

# Autumn Term 2020 – Curriculum Letter for children in Year 1

**Dear Parents,**

Welcome to a new school year. The children have settled in well and worked hard this week. They are getting used to the new routines that keep us all safe and happy. This letter is to outline what we hope to cover this term.

## **School Values:**



Our Core value this term is Independence. In Year 1, to develop the children's independence, they will be expected to complete a morning routine each day to prepare themselves for school and care for their own pencil cases and books. They will soon be given monitor jobs to assist me in creating a calm and safe space to learn in.

## **English**

All of our learning in English is taught through quality texts to inspire and guide the children in their learning. Throughout this term we will be covering a range of text types in our writing sessions:

- Fiction: Stories with Familiar Settings and Christmas Tales
- Poetry: Songs and Traditional Poems focusing on patterns and rhymes
- Non-Fiction: labels, Lists and Information texts

Please see the topic web for further details about topic related activities. We will have weekly handwriting sessions, and there will be daily Phonics/Spelling and Guided Reading sessions.

## **Maths**

At Dropmore we follow the White Rose framework. This term we will be revising and covering:

- Place value within 10 (including counting, ordering, grouping, comparing and ordinal numbers)
- Addition and subtraction within 10 (including fact families, number bonds, adding, finding part, subtraction, counting back, comparing number sentences)
- 2D and 3D shapes (recognising and sorting, patterns)
- Place Value within 20 (including writing numerals and words, tens and ones, comparing, ordering)

The children will be learning how to use a variety of equipment, models, mathematical strategies and reasoning techniques to work towards Maths Mastery. During the Autumn term they will start all lessons using objects/equipment before recording their work as pictures or in numbers/symbols.

## **Science:**

While the weather is nice we will use our science lessons to develop our knowledge of the seasons, focusing particularly on Autumn. We will observe and describe the changes in weather, plants and animal behaviours. For the rest of the term we will be learning about ourselves, including parts of the body and the senses. We will also be learning about materials and their uses.

## **Music:**

We will be following Music Express curriculum based music scheme, linking music to both science, English and PE. In the unit 'Ourselves' the children will explore different ways of using their voices expressively. They develop skills of singing while performing action and create an expressive story. In the unit 'Animals' the children develop an understanding of pitch through using movement, voices and instruments.

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## **Computing:**

We will start the term reminding ourselves of some important e-safety rules: not sharing our username and password and remembering to logoff when finished. The children will be using technology purposefully to create digital content. They will produce a two-paged Power Point Presentation: "Who Am I?".

## **Concept Curriculum:**

We are so excited to share our concept curriculum for this term! For more information see the Topic Map.

- Curriculum Content = Around the World in 80 Days
- Concepts = Diversity, Belief, Dreams
- Enquiry question = Why do people make journeys?

## **Wellbeing Curriculum**

### **PE (Physical Education)**

Please make sure your child has their Mile a Day shoes in school every day. Every item of clothing in the PE kit must be named. Your child has PE on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

One session will focus on PE activities that further develop their balance, coordination and agility as well as their personal, social and cognitive abilities such as following instructions; working positively within a team; challenging ourselves and supporting and encouraging others.

The other session, which will be run by an external coach (Joanne Odro), for this half term will be Volleyball and after half term they will be learning how to play Basketball.

### **PSHE (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)**

As well as being woven throughout the curriculum and enhanced during regular 'well-being' assemblies, the children will participate in a weekly PSHE lesson. They will follow the 'Jigsaw' scheme and this term will complete activities related to 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'. These lessons will specifically focus on enhancing each child's ability to recognise that we are all special and unique, developing a positive sense of themselves and others and learning to manage their feelings and behaviour to ensure that they work within our school rules.

### **RE (Religious Education)**

R.E is also woven throughout our concept curriculum and enhanced in specific RE lessons. Children will develop their knowledge and understanding of different Religions, beliefs and practices, including festivals. A significant focus of our wellbeing curriculum is identifying similarities and celebrating difference. This term we will be mainly learning about Christianity, and we will also look at festivals from other religions that take place during this term.

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## **REMEMBER!!**

- We have PE on a **Wednesday** and **Friday** afternoon. Please ensure the PE kit is worn to school on those days (a spare set should be kept in school every day) and that all items of your child's PE kit are clearly named. Mile-a-Day shoes should also be kept in school every day and labelled or clearly identifiable by your child.
- Starting on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept** we will have our weekly spelling test. These are differentiated so that all children can achieve. Spelling books should be handed in every Wednesday. These will be marked and returned with the new spelling words on the **Friday (to start on the 18<sup>th</sup>)**.
- To consolidate their work the children will be challenged with morning work starting when they arrive in school before the first lesson. Please ensure our child is in school on time.
- **Library - TBC.**
- **Maths targets** – These will be sent home in the next few weeks and ideally should be practised every day (little and often, 5 minutes max!). It is the responsibility of your child to hand in their target card when they are ready to be checked. They will need to demonstrate the skill on three consecutive occasions in school.
- It is important that your child **reads** aloud to an adult **every day**. To help with fluency it is important to ask you child to repeat a sentence after they have decoded it. Modelling reading techniques is invaluable. When your child is fluent (can read a sentence and only need to decode one word), you should also ask them about what they have read to check their understanding. A book does not have to be completed in one session, but should be read at least twice for comprehension and resilience. You can support your child further by reading to your child from books and magazines above their reading ability to improve their vocabulary and comprehension. **PLEASE** remember to update the reading diary as we do check this daily and use the information you give us to support your child further. Book changing days will be on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**.
- **Keyrings** – due to the lack of space in individual trays please can there be no more than **1 small keyring** on your child's bookbag.

Thank you for all your support and patience in the September opening of school. We are all still learning how to manage all the new routines to ensure everyone's safety and trying to make them as efficient as possible.

And finally, please join us online on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 4pm** for an informal, but very informative virtual session where we will talk about the year ahead specific to Year 1 and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. Further details will be sent to you shortly. We do hope to see all of you there!

We are looking forward to working together and an exciting year ahead!

Miss Tolmie