











Year 1, Spring 2, 2021

Welcome back! Goodness that half term week went quickly but I hope that you had a super break and enjoyed some special family time. This half term is six weeks and promises to be jam-packed, as usual! There will be a strong focus on phonics and children being able to read and write all of the Year 1 common exception words (tricky red words). It is so important that your child/ren practice their weekly spellings to embed what they are learning at school. A reminder that at the end of Year 1, your child will undertake a national phonics screening check, so it is imperative that they know all of their Phase 1, 2 and 3 sounds.

This term our focus text continues to be 'Claude in the City' written by Alex T. Smith. This is a very relatable and funny book which I hope the children will really enjoy.

<p>English</p> 	<p>This half term begins with World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March, and we are inviting the children in Year 1 to dress up as a character from a Julia Donaldson book. In their main English lessons, the children will be writing recounts about their trip to Leamington Spa; a diary entry based on Samuel Pepys experience of The Great Fire of London; a narrative (story) based on Dick Whittington; a non-chronological report about Queen Elizabeth II and letters and fact files during Shakespeare Week at the end of term.</p> <p>Reading will continue as usual – we will read with the children as a whole class, every day and on an individual basis too. We will continue to have daily sessions and will continue to segment and blend sounds. To date, we have learned the Set 1 and 2 sounds, and we are continuing to learn the Set 3 sounds. Please practise reading at home too every day with the books that are sent home. It is imperative that these are returned to school every day.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term the children will be revisiting addition and subtraction with 20. We will then move on to fractions where the children will learn to identify halves and quarters of shapes and quantities and then identify half, quarter and three-quarter turns. Following this, we will learn about length and mass. Children will learn to compare and measure lengths and heights using standard and non-standard units of measure; compare the masses (the weight) of two objects using standard and non-standard units of measure. Any practice at home is always greatly appreciated and again, completing the weekly homework will support with this.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>'Seasonal changes' (with a particular focus on spring and summer) is our topic for this half term. The children will learn to name the four seasons; name different types of weather; describe weather associated with each season and make weather observations. They will begin to collect, record and interpret data and make a detailed comparison between two seasons.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>This half term's unit is 'Animated Stories'. The children will know the difference between a traditional book and an e-book; use the different drawing tools to create a picture on the page and add text to a page, changing the colour, font and size of the text.</p>
<p>Geography/History</p> 	<p>Our History curriculum is enabling the children to learn about The Great Fire of London in 1666. We began learning about this before half term and our learning continues for the next few weeks. In addition to this, the children will be completing a mini project about Royal Leamington Spa. We will be taking the children on a walking tour of the town to learn more about the history of the town</p>
<p>D&T and Art</p> 	<p>The topic of 'Bright Lights, Big City' lends itself perfectly to lots of DT opportunities. As part of the project 'Taxi'. The children will learn about wheels, axles and chassis and this will lead to them designing and building their own vehicles which promises to be exciting!</p>

<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children will continue with their karate journey this half term led by a highly qualified coach, Mr. Byrne. This is a very disciplined sport and requires the children to listen and watch carefully and carry out the necessary moves skilfully. They will have the opportunity later in the term to take a grading to achieve their first belt – these lessons have proved to be a huge with the children!</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>This half term we will learn to sing the song 'Round and Round' which will give the children the opportunity to participate in some warm-up and vocal chord games. We will also listen to alternative songs in order to compare and contrast them.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE, we will look at Christianity, understanding what they believe, if anything, about God. They will also learn about the Christian festival of Easter including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday; acknowledging how these are celebrated.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>Our Jigsaw topic is 'Healthy Me' and the children will learn to understand the difference between being healthy and unhealthy; how to make healthy lifestyle choices; how to keep clean and know that all household products, including medicines, can be harmful. They will also learn that medicines can help them if they feel poorly and how to keep safe when crossing the road. Their final lesson will enable the children to say why my body is amazing and identify some ways to keep it safe and healthy.</p>

As always, if you have any questions or would like to know more about how you can help at home please come and ask me.

Mrs Finch

Year 1 Teacher