



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

December 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

MAIN LEARNING THEME – *Poles Apart*

Our topic next half term is based around *Poles Apart*.

The main focus for the learning during next term will be:

- Use maps, atlases and globes to locate different countries, including arctic regions.
- Name and locate the world's continents.
- Explain how animals and people adapt to their environment.
- Locate the equator and explain how it affects climate.
- Use different sources of research e.g. books, pictures, photographs and the internet.

Key vocabulary for this term: country, continent, atlas, map, location.

ENGLISH

Your child will continue to be taught to read a variety of sentences within the context of a variety of fiction and non-fiction books. Read, Write Inc sessions run daily, and the writing element is important next term in order to develop the children's ability to write a greater quantity, now they are a little older and can hold more information in their memories. We will focus on types of books such as maps and atlases next term, and our guided reading sessions will explore these in further detail. These small group sessions allow us to listen regularly to the children read, supported by the books children will bring home to share with you. We will develop the children's writing skills beyond simple labels and captions, into more complex writing such as fact files and information booklets. Our handwriting scheme will continue, as the children's letter formation is improving. If you would like a handwriting sheet to support this at home please ask a member of the year 1 team.

READING

Our thanks for your continued support with reading to and with your child at home. Each week, your child will be given 1 reading book which they can share with you at home. This will be changed weekly, and we would suggest bringing books in every day. Year 1 also have the opportunity to visit the library on these days, and learn about all the different types of books and how to use a library. They will bring home 2 library books, and these will also be changed weekly.

MATHS

Next term, the children will be focussing on calculating, and will begin to understand the following concepts:

- Addition
- Subtraction
- Number bonds to 20
- Multiplication (two times table)
- Division (sharing objects equally into groups)
- Doubling and halving numbers of objects

Your child will continue to access Assertive Mentoring for Maths on a weekly basis, which is a programme that runs across the whole school. This will mean that your child will be in a small group to explore the skills needed to problem solve, calculate and use numbers quickly and easily.



PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

Next term we will be thinking about food from around the world, and we would be interested to hear from anybody who is interested in cooking and baking. Particularly if you wish to come in and help us to create some unusual dishes!

HOME LEARNING

Home learning in year 1 will consist of a weekly piece of both English and Maths skills. These will be given to the children on a Wednesday, to be handed in the following Wednesday.

The children are also invited to complete a half termly home learning project, however this is not compulsory. The theme is *Poles Apart*. You will receive a Pow Project sheet in the first week of term with details of ideas for your child's projects. It is suggested that the children can choose project ideas that total 5 Pow points.

VISITORS

To explore the World and countries within it, we would like to invite any family members into school who have experience of travelling abroad – particularly if you have any photographs to share. If you, or anyone you know, would like to come and share these with the class please let a member of the year 1 team know.

PE

PE will be covered in two one hour sessions each week, outdoor PE is weather dependent at this time of year, and **Monday** is indoor PE. However, we ask that the children bring in their complete kit (including plimsolls/trainers) on a Monday, and leave this at school until Friday. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back for safety reasons. Any earrings (studs only are allowed in school) will also have to be removed (**by the child**) or covered with a plaster (**which must be supplied from home**).

Your child will require the following PE kit (**Clearly named**):

- Plain White T-Shirt
- Black/Grey Shorts
- Tracksuit for outdoor PE
- Socks
- Plimsolls/Trainers

SHOW AND TELL

Show and tell will be on a Friday afternoon each week. This is a lovely speaking and listening opportunity, where children can share their experiences, and learn to talk and present to others. If the children do bring an item in to share, it is preferable that this either be related to the topic, or an exciting event/achievement.

LUNCHTIMES

To remind you that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. These are provided by a contracted company, M & B Caterers, and our children have a choice of a hot meal or 'Funky Five'. We hope that you are happy with the lunches children are receiving and if you have suggestions as to how we can improve this provision please do let the school office know.

Mrs L Burnham
Class Teacher

Miss K Gasson
HLTA

Mrs J Dunkley
Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

