



Term 1 2020-2021 learning overview-what are some of the things your child is learning this term?

In Year 1 we often work in a cross-curricular manner making many links across learning, but sometimes the cross-curricular subjects such as science, art, computing, history and geography are blocked off to give appropriate coverage and depth to the curriculum.

Dear Parents/Carers,

A quick hello from our Year 1 team! We are so lucky to have lots of adults supporting us in Year 1. As well as Alice, we are lucky to have Helen regularly helping us with our learning throughout the week and Jenna, who is joining us on Mondays and Tuesdays too! The children love their afternoon with Jo on Tuesday as well.

The children have settled in so wonderfully and we are seeing some amazing learning! Transitioning from reception and keeping their learning appropriate to their level of development, we continue to learn through discovery time, with group sessions for maths, reading and writing, as well as whole class phonics and Learn Together. In order for the children to continue to develop their independent learning from reception, we will also have 3 learning challenges each week. Giving the children some ownership and responsibility, the children have all week during discovery time to complete the challenges, embedding some time management in there too. Two of the challenges will relate to our enquiry question and topic learning and the other will be a phonics-based challenge. There is a challenge in our outdoor space as well that children can access if they wish. We have been blown away by how well the children have responded to the challenges already and seen some really thoughtful learning. 😊 We also want the children to have the opportunity to explore their own interests and take time to develop their talents, improve and share their learning in discovery. Over the term we will be giving out discovery diaries, where the children can document the wonderful things they create in discovery, as they display purposeful learning. These will be completely child led and will showcase their own learning.

Apologies for not getting to know you all yet with the lack of face to face contact, but if you have any concerns, please call or email to discuss with Alice, who is always happy to help.

ENQUIRY QUESTION

This term, we will have two enquiry questions to help us with our learning.

Do we need our senses?

We will be exploring our senses, thinking about how they keep us safe, being grateful for how they allow us to experience the world and thinking about whether we truly need them. We will be thinking about our rights and asking how we can make sure that all children have these rights despite a sensory impairment (Article 23: You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability, as well as all the rights in this Convention, so that you can live a full life).

What toys did our grandparents play with?

This is a history focus, where we will compare toys we use now and those used by our grandparents, comparing the materials they are made from and using language related to the past.

LEARN TOGETHER

In Learn Together this term, we will be discussing how to create equal opportunities for children with sensory impairments to ensure they have the rights they are entitled to, and what we could do to help this.

We will also be starting to explore the belief systems of Christianity and Islam. We will be thinking about what beliefs are, what our own beliefs are and the core beliefs of the two religions, starting to compare the two. We will discuss the importance of a community and feeling like you belong to something.

We will be recognising international day of democracy, recycle week, international day of sign languages and black history month.

PHONICS

We will be recapping our phase 3 sounds at the start of this term, before starting learning phase 5 in October. The sounds in different phases can be found on our Year 1 page, as well as the exact sounds and camera words we will be focusing on that week, in order to help you support your child at home. We will be recapping our phase 3 camera words and teaching our phase 4 ones, so please have a look at the words each week, and maybe have a go at some tricky word games on phonics play with these words. When we start phase 5, a bookmark will be sent home with the camera words on as well.

READING

We are regularly reading and discussing books. In class each day we love voting for which book we would like at story time. When reading at home with us, please help us to choose a balance between fiction storybooks and non-fiction information books. Whether it is 5 minutes whilst dinner is cooking or before bed, reading at home is hugely beneficial for your child's reading development, so thank you for your support with this. Don't forget the importance of reading to the children as well – we are never too old to enjoy listening to a great story and listening to stories that are beyond our current reading level opens us up to a world of exciting vocabulary!

The children will be starting guided reading this term and will read regularly with an adult in the classroom. Children will change their book once a week. Children may take two books home. One which matches their current reading development and builds their confidence as a reader and one which matches the sounds we are teaching in phonics sessions. They may need more support with the latter, spotting sounds first and then reading it with you. The book which correlates with our phonics teaching will be yellow band at the start of this term and then may change to blue.



Term 2 learning overview-what are some of the things your child is learning this term?

In Year 1 we often work in a cross-curricular manner but sometimes the cross-curricular subjects such as science, art, history and geography are blocked off to give appropriate coverage and depth to the curriculum.

WRITING

This term, much of our writing will be done during phonics sessions as we focus on listening to words and hearing each sound before writing it accurately. We use our grapheme mats in school, and unless they are camera words, we are using the phase 3 sounds we already know in our spellings, really thinking about what we hear.

We will also be doing some writing in groups. Our main focus this term will be writing on the lines and using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. Our writing will link to our enquiry question and focus book.

Our first writing focus will be writing in the style of the book 'Leaf Man', making our own page, describing somewhere leaf man went on his journey and what he experienced with his senses.

Our second will be simple letter writing, using inspiration from the Jolly Postman by Allan Ahlberg, writing a letter to the residents of the Chocolate Quarter asking them what toys they played with when they were children, using question marks.

We want all of our writing to be purposeful, so hopefully we will get some responses! We will also be writing during discovery, labelling all of our wonderful creations and starting our 'discovery diaries' at some point this term where we document our independent learning in discovery.

MATHS

This term in Maths we will be exploring place value and addition to 10, focusing on building skills from reception and starting to problem solve. We will be introducing the symbols $<$ $>$ $=$ to compare numbers. We will also be using cherry models to explore how to make numbers in different ways.

Look at our class page for resources to help with our current learning.

WEBSITE+TWITTER

Please continue to check our school website and Twitter. It is updated as often as possible. The school webpage has useful links to help you support your child's learning with websites and games we often use.

SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Our science, geography and history is taught through short inputs followed by challenges during discovery time.

At the start of this term we are focusing on the senses and the human body. We will be exploring each sense and completing a challenge related to each one, e.g. guessing what is in pots by using our sense of smell. Through this exploration, we will be exploring our local area and using vocabulary to describe what we see.

Later this term we will be using historical language and looking at toys through time, comparing the materials from which they are made and ordering objects.

Every day in class, the helping hands act as our weather people and we record the weather and temperature that day so that we can observe the changes over the seasons. We love it!

COMPUTING

Digital Literacy including...

The children are independently documenting their learning using the iPads. We will also be exploring the use of technology beyond school, thinking about how this has changed through the years.

MUSIC, ART AND PE

We will be continuing our 'Preludes' music sessions as a class on a Friday with Iain.

In Art we will be looking at Andy Goldsworthy, exploring transient art and creating our own transient 'Leaf Man' artwork. We will also be exploring the skill of rubbing, exploring the texture of different natural materials. Later in the term, we will be designing and making our own toys after looking at toys through the ages. We are independently colour mixing using powder paint every day in discovery.

This term in P.E we will be exploring gymnastics with the fabulous sports coaches from Bristol Sport. With Alice, we will be focussing on dance, exploring movement and balance. P.E is on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.