

**Welcome back to school!**

We hope you had a lovely break and are ready for more exciting and new learning this half term.

**Year 1's Spring 2 Learning:**

**English and Reading**

This half term, our **core book** is "The Journey" by Francesca Sanna. Children will develop their reading skills by making predictions, asking and answering questions, clarifying their understanding of words and phrases within a text as well as acting out scenes to understand character emotions. They will make links with the world around us and our own experiences to extend our thinking and understanding and develop an understanding of other children around the world who are in a different situation to them. In writing, they will focus on using descriptive and emotive language. They will be learning to write a formal letter to engage their audience.



**Maths**

In Maths, children will be learning to work with numbers up to 50 and will explore new methods to support their place value understanding. They will learn to represent numbers using concrete objects and pictures to support their calculations. Children will make links with number bonds to improve their mental arithmetic and will use their knowledge of place value to problem solve and reason. The children will then move on to exploring length and height, weight and volume. They will use and understand the language of length and understand that height is a type of length. They will explore weight and mass for the first time. Children will use balance scales to form an understanding of comparing mass.



**Science**

Children will start an exciting new science topic this half term. They will be looking closely at plants as a living thing. They will grow their own broad bean seeds in class and keep a diary to reflect on how plants grow and what they need in order to grow. Children will deepen their understanding by making links with plants that we can eat, plants that are evergreen and finally comparing and contrasting different plants around us.

**Geography/History**

This half term children will learn how refugees travel to neighbouring countries and then travel further out to find safety. Children will look at maps and case studies of real events. The children will learn about famous refugees and explore the reasons behind their journeys.



**RE**

In RE, they will continue to explore Christianity. Children will learn more stories about Jesus and the role he plays to many Christians. They will learn about the importance of Easter for Christians.



### **Spanish**

Children will develop their confidence in sharing greetings and will learn how to ask and answer simple questions based in the classroom. They will learn some new instructions and continue to revise numbers, colours and days of the week.



### **Art/Design Technology**

In Art, children will create a whole class collage based on our core text. They will further develop their sketching techniques, learn about primary and secondary colours and then finally explore different media for a collage. In DT, children will design their own refugee gift box and think about how they can plan to deliver this to a local shelter.

### **PE**

This term, they will focus on activities and games that involve team work. They will develop their skills of negotiation and collaboration, giving sensible feedback and being able to receive feedback well. They will also learn to balance their bodies in different ways as well improve their co-ordination skills.

### **Useful Information**

#### **PE Kit**

Children will have PE every Wednesday morning. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school and that all items are clearly labelled with their full name.

#### **Reading Records and Passports**

Please check your child's book bag for a reading diary, books and reading passport. The reading diary needs to be signed and handed in every Monday and Thursday, the same as the reading passport. **Please date and initial (not just tick)** their reading passport for every 5 minutes of reading inside the small box. Well done to those children who have already achieved their bronze passports!

#### **Water Bottles/Clothing**

Children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle to keep in class which they can access throughout the day. Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on their water bottle.

#### **Homework/Spellings/Handwriting**

Children will be given homework every Friday and this is always due on the following Monday. They will spelling test every Monday and new spellings handed out on the same day. Please ensure your child is learning their spellings as this will support their knowledge of phonics in order to prepare them for the Year 1 Phonic screening test.

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March (late)

World Book Day!

Parent Reading Morning 8:45-9:15am

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Spring Term Parents' Evenings