



Dear Parents and Carers,

ONCE UPON A TIME

Our topic for the first half of the Summer term is 'Once Upon A Time.' In this topic we will be learning all about traditional fairy tales, as well as looking at some modern reinventions of these classic stories. The children have already shown a great enthusiasm for this topic and have enjoyed learning about Hans Christian Anderson through History lessons and re-telling the story of Little Red Riding Hood through drama and English. In Geography we are learning about human (man-made) and physical (natural) features such as forests, cliffs, houses, bridges etc. This will be included to our story writing too, making our settings and descriptions much more exciting! In art and DT we will make finger puppets, a puppet theatre and even bake some gingerbread men (and gingerbread ladies!) In Science we will be learning about the seasons, plants and then revisiting everyday materials with some exciting investigations.

Mrs Price will teach music to the children on Thursday mornings.

SUPERHEROES

For our final half term, we will become Superheroes! We will be completing lots of creative writing and reciting some superhero poems and even our own raps! We will also be designing our own superheroes and conducting experiments at Superhero HQ!

ENGLISH

This topic particularly lends itself to our English curriculum and will provide many opportunities for both re-telling and writing stories, drama and performance.

Throughout the term we will continue to focus on writing full, grammatically correct sentences, including capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We will practise these skills whilst learning to write stories, poetry and non-fiction reports.

READING

Each week your child will read in a small group with their class teacher and participate in a rich discussion of the text. They will also read in a small group with a TA, complete a follow-up activity and have some quality time to relax with a book of their choice. Once a week your child will continue to change their books independently and will bring home 2 reading scheme (colour banded) books and a library book. Please see the separate slip, sent home this week, detailing which day your child will change their books. It is imperative that children bring all their books to school on this day, as this is the only day they will be able to change their books.

PHONICS

This week many children have begun working with a different teacher for phonics lessons and all children are now working on Phase 5. In Phase 5, we will learn to read and write using new digraphs, alternative spellings and pronunciations, as well as introducing split vowel digraphs. This phase can become slightly trickier, as the children begin to learn that the same sound can be spelt in many ways, such as the 'oi' sound in 'coin' and 'boy'. As the children progress through Phase 5, we will be expecting to see increasing accuracy in their spelling. You may hear your child refer to 'split vowel digraphs' in their reading, as we will focus on these a great deal. A split vowel digraph is a vowel and an 'e' that are separated by another letter, but still make one sound. E.g the a_e in cake or the o_e in bone.

We will also be working with 'alien' words a great deal. These are nonsense words that test the children's ability to decode and blend words by using their phonics alone.

We will be working towards the Phonics Screening test which will take place in the second half of the Summer term. This will be put to children as a 'quiz' and will involve them simply reading a number of words, some real and some alien, using their phonic skills. More information on this will test will follow in due course.

MATHS

In Maths, we will be building on the foundations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division throughout the term and applying this to a variety of situations. We will be looking to see if children can solve problems and puzzles using these skills and explain their reasoning, as this is an integral part of the new mathematics curriculum. Maths lessons will incorporate daily whole class practise of key skills such as quick recall of number bonds to 10 and 20, counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and counting to, from and across 100 from any given number. These skills all help to improve children's fluency and ability to access other areas of maths and are perfect for practising at home or on the go!

P.E. SESSIONS

Both classes will have Outdoor PE on a Thursday, taken by the Sports Coaches, as well as indoor PE on alternate Fridays. Our focus for PE will be Athletics and Dance.

WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure your child has a named refillable water bottle in school every day. This is extremely important in the Summer term as children get especially hot at break times and lunch times. These are kept in the classroom and are accessible throughout the day.

SUMMER CLOTHING

The children are now able to come to school in summer uniform if they wish. In addition to this, as the weather warms up, please ensure your child has a named sun hat they can wear outdoors and that sun cream is applied before school. We will aim to learn outdoors in many lessons, not just during PE or designated forest sessions, so this really is important on sunny days. Please be aware that we are not able to apply sun cream in school.

DONATIONS

Over the years we have been very lucky to receive many wonderful donations of toys, books and curriculum resources. However since re-vamping the library and Key Stage 1 areas we have realised that many of these well-loved toys and books are no longer fit for purpose. Therefore we ask that before you throw or give away these things you think of Key Stage 1 first. In particular we are looking for fiction and non-fiction books, fancy dress, small world toys such as Happyland/car mat/doll houses, lego, duplo and other construction resources, play animals, jigsaw puzzles and maths and literacy based games. Thank you in advance.

HOME TIME

It is important that you inform us if somebody else will be collecting your child or they will be attending Funzone this can be done verbally on the door

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you find this information useful, if there is anything else you wish to know or to clarify please feel free to ask. We are looking forward to our final term with you and our lovely classes!

Miss Sacco and Miss Stott