



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

May 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our history learning will continue next term as we move from the history of flight to the history of schools. As this is our final term together in year 1, and therefore looking forward to the challenges and changes that year 2 will bring, we will prepare your child for this transition over the coming few weeks. Independence will be a key skill to be practised, as well as developing self confidence and belief. An important element of our PSHE learning next term will be keeping ourselves safe – this will include learning around appropriate behaviour towards others, including safety rules surrounding personal spaces, areas of our body and recognising the difference between 'good' and 'bad' secrets. If you would like to discuss the content of this learning with us, please speak with a member of the year 1 team and we will be happy to talk you through the teaching messages and approaches of these sensitive issues. We can also offer advice, and suggest websites and materials to support you with this from home.

MAIN LEARNING THEME – School Days

Our topic next half term is based around the history of schools, and how things have changed since the Victorian times.

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

- Comparing modern day school and schools in the past, identifying similarities and differences.
- Creating a time line and ordering photos of schools.
- Looking at the children's local environment and identifying the key features of the school.
- Identifying and describing differences between old and new schools.
- Knowing by heart a range of playground songs and rhymes.
- Identifying and naming a variety of common plants, including garden plants, wild plants and trees.

Key vocabulary for next term: Victorian, school, past, old, present, older, newer, modern, memories, playground, song, rhyme, similarities, differences, memories.

ENGLISH

During next term the Year 1 phonics check will take place during the week beginning **15th June 2015**. In school your child will continue to practise the necessary sounds for this during Read, Write, Inc sessions and will receive extra support if necessary.

We are very proud of your child and their reading progress, and whatever the outcome from the phonics check, we will continue to ensure the best phonics teaching for every individual child. We will inform you of the outcome of the check as soon as the results are available. As always, we have kept phonics learning fun and interactive, and will be using only positive and child friendly language to explain the check to the children. They will be aware that they are doing a special job with Mrs Burnham, and this will be made to feel and look like any ordinary activity rather than a 'test'.

During topic reading and writing sessions, the children will be taught how to write a recount using key features. They will also develop the use of descriptive language when describing the difference between modern day schools and schools of the past. We will practise what we already know about writing instructions, as well as a letter to the Peterborough Museum that we visited earlier in the year.

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 a library book, and these will also be changed weekly. Could you please ensure that these are brought back to school on time, to prevent books being overdue.



MATHS

Next term, the children will be focussing on calculation and number:

- Adding values of coins and providing a given value of money using coins
- Providing change using coins
- Learning number bonds to 20
- Writing numbers 0-20 in numerals and words (ie twenty)
- Recognising and finding half and a quarter of a number of objects or a shape
- Describing the position of objects
- Recognising and completing quarter, half, three quarter and whole turns using appropriate vocabulary such as left and right

Our warm up activities will continue to support your child through key skills such as learning their 2 times table, counting on and back in 2s 5s and 10s, and adding and subtracting 1 and 2 digit numbers.

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

One of the key elements of next term's learning will be understanding the similarities and differences between school now and in the past. If you have any photos of yourself or your parents at school, for instance class photos, we would love to show these to the children so that they can understand differences and similarities in a real context.

Towards the end of term, we would like to invite you onto our modern day playground to partake in (and invent!) some modern and historical playground games. All welcome, from siblings to grandparents. We will send a letter nearer the time to give you further information.

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. English home learning next term will be writing tasks related to our topic, this will help the children to practise their writing skills and help to prepare them for year 2. Maths home learning will also be mini projects based on our topic, to support mathematical skills in a real-life context.

The children are also invited to complete a half termly home learning project, however this is not compulsory. The theme is *School Days*. You will receive a Pow Project sheet in the first week of term with details of ideas for your child's projects – next term there is a choice of 'Our school' or 'Victorian schools'. It is suggested that the children can choose project ideas that total 5 Pow points from across the two areas, and therefore earn 5 house points.

PE

PE will be covered in two one hour sessions each week, outdoor PE usually takes place on a **Friday** 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 in case the weather is poor, or we wish to do an extra session of PE to support topic learning. 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

Mrs L Burnham
Assistant Head Teacher

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

