



Year 1 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 17th September 2018

Dear Parents

We have enjoyed three assemblies this week! On Tuesday, Mrs Harries told us the story of Ruby's Worry, all about a little girl who had a worry which grew and grew until she shared it with a friend, when it began to shrink away. Mrs Alexandre led an assembly in which she introduced six fabulous science books to the children who were asked to vote for their favourite. Our Friday assembly allowed us to celebrate our children's achievements, both in and out of school, including this week's birthdays and our first selection of work for the Wonder Wall in the Pre Prep entrance corridor. Bird Family meeting discussions were based around friendship and paying each other compliments.

Literacy

This week, the children have been attending their new literacy groups. Here, they have revised skills learnt in Reception and have begun to acquire new knowledge of phonics as well as reading associated texts to advance their learning in literacy. Mrs Wilson's group have begun to concentrate on digraphs and this week their focus has been 'ay' (May I play?). The children have read a story called *Sanjay stays in bed* and have been writing sentences which include the 'ay' grapheme. Mr Fisher's group revised the set 1 sounds including digraphs (nk, ng, th and ch). They also read a story called *Scruffy Ted* and wrote some sentences about their favourite toy. Mrs Brown's group have been exploring words containing 'u' (jug, bug).

Alongside this work, our class literacy assignment this week has been to imagine many different ways to use a stick! The book *Not a Stick* by Antoinette Portis was our inspiration. The children found it amusing that the adult could not understand the imaginative adaptations for this simple tool. The challenge was to order the pictures of the story, to label the pictures and perhaps even to describe the ingenious ideas.

Maths

Year 1 have been practising number bonds to 10 this week, exploring them through a variety of practical and written methods. Children have enjoyed the hands-on nature of many of the tasks and are beginning to become more confident with their number bonds. They have used Numicon, Unifix and beads to assist their understanding. Each class has also used their new maths books and have learnt how to set out their work in a structured, presentable way.

Other lessons and activities

In topic this week, children have been looking at the skeletons of humans and animals. The children have been investigating the similarities and differences between various skeletons. The children used art straws to make a replica of the human skeleton, thinking about which bone connects to which and how.

The children have also been working to create a whole class tree to represent their respective classes. These beautiful creations will be on display in the Pre Prep hall later in the term.

In computing, the children have practised logging on to the computer using their own unique user name and password. A program called Colour Magic enabled the children to make a self-portrait. The children used steady hands to use the 'shape' and 'fill' tools and experimented with the other tools for various features.

In games lessons, Lime and Maple have enjoyed playing the team game 'Dragon's Treasure', outside. They were able to remember the rules necessary to play the game and also learned that it is important to congratulate the winning team. Willow class have been playing a variety of parachute games this week in the hall.

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

- Please check your child's book bag to find their ActiveLearn login card. Use your login in cards to access the program and click on 'My Library' to find the activities that have been allocated. Just a reminder that this works best on a laptop or PC. This week, the game Rainy Daze has been allocated.
- Next week in topic we will be thinking about how we change as we grow. It would be lovely for the children to share a photograph of themselves as a baby. Please send a photocopy in their home school books next week.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 11th October – 4.30pm - 7.30pm: Pre Prep settling in parents' evening in the Pre Prep Hall – please book via the online booking system

Online booking system: Go to the Town Close website and visit the Parents' Information Centre on the left. Click on the parents' booking system. This will prompt you to enter your email address and password. If you have not used the system before the password is: **townclose**. If you have used the system for after school care, please use the password you have chosen. When you have logged in click the parents' evening button at the top of the screen.

Thursday 11th October – Thursday 18th October: Pre Prep Science Week

Tuesday 16th October – 4.00pm - 5.00pm: Norfolk Children's Book Centre book sale in the library

Thursday 18th October – 9.30 - 3.00 pm: Year 1 trip to Banham Zoo

Friday 19th October – 2.00pm - 3.00pm: Grandparents' afternoon in the Pre Prep Hall – more information to follow

Monday 12th November: Fluenz vaccinations for Reception, Year 1 and 2 children

Friday 7th December – 9.00am - 9.45am: Year 1 Christmas Production in the Read Hall

Thursday 13th 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, Mr Fisher, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries