150) certificates will be awarded in Friday celebration assemblies for reading a certain number of books. There will be no silver (75) award this year. Children who achieve their Bronze, Gold or Platinum awards (every 50 books) will attend the prestigious Golden Coin Party at the end of term! *Please understand that the children's reading stage will be changed when they have demonstrated over a period of time that they have improved their fluency and comprehension on that stage. There are a number of varied books for each reading stage and it is important that the children read a breadth of different genres. Before making the decision to move the children up a level, I always consult their National Curriculum reading level first.*

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible in Reception and Key Stage 1, including being responsible for bringing their P.E. kits and homework books on the correct day, and reminding them to change their reading books when they need to. We ask for your support with this.

Whilst your child will always read to an adult once a week in guided reading (and additional times if there are available adults), we are always looking for parents willing to come into school to listen to the children read. If you can help with this it would be greatly appreciated. We will also always need additional adults to accompany us on school trips throughout the year. Please see me if you think you can help.

The children are welcome to come into the classroom from 8:30am where there will be an adult waiting, and another at the gate. The children are encouraged to come in by themselves and put away their belongings. This encourages independence through routine. I will bring your child out to you at 3:00pm. Please let me or the office know if you have arranged for somebody else to collect your child at the end of the day as we will be unable to send them home without this information.

Children need a named water bottle in school every day as we are unable to provide cups for them to use.

If we are blessed with an Indian summer this term (!) please send your child to school with a named sunhat and named sun cream (which the children will be expected to apply themselves). As the weather turns colder and wetter, children will need to have a warm and waterproof coat (named hats, gloves and scarves etc.) as I take the children outside for lessons as well as playtimes whatever the weather! Wellington boots and a spare set of socks that can stay in school would be desirable if at all possible. COATS SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL EVERYDAY IN CASE THE WEATHER TURNS SUDDENLY.

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach me. I look forward to working with you again, as well as your child.

Kind regards

Mrs Clayton and Mrs Watson ☺