

Hanwell Fields Community School

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What are we doing this term? Key Stage 1 Term 1 2009/2010

Dear Parents,

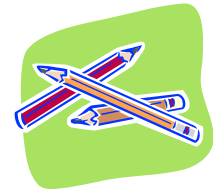
I hope that you and your children had a lovely summer break and that you are ready for a hardworking and exciting school year. The theme for this term is superheroes and we have planned many exciting activities and opportunities for the children.

Communication, Language and Literacy

Within literacy we will be working on reading and writing stories based on traditional tales. We will be investigating the role of the characters and how they are portrayed. We will also be working on instruction texts as a non-fiction focus based on practical real-life situations.

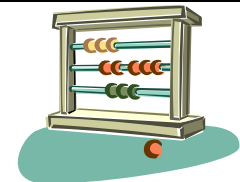
Your child will read to an adult in school as part of a small group on a regular basis. There will also be opportunity for independent reading throughout the term. They will have reading books sent home regularly, please read them with your child and complete the reading log.

During the school day the children will have plenty of opportunity to develop their language and communication skills through drama, role play and small group work.



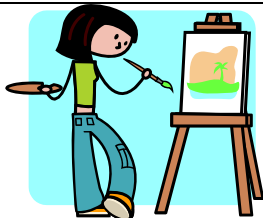
Mathematics

During the first two terms the children will be working on and developing a variety of mathematical concepts. They will continue to improve their knowledge of the number system, such as counting backwards and forwards in different steps, and adding and subtracting both mentally and with written methods. They will learn to solve a variety of problems involving money, time and measurements. They will also investigate the properties of shapes and have lots of practical examples of measuring length and weight. The children will approach a lot of these mathematical concepts through games and practical activities.



Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Within this area of the curriculum we will work on a variety of subjects, namely science, ICT and history. We will have a large focus on keeping healthy, where the children will investigate the benefits of healthy eating and exercise. They will also develop their understanding of the senses and how these senses can be made 'super' for super powers. The children will develop their ICT skills throughout this term. They will log on to the network independently and will begin to use the virtual learning platform. The children will develop their historical understanding by looking at superheroes past and present and how they have changed.

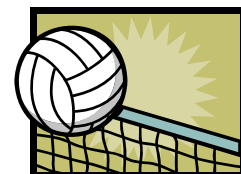


Creative

Within this area of the curriculum we will be working on art and music based activities. They will design their own superhero and use paints to complete them. They will also design their own superhero logo using collage, fabric pens and crayons. The children will also develop of sounds and how they can use these sounds to create musical phrases for superhero stories and make superhero theme tunes.

Physical Development

Within PE this term we will be participating in games based activities, where the children will develop their throwing skills. The children will have opportunity to throw a variety of objects at, and into, different targets and then use these skills in different games. Throughout these tasks the children will have opportunity to explore the effects of exercise on their body and develop an understanding of to exercise safely.





Personal, Social and Health Education and RE

The children will develop an understanding of their emotions and how to control them during our weekly 'Nurturing Time'. They will begin to see that they have 'personal power' and that they can use this power to make decisions.

During RE this term we will investigate the Christian festival of Harvest and the Islamic festival of Ramadan and why these festivals are important to people who follow these religious beliefs. Through this we will consider what we are thankful for

and how we can help others within our community.

Spanish

During this term children will revise and learn basic Spanish greetings, numbers to 10 and basic colours. We will continue to use Spanish in a variety of contexts, such as when answering the register and sometimes in mental maths lessons!



General Reminders

PE kit

- Can you please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school on **Monday** and it stays in school until the end of the week as your child may be required to participate in physical activities in other lessons. Your child's PE kit should include: a plain white t-shirt, navy or black shorts, plimsolls, trainers, tracksuit trousers and a warm jumper/jacket.

Home reading

- Reading is essential for your child's development. Can you please make sure that you read with your children regularly at home. Your child will be coming home with **home school reading diaries**. These need to be completed every time your child reads so that we can monitor their progress. These will need to be back in school on **Thursdays**, when they will be taken out of their books bags and returned on Friday.
- The reading books that are sent home with your children are always at a level that they can do. If for some reason you think that a book is too difficult please complete the '5 finger test' with them. If they get a word wrong on a page put one finger. Continue like this until the page is completed. If you have put all 5 fingers down, that book is too difficult and please let me know so that I can change it.

Homework

- Homework is an extremely important aspect of your child's education as it enables them to rehearse, practise and extend what they do at school. Please ensure that it is completed and handed in on time.
- It is essential that your children continue to practise their mental mathematics regularly. Please help your child to learn and be able to recall their number bonds to ten.

School Website and Virtual Learning Environment

- The new school website is now up and running and includes lots of information for you to download and check, such as lunchtime menus and holiday application forms. The web address is: www.hanwellfieldscommunityschool.org.uk
- The school now has access to a virtual learning environment. This allows the children to access certain aspects of school life at home. The web address is www.klp.rm.com. The children will be given their log in for this early in this term. On this website there will be useful links about the topic, examples of children's work and important class notices.

Other bits...

- **Meet the teacher meeting:** This will take place on Thursday 17th September at 2.30 in the new classroom next to Mrs Ridgway's room. It is important that you attend as we will be providing you with a lot of information about this school year.
- We would like your child to have a water bottle in school as they will not be permitted to go to the water fountain during lessons.
- Please remember to come and speak to your child's teacher if there is anything at home which you think may affect your child's performance in school - for example they haven't been sleeping well, or they feel a little unwell, as it allows me to understand why they are not performing at their best.

Many thanks,

Mr Emms, Mrs Ridgway and Miss Daniels