



Year One Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2017

English and Literacy

The children will develop their understanding of the characteristics of stories set in fairy tale or fantasy settings. They will sequence events and develop settings and ideas for their own stories. They will investigate the different characteristics of 'goodies' and 'baddies' and use these to write their own descriptions. The children will write invitations and lists to support role play activities. As part of our work on Cinderella, we will be celebrating Cinderella's wedding and writing about it afterwards. Throughout this term, the children will use their phonic knowledge to spell to help them write more independently. We will also focus on the development of oral and written sentences with punctuation.

How you can help your child at home: Continue to read with your child every day. Read a variety of books including fairy tales, identifying good story language such as 'Once upon a time', 'They lived happily ever after' etc. and when good adjectives (describing words) have been used. Ask your child questions about the books you read, get them to predict what they think might happen next and get them to retell stories in their own words.

Mathematics

The children will learn to order sets of numbers and continue to develop their understanding of place value in two digit numbers such as 23 (saying two tens and three ones). They will practise using their addition and subtraction skills in a range of contexts such as to solve missing number or money problems. We will start to look at fractions and how to find half and a quarter of an object or amount. The children will become more confident counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. They will learn to read o'clock and half past times – some children will move on to learn quarter to and quarter past the hour. Children will compare the length of objects and start to use non-standard units (e.g. bricks) and standard units (e.g. cms) to measure.

How you can help your child at home: Continue to work on all number bonds up to 10 including ways to make 5,6,7,8, and 9 and count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Count on and back from different numbers (this can be done whilst walking to school – e.g. if I start on the number 12, say the next number with each step you take).

Science The focus in science this term is materials. We will be looking at things made from different materials, using correct scientific vocabulary for the materials themselves and their properties. We will be looking at the differences between man-made and natural materials.

Thematic Topic (Geography, History, Art and Design and Technology)

This term our thematic topic is 'Toy Story'. The children will develop their understanding of toys from the past and how different toys move. We will be looking at toys from different countries around the world and designing and making our own toy with a moving part.

PE The children will learn a dance for Cinderella's ball and then continue to develop their dance skills in a 'Toys' dance unit.

Religious Education During this term, we will be looking at some stories, traditions and artefacts linked to the Jewish faith such as reading the stories of Moses and Noah, making a Mezuzah, thinking about the significance of the festival of Purim and looking at the Torah scroll.

Personal, Social and Health Education The children will learn about the importance of persevering towards a target and will identify their own targets, considering whether they are realistic or not and thinking of ways to achieve their goal. Ask them about being a 'super-hero learner'!

Other important information and dates for your diary

Please remember to continue to write in your child's reading diary, the title of the books you have read with your child and a quick comment about how they got on.

Now the children are older and settled in year 1, we encourage the children to develop their levels of independence. It would be helpful if you could encourage them to put their own coats, lunchboxes etc. away and for them to get out their own Sunshine Cards ready to start the day.

Cinderella's wedding

This is a lovely occasion for the children to use their imagination at the end of a block of work about Cinderella. We celebrate the wedding with food and dance. This will be on Tuesday 24th January. We would like all the children to come dressed in smart clothes, suitable for a wedding that day. Please note that we will be walking to Ecclesbourne Primary School so please make sure that they wear suitable footwear!

Class assembly

Rowan class assembly will be on Wednesday 8th February at 9:15 am.

If you have any queries or concerns about your child or would like some suggestions about how to support your child's learning at home, please don't hesitate to come and see us, although we do ask that you make it after school as the morning is a very busy time for us!

Many thanks for all your support,

The Year One Team