

Key Stage 1—Spring 1 Curriculum Letter 2010

What are we doing this term?

Dear Parents

We hope that you had a great Christmas and New Year and that the children are ready for another hard working term.

Water

Communication, Language and Literacy

Within literacy we will be working on reading and writing poetry around the senses and non-fiction texts related to water. Your child will read to an adult in school as part of a small group on a regular basis. There will also be opportunities 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. The children will also to continue to develop their Spanish skills .

Mathematical Development

This term the children will be consolidating the variety of mathematical concepts looked at last term. 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 activities to help them understand the language of position, movement and direction. The children will approach a lot of these mathematical concepts through games and practical activities.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World and Creative Development

Within this area of the curriculum we will work on a variety of subjects, namely science, ICT and Geography. On Science skills with the children carrying out investigations and describing their observations in relation to materials being heated and cooled. They will also learn about floating and sinking. In ICT the children will be logging on to the computers and learning how to use the internet to find things out and answer questions. The children will develop their geographical skills and knowledge by exploring and mapping the location of canals. Design Technology will cross both areas of learning with the children applying their knowledge about floating and sinking to design, make and evaluate their own boats.

Physical Development

Within PE this term we will be participating in gymnastics and dance. The activities will help the children will develop their balance and co-ordination skills. They will learn to hop and jump correctly. Throughout these tasks the children will have opportunities to explore the effects of exercise on their body and develop an understanding of to exercise safely.

Personal and Social Development

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 Jesus as a story teller and the messages he was sharing. We will also look at the Islam New Year.

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.

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 you child's education as it enable 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 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5 6+4 etc and their doubles to 30—1+1, 2+2, 3+3, 4+4, etc.

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. On this website there will be useful links about the topic, examples of children's work and important class notices.

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 us to understand why they are not performing at their best

Many thanks,

Mr Emms, Mrs Ridgway and Miss Daniels