

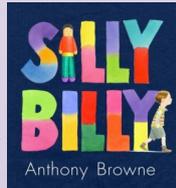
Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new term, I hope you had a restful break. Once again we have lots of learning to squeeze into the next six weeks. I hope the update on your child's progress at Parents' evening was helpful and I would like to thank you for continuing to support your child's learning at home. Please let me know if there are any issues with the new Year 1 IXL log in details.

Mrs Garley
Class Teacher

Literacy

The story the children will study this term is *Silly Billy* by Anthony Browne. We will follow the Talk for Writing format starting with 'Hear, Map, Step and Speak' in order to learn the story. We will work on deepening our understanding by using role play activities and story circles. We will discuss the story type *Overcoming the Monster*.



We will focus on suspense using Billy's worries. The children will innovate to create new worries for Silly Billy. We will use these new ideas to enable Martin Young to create his great images full of suspense to help inspire the children's writing.

Finally, the children will use our suspense toolkit to write independently using one of the images. This will allow them to apply all they have learnt about creating suspense.

Shared writing will be used, alongside analysis of model texts to allow the children to learn and develop the techniques needed for writing suspense successfully.

The non-fiction skills focus this term will be *Explanation*. The children will look at the features of an explanation text by hearing, mapping, stepping and speaking a model text.

They will create toolkits for this text type and then work on the imitation, innovation and inventions stages of the writing to independently write their own explanation text.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS)

Grammar & Punctuation

This term, Year 2 will work on the following areas of grammar and punctuation highlighted by our recent end of term assessments. Your child will be learning how to:

- Identify adverbs
- Correctly use full stops – punctuating sentences correctly
- Use contractions
- Identify verbs
- Use tenses
- Use apostrophes for possession

These will be noted on the Year 2 weekly spelling list to allow you to practise these areas on IXL English at home.

If Year 1 parents wish to use IXL English they can access the Year 2 objectives using the log in given out at Parents' evening.

Spelling

Children in Year 2 will continue to work through the National Curriculum spelling rules in place of their daily phonics lessons. The spelling rules covered this term will be:

- The /ɔ:/ sound spelt *a* before *l* and *ll*. eg: ball, walk
- The /ʌ/ sound spelt *o*. eg: mother, brother
- The /i:/ sound spelt *—*eg. eg: donkey, chimney
- The /d/ sound spelt *a* after *w* and *qu*. eg: want, squash

The /ɜ:/ sound spelt *or* after *w*. eg: word, work, worm

The /ɔ:/ sound spelt *ar* after *w*. eg: war, warm, towards

In Year 1 we will continue to work through our phonic programme.

Reading

Guided reading sessions will continue with Year 1 children sounding out correctly and talking about their comprehension of the ideas in the texts they are studying. We will continue to focus on word class knowledge during these sessions to consolidate our grammar knowledge.

Year 2 will continue to look at reading comprehension papers to work on their ability to answer questions about a text. They will be working on how to access the more difficult paper which contains inferred questions rather than simple fact retrieval.

Handwriting

Year 2 children will continue to focus on joins through the use of the Nelson handwriting scheme. They will learn correct joining techniques and where each letter should sit in relation to one another. Year 1 will work on presentation of their writing, focussing on correct letter formation and position. They have an opportunity to practise this independently during twice weekly dedicated handwriting sessions.

Homework

Alongside the Learning Log, spellings, word work challenge and comprehension practice sheet, Year 2 will be sent home a maths activity sheet to complete. This will help consolidate your child's ability to work on SAT-type questions in preparation for May.

Numeracy

Year 2

This term the children will continue to learn maths through the use of Numicon apparatus and by following our maths toolkits. The areas children will study are as follows:

Calculating

- Subtracting mentally a 2-digit number from another 2-digit number where there is no regrouping (74 - 33)
- Solve two-step addition and subtraction problems
- Recognise the inverse relationships between + and - and use this to check calculations and work out missing number problems. eg: $\square - 14 = 28$
- Add two 2-digit numbers within 100 (eg: 48 + 35)
- Use estimation to check an answer is reasonable
- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables and solve simple problems
- Find a fraction of a number; half, quarter and three quarters

Shape, space and measure

- Read scales in divisions of ones, twos, fives and tens in a practical situation
- Know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day
- Read a clock to the nearest 15 minutes extending to the nearest 5 minutes
- Use different coins to make the same amount of money
- Interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts and tables
- Identify and describe the properties of 3D shapes

Times tables

Unfortunately the Rockstars Times Tables website is set up to cater for the learning needs of Key Stage 2 children (it features all times tables up to 12); please either use IXL maths or Interactive Resources to practise times tables at

home. The IR login is *Maidwell* and the password is *swimming*. This site is particularly useful as it allows you to choose the times table you wish to focus on. Year 2 need to work on the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.

