



Dear Hazel Class Families,

Firstly, we hope you have had a lovely Summer break! Welcome back to school and into Year 1. This year in Hazel class, Mrs Hall will be teaching on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Mrs Farnie teaches on Thursday & Friday. We will also be supported by Mr Newland as our Teaching Assistant. During the Autumn term we shall also be joined with Student Teacher Miss Hole.

Please find below details about our Inquiry Curriculum for this term and useful general information for Year 1.

As always, please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions or want to discuss anything about your child's learning.

Inquiry Title – What matters to me?

Humankind & Ourselves focus

Inquiry Question 1 – Who am I?

Inquiry Question 2 – Which places are important to me?

Learning Skills

Through our inquiry we continue to teach specific learning skills. Children are recognised for these skills through the weekly Learning Skills Class award. The skills we encourage children to develop are: **thinking, research, communication, social and self-management skills.**

Writing

At the beginning of Year 1 we shall be using some Nonsense Poems for fun! We will look at the picture book *Chalk* by Bill Thomson to start some simple short bursts of writing.

Then we shall use *Shh We have a Plan* by Chris Houghton to follow a simple story plot and create our own version.

Maths

Our main focus will be on understanding, reading and writing numbers to 10.

We shall develop place value knowledge by partitioning numbers to 10, finding one more and one less, using symbols and comparing numbers.

Spellings

The children will start to have weekly spellings to learn based on the phonic sound we have been learning that week. Spellings are set on **Monday morning** and a spelling quiz is held on **Friday morning**.

Please see further details in the useful general information below.

Reading

The children will begin developing early comprehension skills through weekly Guided Reading lessons. Through shared reading, they will discuss vocabulary, learn reading skills and link their own experiences.

Please see further details about Home Reading Books below in the Useful Information notes.

Humanities

Geography: UK geography – studying our local area. Explore and understand the key human features found on maps and in atlases. Using directional language to navigate around the school using compass directions and simple keys.

RE: In this topic, the children will explore the very first story in the bible, *The Creation Story*, and come to understand that Christians believe that this creation story is how the world was made.

Science

Weather: During our first term, the children will be making observations of the local environment and noticing the changing seasons by taking nature walks and weather watching.

Art

We will be drawing and painting – drawing self-portraits and studying Giuseppe Arcimboldo to create fruit and vegetable faces.

Practising to mix and painting cold and hot colour to create collages base on the illustrations of Chris Houghton.

PE

Sports Masters: Rugby skills.

Class PE: Playground games and Fundamental PE skills.

PE Days will be **Monday** and **Friday**.

PSHE

We will start the term by providing opportunities to talk about our wellbeing and practise mindfulness. Later in the term, we will move onto learning about our amazing brains.

Computing

We shall be introducing Y1 Online Safety and using Teach Computing to look at technology around us.

Music

We will be Rhyming in Time: Move in time to the beat/pulse. Learning to chant, rap and sing using different voices.

Useful General information



Reading Books

Please read with your child **every day**. Those children who read with their parents everyday are shown to be at a significant advantage educationally and it helps them to feel confident at keeping up with the pace of the Year 1 phonics teaching.

Reading books will be issued from Monday 8th September. Please could all children bring in their reading books every day. Reading books will be changed after your child has **read it twice** (and **signed twice**) - once for decoding and once for fluency and comprehension. If you have read with your child please make sure you have signed the reading record and sent both the reading book and record back into school so we can change them.

We shall start teaching the Level 5 Phonics, so to help you know which diagraph* your child has been learning throughout each week, a phoneme pronunciation and parent support sheet will be sent home on Dojo at the end of the week. This is an optional activity, but we recommend completing this with your child to help consolidate their phonics learning. (*diagraph - two letters that together make one sound e.g. ch, sh, oa)



Reading awards

The reading awards scheme is popular amongst our pupils and has had a positive impact on the quality, enjoyment and engagement with reading. Here are a few reminders about how it works:

- 1) The books that are counted towards the awards have to be books from the school reading scheme.
- 2) If your child completes their daily reading with you, they will collect one point. Therefore, 7 points can be collected each week. If your child reads every day, they should be achieving their Platinum badge in the summer term.

Bronze – 50 reads

Silver – 100 reads

Gold – 150 reads

Platinum – 200 reads



Reading for pleasure

We encourage all reading for pleasure – a family story book at bedtime, reading a comic or magazine, information books etc. We read many story books in class and later in the term the children will have access to a library book each Friday. Please ensure any library books borrowed are returned each Friday ready for choosing a new book to borrow.



Spellings

The children will have a list of spellings to learn each week in their green Home Spelling Book. Each Monday they will be given a list of words to learn followed by a quiz each Friday. The list of spellings will be stuck into the right-hand side of their Home Spelling Book with the following 'Try' pages to be used for practicing their spellings each week at home. These spellings will be linked to phonic sound/key word work taking place in the classroom. Please ensure the Home Spelling Book is returned to school every Friday so spelling results can be added and they can be prepared for the following week.



Labelling

Please ensure all clothing and belongings are labelled – especially jumpers, cardigans, hoodies and coats.

Learning Conversations

In your child's Learning Conversation Book, they will have an activity to do at home with you which helps to develop good learning practices and connections between home and school. This book will be sent home on Friday with a task (and put on Dojo) to be returned the following Friday morning.

Games/PE

Hazel class have PE on a **Monday** with Sports Masters and on a **Friday** with Mrs Farnie. Please make sure that your child wears their PE kit to school on these days. Later in the term, when the weather is colder, please ensure your child has warm clothing e.g. jogging bottoms and track suit jacket/jumper to wear. Please ensure that all clothing is labelled, including second hand clothing that has been purchased.

Medical Conditions

Please keep us updated of any existing or new medical conditions that your child may have as well as making sure their medicines are in date and kept in school. All medication must be accompanied with full instructions for use and a medical form needs to be completed at the office (this includes antibiotic, cream and inhalers).

Water Bottles, Fruit and Milk Scheme

We encourage children to bring in **water** to drink during the day when they are in class. Please make sure that the bottle is clearly named. This is in addition to their lunch box drink and again is for **water only**. If your child would like milk this term please speak to the office about a milk ordering form.

Show & Tell

In Year 1 all the children enjoy being 'line leader' for the day and can bring an item from home they wish to show and talk about with the class (they will all have this role several times and selection follows the register). This helps build their confidence with talking to the whole class and they all practice asking and answering questions.

Information

We send updates or notices via our Class Dojo page. You should have received a QR code enabling you to log into this. If there are any issues with using Class Dojo, please let us know. The Tapestry program only runs in Reception. Please do not use ClassDojo to alert the school of an absence, but contact the office who will pass on any messages. If you have any queries or concerns regarding school, please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo or at the end of the day at the door.