



Year 1 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: Monday 11th February 2019

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, the theme was love, looking ahead to Valentine's Day! Mrs Harries shared the story *You Can Never Run Out of Love* and the children talked about things and people that they love, how they show it and how they know about love. They also worked out that love is a feeling rather than something you can see or hear! Mrs Brown continued the theme of love in her assembly on Valentine's Day itself, in which she talked about the word 'love' as both a noun and a verb, sharing the story *Guess How Much I Love You*. Bird Family meetings focused on relaxation and mindfulness and children had the opportunity to practise some related techniques.

Literacy

We started the week by reading the story of 'The fox and the Stork' and using this as inspiration to write our own versions independently. We are very impressed with the writing progress the children have shown since September. We also discussed the moral of the story and how kindness given out to our friends is usually repaid. In literacy groups this week Mr Fisher's group have been learning the 'oy' (toy for a boy) digraph and reading *A big fright*, as well as thinking about interesting adjectives to use. Mrs Brown's group have been learning 'oo' (look at a book) and reading the story *Pip's Pizza*. The story has been the stimulus for writing about delicious toppings they would like to have if they made their own pizza! Mrs Wilson's group have been learning the 'ea' (What can you see?) sound and have read the story *Jade's party*.

Maths

We have continued to tell the time to o'clock and half past on an analogue clock. We have also looked at the terms 'half' and 'quarter' (not relating to time) and applied these to shapes and numbers. We discussed the meaning of how a $\frac{1}{2}$ and a $\frac{1}{4}$ is written and applied this by colouring in the correct amount on different shapes. We then worked out what half of different numbers were and some children extended their thinking by splitting numbers into quarters. We also enjoyed exploring halves and quarters by breaking chocolate into two and four equal parts.

Other lessons and activities

- In games, we worked in pairs to complete an orienteering activity. We had to find the numbers on flags around the Pre-Prep outside area and write the number onto a coded sheet. We found out that when we found all of the clues the message was 'Keep fit, stay healthy, live longer!'
- In computing, we completed a drag and drop mouse activity on Busy Things. We labelled a map of the UK by naming the countries, capital cities of each country and the bodies of water which surround the British Isles.
- In topic, we finished our London fact books. We then went on to look at a map of the UK, labelling the different countries and capital cities as well as colouring each country a different colour and going around the outline of the land in blue, to represent the sea.
- In art, we created some lovely Valentine's cards and tried to ensure that the inserts were well presented, using our neatest handwriting.

- We enjoyed our usual Tuesday afternoon sessions of dance, music and library.
- All Year One children went swimming on Wednesday with Miss Bryant.

Swimming request

Please can girls ensure that their hair is tied back every day. This is of particular importance on swimming day as if hair isn't tied back it can be difficult to get into a swim hat. Many thanks for your help with this matter.

Over half term, you and your child may like to:

- Enjoy a well-earned rest after a busy six weeks at school! Simple activities such as trips to the parks, picnics, walking/cycling or playing board games at home are all inexpensive yet worthwhile and engaging experiences for your children.
- Discuss the times of the day at which things happen, for example 7 o'clock = getting up, half past 7 = having breakfast, 12 o'clock = lunchtime etc. You may like to record this in a chart.
- Complete the handwriting and spelling homework allocated by your child's group literacy teacher. We will have an informal spelling 'quiz' on the Monday after half term so you may wish to leave this job until towards the end of the week.
- Read their school reading books and share their library book. You may also wish to visit a local library to enjoy further literature.
- Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, which you may like to record in your child's home activity book.
- Take some photos/do some drawings of any particularly enjoyable activities in the holidays and a sentence or two to describe what is happening.
- Think about what character your child may like to dress up as for World Book Day (see date below).
- We would be grateful to parents for practice in using cutlery over half term too; there is lots for our children to think about during the day and some extra practice here would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Staff news

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Brown is expecting her first baby in July. She plans to start her maternity leave on Friday 21st June. You may well know that Mrs Averill, one of Mrs Brown's Teaching Assistant, is also a teacher and she will be stepping into Mrs Brown's teaching shoes for the rest of the term. Mrs Parry will continue her Teaching Assistant support on Mondays and Tuesdays and Miss While will be the Teaching Assistant on Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays during those three weeks. I am sure you will join us in congratulating Mrs Brown and her husband Jason, on this exciting news!

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 27th February – 9.15 am - 12.00 noon: Indian Dance workshop

Wednesday 6th March: World Maths Day

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character

Friday 15th March: Author/illustrator Chloe Inkpen to visit

Thursday 28th March: Parents' evening in the Pre Prep hall from 5.00pm – booking details to follow

We hope you have a lovely half term break with your children.

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

Melanie Harries