

# Class 1 Newsletter – Autumn 2024

Hello to you all and welcome to our Class One newsletter for the new school year. The children have all settled so well into the class routines and are doing brilliantly. This newsletter is to give you some idea of the kinds of things that are happening in our class this term.



## Maths

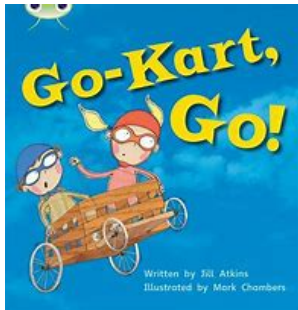
In Maths this term we are learning all about ‘number’. For our new Reception children, this will involve lots of work in the areas of the classroom, practically using numbers and counting equipment. The Year One children will be joining the Year 1 children in Class 2 so they can work on the same learning. They will be looking deeper at numbers within 10 initially, counting forwards and backwards, ordering numbers and learning about how numbers are made up. We will then move onto addition and subtraction of numbers and begin investigating shapes.

## English / Communication and Language/ Literacy

Daily phonics sessions will commence, where the children work in their year groups. During this time, we work through our Active Learn “Bug Club” systematic phonics programme to help develop the children’s understanding of Letters and Sounds. We will also read books during the day from a wide range within school. We are very keen to foster a real love of books and reading!

During the week we usually have a ‘news’ session in class. During this time we will talk about things that the children have done at the weekend. This time is very important to develop skills in speaking and listening, building relationships and understanding the world around them. For Reception pupils we will also send you via email a ‘Tapestry’ login - please add pictures of things you have done at home on Tapestry so your child can share during our news sessions. Year 1’s are welcome to email Mrs Boast any photos your child would like to share as they will no longer have access to Tapestry.

We will also focus on a story or poem each week and work on a series of fun activities based around this. This term our stories are mainly based around our topic theme of ‘People Around the World’, before half term, and ‘Animals Around the World’, after half term. We will also learn simple rhymes during our daily rhyme time. Year 1’s writing will be linked to the story ‘Lost and Found’ by Oliver Jeffers. Over the term we will build our writing skills up to writing our own adventure story.

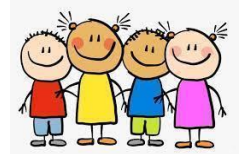


## Science/ Understanding the World

In science we will first be learning to identify parts of our body as well as investigating our senses. We will undertake some science experiments that put our senses to the test and develop our ‘working scientifically skills’ as we plan, carry out and draw conclusions from these. We will then move on to learning about different animal groups and how to classify animals in different ways.

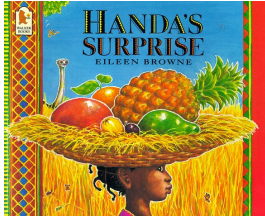
## PSED / PSHE & RSE

This area focuses on personal, social and emotional skills. It is a key area of our curriculum in both Reception and Year One. As a school, we follow a scheme of lessons to assist in developing these areas. This term our particular focus for our main sessions is ‘family and relationships’, although there are many different aspects of our week and lessons which also focus on developing personal, social and emotional skills.



## **Topic (Geography/ History) / Understanding the World**

This term we will focus on geography, in particular we will be learning about the continents and oceans of the world before exploring specific countries and areas. We will travel to Kenya, China, Australia and India (amongst others) and compare human and physical features of these places to Askham Richard and our surrounding area. Towards the end of the term we will look at the polar regions and discuss differences in climate and length of day.



## **Art and Design / Music / Expressive Arts and Design**

Our Art unit this term focuses on teaching children to explore and create maps through various art forms. We will also be learning about Adinkra symbols and will design our own and create patterned cloth with our special symbols.

## **Computing**

We are very lucky to have access to lots of iPads and laptops at school. Mr Moss will be teaching computing fortnightly in class one. This term, we will be looking at how to use iPads safely, including switching them on, logging on and completing a short activity. We will also complete work linked to other areas of the curriculum, ie looking on Google maps at different places and countries (Geography work).



## **RE**

RE will involve work around 'What makes some places sacred?' 'Which places are special and why?'. We will be considering this for Christians, Muslims and Jews. Towards Christmas, we will look at the Christmas story.

## **PE**

PE sessions take place on a Monday (and Wednesday for Year 1's). We have Mr Cass, a Sports Coach, to lead our sessions.

## **SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME**

Your child now has a reading pack that they will bring to school every day. For Reception pupils initially do not have books in them as we are trying to encourage the development of blending letter sounds and recognising letters and some words, before moving onto books when ready. They will begin with wordless books where the emphasis is to retell the story and develop vocabulary and understanding, before progressing on to books with words.

The Year One children have sounds/words to practise, along with their reading book. It makes a huge difference if children have a chance to read and share books with you at home, so any chances you have to do this would be greatly appreciated.

Reception parents will be invited to a 'stay and play' session each term within school (more details to follow) During the first 'Stay and Play session' you will be invited to observe a phonics lesson and see how we teach phonics and reading so will feel confident supporting your child at home.

Safeguarding : Please could we ask that you complete your child's planner daily to let us know how they will be getting home (ie Collected; After school club; Askham Bryan bus; Bilbrough bus). If they are always collected and you have told us this you don't have to do this.

### **Key Dates:**

PE : Every Monday - come in your kit! Year 1's - Wednesday Kit too please.

Forest Schools: Thursday PM - Please leave wellies and waterproofs at school.

Library Van : Every Fortnight- This is for Reception children and to make this possible we will be asking for parents to help (Thursday 11.15-12.00pm) Grandparents are also welcome.

Please speak or email Mrs Boast if you are available to help with the above or in class on other days.

As always, please do get in touch via email or phone and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

My emails is [j.boast@stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:j.boast@stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk)

