



Year 1 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 9th October 2017

Dear Parents

It was lovely to catch up with so many of you at Parents' Evening this week. We hope you enjoyed looking through your children's books and are as impressed as we are with the start the children have made to their Key Stage One education. As ever, we are always available to help and support your child. If you have any queries or concerns at any stage, do come and talk to your child's class teacher.

Whilst Year 2 enjoyed 3A's class assembly in the Read Hall performing the poem *Heard it in the Playground*, Reception and Year 1 children had an assembly about Harvest. They talked about the process of harvest, the use of scarecrows (at which point they sang 'Mr Scarecrow'), discussed foods which grow in the ground and on trees and considered just how lucky we are to have the variety and volume of foods that we do, whilst recognising that there are people in the world who do not have sufficient food to eat. We talked about the importance of fruits and vegetables in our diet as well as sharing the artwork of Archimboldo, in which he used fruits and vegetables to create portraits. We then had a challenge with two small teams who were given a selection of pictures of fruits and vegetables with which to design a face! Bird Family meetings this week focused on recognising and using good manners, whether it be in using cutlery well and remembering not to speak with full mouths, or in remembering to say 'please' and 'thank you'.

Literacy

Mrs Brown's literacy group have been learning the 'th' (sloths and moths) digraph, helped by their focus text 'Slowly, slowly, slowly said the sloth'. Mrs Averill's group have been looking at the 'nk' (I think I stink) digraph with their focus text being 'The Spell'. Mr Fisher's group have used 'Dressing-up box' as their focus text whilst looking at the 'igh' trigraph and Mrs Wilson's group have learnt 'ow' (blow the snow). Mrs Wilson's group have been reading 'Follow me'.

In class literacy, the children have been revising the order of the alphabet as well as completing sentences related to the fire service. This links in well as we are going to be visited by a fire engine next Tuesday 17th October during the morning, which the children are very excited about! In class sessions the children have also been practising their handwriting, focusing on the letters i and l.

Maths

We have been thinking about estimating sets of objects up to 20 this week, thinking about 'clever guesses'. We have also been looking at ordering numbers from smallest to largest and finding out one less and one more of given numbers. The children completed a maths assessment on Monday, which was useful in demonstrating their strengths as well as areas for development.

Other lessons and activities

- Thank you very much for all of the perfume ingredients that were provided for our perfume this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed making their potions as well as the bottle labels. The children were encouraged to think about quantities as well as using equipment such as pipettes, funnels, graters and a pestle and mortar.
- In computing, the children are becoming more confident and independent when switching on a computer and logging on. We have begun making self-portraits on a program called 'Colour Magic'. The children dragged shapes into place and filled them with colour as well as using free drawing tools to represent facial features.
- In topic, we classified animals into the following groups: mammals, birds, fishes, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. We looked at how you classify each type according to their appearance and features.
- In games, we have continued to play a variety of team-based games in order to improve teamwork skills and following rules. In PE, our focus continues to be gymnastics where we have been learning to complete a variety of rolls and balances. We are also practising performing in front of each other and peer-evaluating our performances.
- We have had our usual sessions of swimming, library, dance and music.

Over the weekend, your child may like to do some of the following:

- Collect some fruit and vegetables and have a go at making a 'fruit face'. This links in with harvest time which Mrs Harries spoke about in assembly this week. Your child may like to take a photograph and stick it in their home school book along with a sentence or two about what they have made.
- Have a go at the latest Active Learn game, 'Excellent Estimating', allocated by your child's class teacher.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 16th October – 9.00am: PTA AGM and Coffee Morning in the Pre Prep Hall – all parents welcome!

Friday 20th October – 2.00pm - 3.00pm: Grandparents' afternoon in the Read Hall and children's classrooms (please see separate letter)

Please note there will be no Year 1 swimming on this day.

Monday 23rd October – Friday 3rd November (inclusive): Half Term

Thursday 9th November: Charity day 'Dress as your favourite sports personality' (in aid of Special Olympics Norfolk)

Friday 10th November – 6.00pm: PTA Bonfire party at Tacolneston Hall

Monday 13th November: Flu immunisations for children in Reception to Year 4

Friday 1st December – 4.00pm: Christmas Fayre

Friday 8th December – 9.00am - 9.45am: Year 1 Christmas Production in the Read Hall

Wednesday 13th December: 'Wear a Christmas jumper day' (in aid of Special Olympics Norfolk)

Thursday 14th December – 2.00pm - 3.00pm: Carol Service at Christchurch Eaton for Year 1 and Year 2 children

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With very best wishes from Mrs Brown, Mrs Bush, Mr Fisher, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries