



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Fenn
Telephone: 01727 851802
Fax No: 01727 766991
Email: head@abbey.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.abbey.herts.sch.uk

Grove Road
St Albans
Herts
AL1 1DQ

20 January 2017

TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER SPRING TERM 2017

Dear Parents,

Year 1 - SUMMARY OF LEARNING INTENTIONS

For your information we have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 1. The children are all working really hard and we feel sure that you will continue to make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses.

The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

Before half term

Fiction Unit 'Once Upon a Time...' In this unit, the children explore a range of fiction. They read the interactive eBook, listening and responding to the stories then re-telling them in their own words. They learn how to identify and understand character and events, linking these to their own lives and experiences. They compose and write simple sentences and questions. They will be using a full stop or an exclamation mark at the end of the sentence. They will be adding describing words to their sentences and combine sentences to create their version of a well-known traditional story such as Goldilocks. They will read stories independently or as part of a group. Also the children will be encouraged to form most letters correctly and re-read what they have written.

Stories with repeating patterns... In this unit, the children will explore rhyming patterns and enjoy stories with a repeating pattern, write descriptive phrases for nouns; they will focus on how authors used adjectives for describing animals. The children will be writing counting books. They will be using describing words and work on the sequence of events in a story. They will work together to brainstorm good ideas, looking at the flip chart and remembering some of the suggestions.

Word Detectives... Children take on the role of word detectives to investigate spelling patterns and generate their own spelling rules. They will sound out unfamiliar words to read them. They will be writing number words and write correct plurals for nouns.





The Abbey CE VA Primary School

After half term

Poetry- Pattern and Rhyme. In this unit, the children explore poems with pattern and rhyme. They enjoy performing a range of poetry. They come up with new rhyming words and focus on spelling patterns. They experiment with sound and rhythm as they recite their poems.

Non-fiction Unit 'Why do Elephants have big Ears?' In this unit, the children explore the Big Question: Why do elephants have big ears? They read the interactive eBook, finding information and learning how to write labels and captions. They answer the Big Question, planning and writing their own reports based on a model. In addition to this the children will continue to take part in guided reading and daily phonics sessions.

Mathematics

Before half term

Number and place value and money- Say the number one more or less and two more or less using a number line or a 100 grid; count on and back in tens from any number; locate 2-digit numbers on a 100 grid and a 1-100 bead string; read, write and say 2-digit numbers and understand them as some tens and some ones. Finding different ways of making money amounts.

Mental addition and subtraction- Revise pairs to 5, 6, 7, 10 and doubles to double 6; derive subtraction facts, use number facts to solve simple addition and subtraction word problem; add by putting the larger number first and counting on (numbers up to 100); spotting unit patterns; count on from 2-digit numbers; add a 1-digit number to a 2-digit number.

Mental multiplication and division- begin to count in 5s and 2s recognising multiples of 5 end in 5 and 0; children begin to count in 2s; estimate a number of objects within a range and count by grouping into 10s or 5s.

Geometry, Statistics and measurement- Name, recognise and know the properties of 3D shapes: cube, cuboid, cone, cylinder and sphere; begin to sort 3D shapes according to properties; order and name the days of the week and months of the year; recognise and name the seasons.

After half term

Mental addition and subtraction- Find and begin to know doubles to double 10; revise pairs to 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 and derive related subtraction facts; add a 1 digit number by counting on from a 2-digit number; subtract a 1-digit number by counting back from a two digit number; make 2-digit numbers using 10p and smaller coins; find 10 more than any number to 90; find 10 less than any number to 100.

Mental multiplication and division- Count objects in 5s and 10s and begin to say 5 lots and 10 lots.

Problem solving, reasoning and algebra- Use number facts to solve word problems.

Fractions, ratios and proportions- Find half, quarter and three quarters of shapes; begin to know that two halves and four quarters are a whole and that two quarters is a half.

Measurement- Relate units of time weeks, days, hours; divide the days up into parts; read and write times to the hour; begin to have a notion of how long an hour is and how long a minute is; tell the time (o'clock and half past) on analogue and digital clocks; measure using uniform units (cubes and rulers).



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Science

Before half term: Comparing Materials

In this unit children will describe the physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. They will compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple properties. They will describe the properties of different materials, for example wood, metal, plastic, rubber, fur, towelling, nylon, wool, sponge, cotton wool, paper, card, brick, ceramics and rock.

