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Year 1 – Spring Term

Welcome back. We hope you had a good break. We are really excited about our new topics for the coming term.

Geography – Bright Lights Big City

Our driver project this term is geography based called Bright Lights Big City. This project teaches children about the physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the characteristics and features of the capital city of England, London.

You should have received a knowledge organiser with more information about this topic.

Science – Seasonal Changes

This project teaches children about the seasons, seasonal changes and typical seasonal weather and events. They learn about measuring the weather and the role of a meteorologist. Children begin to learn about the science of day and night and recognise that the seasons have varying day lengths in the UK.

DT – Taxi

This project teaches children about wheels, axles and chassis and how they work together to make a vehicle move. At the end of the project pupils will design and make their own taxis.

RE – Belonging in Christianity

This half term we will be looking at the concept of 'belonging'. Children will talk about and share their own experiences of belonging, what belonging means to them and how it feels to belong. They will then explore the concept of belonging within Christianity.

Health and Wellbeing – Dreams and Goals

This half term we will be looking at the topic 'dreams and goals'. Children will share their own dreams and goals, they will talk about the best way to achieve them. They will learn about how to tackle challenges, overcome them and discuss how they feel when they succeed. We will also be continuing our learning about our different feelings and learning further strategies to add to our wellbeing toolkit. These strategies will continue helping the children learn how to self regulate when big feelings take over.

Maths

This term, we are looking at place value to 20. During this topic, we will be using practical equipment such as counters, dienes and number lines to help the children to consolidate the concept of each number. The children will then use their knowledge within this unit to aid their understanding in our next topic which is addition and subtraction within 20. Their ability to use a variety of practical apparatus will enable us to break down problems and add and subtract numbers. We will then be going on to place value to 50 and really looking at how many tens and ones each number has. Therefore, the children should be able to get the place value of



larger numbers correct and alter any misunderstandings they may arrive with. The children will then work with mass and volume and then length and height.

English

This half term we will be looking at fiction texts. Your child will work independently and within a group, taking part in lots of practical learning opportunities including roleplay and games. We will also continue to work on writing independently. We will start our new learning journey straight after Christmas which is based around 'Elephant in my Kitchen'. This unit will kick off with an exciting animal hunt around the classroom. We will be writing a version of the story to entertain our friends.

Reading reminder:

We will continue to send home physical books with the children as well as uploading them onto the eCollins Platform. These need to be looked after and returned to school before the children will be issued with a new one. We rely on having complete sets of these books in school in order for our scheme to be carried out properly so we will not be giving your child a new book if they haven't returned the last one. Please ensure this book is kept in children's bags and brought to school every day. Also, please can water bottles not be put in book bags to minimise damage to books caused by leakages! This book will be changed every 1-2 weeks depending on how quickly the children develop fluency.

Children can also change their reading for pleasure books daily. Please remind your child to do this when they come into school if they want a new one.

Don't forget to record all reading done at home in their school reading diaries. These are checked on a Monday.

Year 1 common exception words to read and spell:

the	a	to	do	go	so	no
is	was	are	were	his	has	be
he	me	she	we	they	there	where
our	by	my	of	I	you	your
here	some	come	her	all	have	what

If you have any queries about how to help your child at home then please see your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support,
Year 1 Team