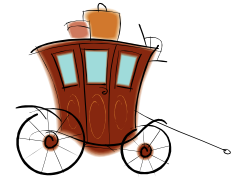


Year 1 Spring Term (1)

Curriculum Newsletter



11th January 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year! Thank you for all your cards, gifts and good wishes for the Christmas break. We hope that you and your families had a lovely holiday too.

Our topic this half-term is called '**Once Upon a Town**' and we will be focusing on characters and events from well-known traditional tales and fairy tales such as 'Little Red Riding Hood', 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Cinderella'. It is a fantastic starting point for lots of English work including role-play, for teachers and children alike! As part of this exciting topic we will be hosting a Royal Ball for Prince Charming and Cinderella on the afternoon of **Friday 25th January**, and the children will be learning how to write a royal invitation to the event. They will need to bring a costume to change into for the afternoon. Please see more information on the attached letter.

As our topic is based around the familiar stories that many of us grew up listening to, reading is as vital as ever this half-term! Please continue to read regularly with your child at home to help assist your child's progress in English. We will continue to award stickers for at least three reads per week. Your child is free to change his/her reading book on a daily basis, and we encourage all the children to do this during early morning activity time. When reading with your child, please remember that discussing the story or non-fiction text is a very valuable exercise to develop comprehension. When sharing stories, try to ask questions which encourage your child to predict what might happen next, think about how a character might be feeling or the causes of events. When reading non-fiction texts, fact hunting can be a fun activity to enjoy together.

In phonics this half-term we will continue to build on our knowledge of phase 5 digraphs with a focus on split digraphs. Please feel welcome to ask any questions about how we teach split digraphs. You should have received the new spring spelling list for this half term. If there are still words from the autumn list your child cannot spell, please practise these too. Please make sure your child has the opportunity to practise these words at home ready to be tested in the week beginning Monday 11th February. Remember you can practice these words in lots of fun ways, e.g. with water, paint, chalk, felt tip pens. In our handwriting sessions we will revise the formation of cursive lowercase letters, alongside learning how to form those important capital letters.

In maths this half-term, we will be adding and subtracting numbers within 20 and learning number facts. To offer support at home, practise recalling number bonds to 20. If your child is finding this tricky, you could use objects such as straws, lego bricks and other small toys to make 20. We will then be counting, ordering and sequencing numbers to 50 and building confidence working with bigger 2- digit numbers.

During science we will be investigating the properties of different materials to discover which ones would be most suitable for a new waterproof cloak for Little Red Riding Hood, and investigating how to safely transport the Billy Goats Gruff across the river without the Troll catching them!

The home learning project for this half-term's topic is to make a house for such story characters e.g. Cinderella's castle, a gingerbread house, a house for one of the Three Little Pigs. You can make this using a cereal box or other small box. Please bring your creations into school **by Friday 25th January**. We will display them during the week and invite you to come in and see some of our other work on our celebration event on **Wednesday 13th February at 2.50pm**.

Finally, it is really important that PE kits are clearly named and kept in school. Please ensure that your child has their own plimsolls in school at all times, which should also be clearly labelled. As we have had a whole term in school please check that your child's plimsolls still fit so that they are comfortable and safe for PE sessions.

Many thanks for your continued support.
Yours sincerely,

Mole Class
Imogen Smith

Rabbit Class
Ellen Kennedy

Owl Class
Hannah Prior and Melanie Arnott

