

Year 1 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to the Spring term.



English: Prior to reading 'Stanley's Stick' the children will be encouraged to ask questions and make inferences about the story. They will go on to explore the different ways in which Stanley uses his stick and to make suggestions of what his stick could 'become' when visiting the seaside. The children will then plan and write their own version of the story. In our 'Magic Bed' unit, the children will explore fantasy settings and the use the beautiful illustrations in the book to describe these settings and the characters within them. The children will be encouraged to plan and write their own magical adventure, using the events in the story as a prompt. In our 'Sidney, Stella and the Moon' unit, the children will be using non-fiction books to collect facts about the moon. The children will also explore letter writing in this unit, by writing a letter to Sidney.

Maths: In our 'Place Value' unit the children will be ordering, estimating and comparing numbers to 20 using practical objects and number lines. They will continue to consolidate their understanding of numbers within 20, identifying more and less than a given number. In our 'Addition and Subtraction' unit the children will be finding and making number bonds to 20, subtracting by counting backwards and solving missing number calculations. In our 'Length and height unit' the children will be measuring using non-standard units of measure, measuring in centimetres and comparing length and height. In our 'Mass and volume' unit, the children will be measuring mass and capacity, as well as exploring full and empty, heavier and lighter.

Geography: Within our 'United Kingdom' unit the children will be introduced to the name, location and characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom. They will look at the formation of the Union Jack and identify it as the flag of the United Kingdom. They will look at physical and human features of the countries within the UK and will use maps to identify coastlines, hills, rivers, lakes, towns and cities. They will identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK. Children will use maps and atlases to locate the United Kingdom and will recognise the location of the countries within the UK. Children will build on their understanding of 'place' as they identify locations around the UK. They will also begin to understand how places are connected.



Upcoming Events

Monday 5th January: INSET

Friday 6th February: NSPCC Numbers Day

Tuesday 10th February: Parents Evening

Thursday 12th February: Parents Evening

Friday 13th February: Pancake Toss

Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February: Half term

Monday 23rd February: INSET

Tuesday 24th February: Spring 2 term begins.

Friday 6th March: World Book Day

Friday 13th March: Inspirational Women Church service

Monday 23rd March Class Assembly 9.00am

Thursday 26th March: Easter Church service

Friday 27th March: Early finish at 1:45

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April: Easter holidays

Monday 13th April: INSET

Tuesday 14th April: Summer 1 term begins

R.E: Within our 'Who is Jewish and how do they live' unit, pupils will learn about Jewish worldviews and ways of life. They will learn about texts from the Torah and their importance for Jewish people today. They will find out about the mezuzah and the Shema prayer and what they mean for believers. Later in the unit, pupils will find out about Shabbat and Chanukah, discussing why Jewish people mark these times, what they learn from stories found in the Torah and why they are important today. Within our 'What do Christians believe God is like?' unit, pupils find out what parables are, and that Christians believe these stories were told by Jesus to teach his followers about God. They learn about the parable of the Lost Son and what this story teaches many Christians about God, including God being loving and forgiving. Pupils think carefully about what it means for Christians to ask for forgiveness from God and the promise that people will be welcomed back into God's family. They also learn the story of Jonah and the Big Fish and find out about how many Christians put their beliefs into practice through worship.

Science: In our 'Seasons' unit, the children will learn to recognise seasonal and daily changes in the weather. They will learn that our seasons are caused by the tilt of the Earth. The children will learn that meteorologists are scientists who study and predict the weather. They will learn that weather forecasts help people to prepare for different kinds of weather. They will study clouds and will find out about three different types of cloud and the weather they bring; cirrus, cumulus and stratus. Children will look at weather forecasts and the symbols used to indicate different types of weather. Over time, children will have the opportunity to record the weather and to notice seasonal changes. This will help them to develop conceptual understanding of the cyclical nature of change in the natural world.

ICT: In our 'Programming' unit the children will be introduced to early programming concepts. Learners will explore using individual commands, both with their friends and as part of a computer program. They will identify what each command for the floor robot does and use that knowledge to start predicting the outcome of programs. The children will be introduced to the early stages of program design through the introduction of algorithms. In our 'Grouping data' unit the children will be introduced to data and information. Labelling, grouping, and searching are important aspects of data and information. Searching is a common operation in many applications, and requires an understanding that to search data, it must have labels.

PSHE: In our 'Dreams and Goals' unit the children will learn to know how to stay motivated when doing something challenging. They will learn about resilience and having a positive attitude. They will think about a goal they want to achieve and the steps they will take to achieve it. In our 'Healthy Me' unit, the children will learn about the importance of a healthy and balanced diet. They will understand how to keep themselves clean and the importance of personal hygiene.

PE: In our 'Dance' unit, the children will be learning the basics of dance including travelling, turns, moving at different levels, jumps and gestures. The children will develop their understanding of rhythm and beat, marching and clapping along to music. They will also work with a partner to create their own sequence of movements to create their own dance. In our 'Gymnastics' unit, the children will be taught by specialists from the Windsor Sports Partnership. The children will explore different gymnastic positions such as pike and straddle. The children will explore travelling on various types of equipment safely.

Music: In our 'Dynamics' unit, children will make links between music, sounds and environments and use percussion, vocal and body sounds to represent the seaside. They will use appropriate movements to represent dynamics. The children will learn to identify sounds within the music and describe them using adjectives, recreate sounds using voice or body and extend ideas by adding dynamics and use instruments to create loud and soft sounds. The 'Sound Patterns' unit uses fairytales to introduce the children to the concept of sound patterns (rhythms). They explore clapping along to repeated words and phrases, creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairytale.

Art: In our 'Style in Art' unit the children will learn about the following styles: pop-art, realism, pointillism, impressionism and cubism. They will explore the work of Monet, Seurat and Lichtenstein. The children will learn that art can tell a story by representing characters and settings, ideas which should be familiar to children from their work in English. Children will learn, by looking at paintings representing the story of St George and the Dragon, that artists can show different characteristics and personalities by the way they draw and paint. To consolidate this idea, children will draw their own versions of St George and the Dragon, considering how they can show the personality of their own dragon.