Working scientifically, children will ask questions related to the properties of materials. They will make close observations of the properties of these materials and group them according to similarities and differences. When carrying out simple comparative tests exploring different slimes, children will take simple measurements in uniform, non-standard units and record these.

Science topic after half term: Plants

This unit will introduce children to the idea of plants as living things which grow and change over time. Children will work towards answering the Quest question, 'How can we make a plant identification kit?' The unit will encourage children to recognise the common features, similarities and differences between plants. Children will learn about the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. They will identify, name and describe the main parts of plants, including trees. They will learn that trees are plants and will learn the meaning of 'evergreen' and 'deciduous' when describing and comparing trees. Children will describe and compare common plants and trees in their local environment and will learn specific vocabulary relating to trees, e.g. trunk, bark etc. They will have the opportunity to plant, grow and observe their own plants throughout the unit.

Children will consider how to treat plants as living things with care. At the end of the unit, children will create a model plant, a record of local plants and an identification kit for plants in their local area.

Working scientifically, children will focus on observing closely using simple equipment, naming and grouping and recognising similarities and differences between plants. Children will make and record their observations and will also have the opportunity to gather and record data in a simple way to help in answering questions

Foundation Subjects

Other areas of study will include: Our class topic is '**Toys and Games**'. Throughout our topics we aim to create challenging learning opportunities across all areas of the curriculum. This topic will last until Easter and covers, Design and Technology, Art and Design, and History.

Art and Design and Technology - The children will have the opportunity to design their own cup and ball game and make their own set of marbles from clay. We will be looking at the work of the artists, Bruegel and Andy Warhol. We will be creating our own screen prints in the style of Andy Warhol.

History - We will be looking at how the toys and the games that children play have changed over time and sort toys into old and new. We will be looking at the story of the first teddy bear. We will be having a visit from St Albans Museum on Monday 30th January. They provide a 1950's toy box work shop which will give the children hands-on opportunities to explore toys from the past.

R.E. - Before half term- Belonging. After half term- The Easter Story.

Computing- Discovering programming.

Music- Ongoing skills - Enjoy singing, playing, trying out and changing sounds. The children will explore sounds and music through play. They will recognise and broadly control



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

changes in timbre, tempo, pitch and dynamics. Sing broadly in tune within a limited pitch range. Follow and offer simple musical instructions and actions. Keep a steady pulse with some accuracy (internalising); Listen to ideas from others, taking turns as appropriate. Make physical movements that represent sounds. Recognising, memorising and joining in a variety of songs for assemblies and services. The topic for this term is Pitch and will be linked to animals, seasons and water. The children will explore pitch, duration, and appropriate musical notations; sing and to use their voices expressively; listen to, review, and evaluate music; play tuned and untuned instruments musically.

What do we expect of you, the parents? You can help and support us by continuing to:

- Regularly check your child's reading diary.
- Listen to your child read each evening (or as often as possible).

Reading books will continue to be changed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In addition your child will soon be given a phonics book which will be changed every Monday. Please ensure that you sign your child's reading record so that we know that the book is ready to be changed. Every Friday the children will have the opportunity to choose any book in the school library to take home for the week. Please ensure that books are returned each week in order for your child to be able to select a new one. The children will begin to take spelling homework on a Friday to be returned the following Friday.

Your child should have his/her PE kit in school every Tuesday and Thursday and outdoor sports clothing (including socks and trainers) will be needed for outdoor games sessions. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child does not have their kit on a games day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session then a note must be provided. If your child wears earrings, you may choose to take them out on PE days. However if you would prefer we could cover the earrings for the duration of the lesson. If your daughter wears tights to school, please ensure she has a pair of socks in her sports kit to wear for PE lessons.

Who will be working with your children this term?

Mrs Berry will be teaching in Year 1 every day. In addition to this Mrs Berrington will be teaching the class every Thursday afternoon for an hour. Mrs Moorhouse will be working with the class as teaching assistants. P.E. coach, Mr Morgan, will be working with the children on a Tuesday. Mrs Price will work with the children for weekly music lessons and singing assembly.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, in the first instance please come into school and speak with me. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far in this year and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Kind regards,

Mrs Berry
Class Teacher