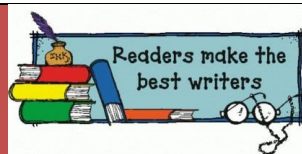


Year 1 Autumn Newsletter 2016

Welcome back! We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead. Just like in Reception, teaching and learning in Reception is hands-on and fun. Our classroom culture is built on our values: respect, kindness, friendship, enthusiasm, teamwork, truth and encouragement. We will be talking about these words a great deal ensuring that each pupil feels valued, included, secure and excited about learning. We encourage good behaviour at all times and positive attitudes towards learning and school.

Our trips this term are: Our Local Area – The Marshes and William Morris Gallery.

If you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us as we would like to continue our excellent home/school relationships, and aim to provide high-quality information, clear communication and an 'open-door' policy.



Literacy

Children participate in a daily phonics program called 'Read Write Inc'. In these sessions children learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letters/letter groups, how to read words using sound blending (Fred talk) and read stories featuring words they have learned to sound out. Also, they learn how to write words and form sentences.

Children take part in daily literacy sessions. As part of literacy, children look at narrative writing (stories), non-fiction writing (information writing) and poetry.

Narrative writing this term is based on the following books: 'Little Red Riding Hood' and other traditional tales and '10 things I can do to help my world' by Melanie Walsh. In addition, children participate in a guided reading session every day. In these sessions, children either read independently or with an adult as part of a small group.

On Thursday, individual reading takes place and reading books are changed.

Please ensure your child brings their book bag along with their yellow reading record book on this day.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their literacy skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

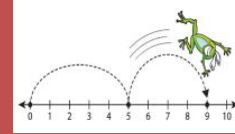
<http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/english/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>



Mathematics



Children will continue to further their understanding of number, number facts, calculations involving the four number operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, shape and measure. Also, children will be taught how to solve worded problems.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

<http://www.mymaths>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks1numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

<http://www.topmark.co.uk>



Science

The topics to be covered this term are 'Plants' and 'Animals including Humans'.

In the 'Plants' unit, children learn to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Also, children are taught to identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

In the 'Animals' unit the children will learn fascinating things about their bodies (limbs and the main organs) and senses. Observe changes over time and think about the question how our faces when we get older? Collect data, look for patterns and carry out investigations. The children will also look carefully at the behaviour and habitats of creatures you find in the school grounds and around our homes, learn about a variety of common animals with a particular focus on the pets we keep and how we keep them happy and healthy.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their science skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/science/>

<http://www.resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/science>

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/science>



Humanities



The geography topics being taught are 'What would Dora the Explorer/Ben Ten find exciting about our local area and our city' and 'Where do leaves go to in winter?'

Children learn about their local area. They will learn to name key features associated with the area and explain what they like about their area.

Also, children are taught to explain how the weather changes with each season and answer questions about the weather.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their humanities skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/geography/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



Computing

The computing topics being taught are 'We are collectors' and 'We are celebrating'. Children are taught how to find images using the web. Also, children are taught how to use the Internet safely. Furthermore, children will be taught how to create a digital greeting card.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.light-bot.com

www.code.org

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.kodugamelab.com



Art/Design & Technology

All the art sessions are linked to the various curriculum areas. In the art sessions, children explore different art techniques such as sketching, collage, working with paints and pastels.

The art topic being taught is 'Self Portraits'.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>



R.E.



Children will be looking at Christianity. Children will learn about Christian beliefs and will read stories associated with them.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to learn more about this topic:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



P.E.

Children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing, catching and hitting a ball. Also, children take part in mini games associated with team games.

PE day is Tuesday.

Furthermore, children will participate in sessions where they will use a range of body actions and body parts to create movements.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school. This must include shorts, jogging bottoms, t-shirt and jumper in order to prepare for the indoor and outdoor activities. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled to avoid any confusion when items are misplaced.



Home Learning

Homework is handed out each Friday.

Your child receives:

- Weekly Maths homework.
- Weekly spellings to be tested in class.
- Mental Maths homework using 'Maths Express' based on the child's ability - these are due approximately every 3 weeks.
- Daily reading at their ability level to be recorded in their Reading Record books. Children should read aloud to their parents or carers and discuss what they have read.
- Autumn term Home Learning projects are: 'Our Local Area' and 'Materials'.



General notices/requests

Queries, worries or questions

If you have a concern or any questions, feel free to pop in and see us at the end of the school day at 3:30pm. We will be at the door ensuring children are being safely dismissed.

Please be aware that time at the end of the day can be limited, so if you need to discuss anything in more detail, please call the school office on **020 8520 6267** to arrange an appointment. Alternatively, you can email the school at admin@coppermill.waltham.sch.uk

Thank you for all your support. We look forward to an exciting term with your children!

Mr Ward, Ms Reed, Ms Goss and Ms Dobson