Year 1

Number:

- To name odd and even numbers to ten
- To explore what happens when odd and even numbers are added
- Exploring adding and subtracting facts to 10
- Halves and quarters of wholes

Shape, space and measure

- To understand capacity as a measure of the amount of liquid a container can hold
- To choose suitable non-standard units to work out the capacity of a container
- To describe position, direction and movement, including whole, half, quarter and three quarter turns.

Science

The children in Years 1 and 2 will be able to sort and compare differences between things that are *living*, *dead* and *things that have never been alive*. We will also look at both plants and animals and their habitats. The children in Year 2 will also study simple food chains and be able to identify and name both plants and animals and identify their habitats.



History/Geography

This term we will start our new topic *Explorers*, focussing on Christopher Columbus. We will learn his life story and details of his discoveries using the Talk for Writing format. Next, we will use this information to write a persuasive letter to the King and Queen of Spain asking for them to pay for our voyage to India.

During this topic we will also focus on Geography. We will use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the continents and countries that Columbus travelled to on his voyages. We will use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational directional language [for example, near and far; left and right] to describe the location of features and routes on a map showing Columbus' journey to North America.

- Targets:
- To place a historical event onto a timeline
 - To use compass directions and locational language
 - To consider what makes someone an 'explorer' not just a traveller
 - To understand the importance of Christopher Columbus

Computing

This term we will continue with our computing unit *We Are Collectors*. The children will work on collecting images of different types of animals and use software to sort and classify them.

Children will learn how to:

- Find and use pictures on the web
- Know what to do if they encounter pictures that cause concern
- Group images on the basis of a binary (yes/no) question

We will complete the unit by showing each other our animals PowerPoint on the class Interactive whiteboard. During this presentation the children will be able to reflect on their work and consider the constructive feedback they receive.

Our internet safety focus will also look at images; the children will consider how personal photographs may be unsuitable to be posted on the internet because of important information strangers may obtain from them. We will also highlight the concept that anyone we do not know on the internet is a stranger in the same way as in everyday life.

Music

This term Class 1 will work on recognising and distinguishing, both visually and aurally, between several four beat rhythm patterns. They will look at how the patterns are built up and will practise clapping and playing the rhythms confidently and accurately. We will learn a variety of songs and use un-tuned and tuned percussion instruments.

RE

This term we will continue with our theme of *Celebrations and Special times: What happens at a festival?* The children will investigate festivals from a range of faiths. They will consider their own experiences in relation to these celebrations. Through this work they will gain some understanding of the cultures and beliefs of others.

ART/DT

To link with our Literacy work we will be making our own worry dolls. The children will start by reflecting on their knowledge of instruction texts and write their own instructions. We will then move on to use these instructions to make our own dolls.

During our History Topic, the children will have the opportunity to make their own ships biscuits. This will allow them to gain an insight into the conditions Christopher Columbus and his sailors would have experienced.

PE

This term children will be enjoying their usual swimming lessons with Mrs Ogden and weekly PE lessons with Mr Smith.

Please note that PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and remain until Friday in case of an alteration to the timetable or an extra PE lesson. Please ensure your child has kit for indoor and outdoor PE including outdoor trainers.

During Class 1's *Net and Wall Games* unit the children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing and catching. They play games based on net games (like tennis and badminton). The children will have an opportunity to play one against one, one against two, and one against three. They will improve and apply their basic skills in games. The class will play games that demand simple choices and decisions on how to use space to avoid opponents keep the ball and score points. In all games activities, children think about how to use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition.

PSHE

In assemblies we will continue to focus on building a positive mindset. We have already adopted *Try Everything* by Shakira as our school song and had explored the inspiring story of *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds. This term we will continue to explore this theme through uplifting songs and stories.

As usual, if you have any questions about your child at school please don't hesitate to speak to us.

