

14th January 2019

Class 1 Spring Term 2019 Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the second term of Year 1. We have been very impressed with the way children have adapted to a range of different teaching styles and how they have continued to show their willingness to learn.

We are looking forward to working with your children on this half term's topic which is 'Turrets and Tiaras'. We will give the children the opportunity to learn, apply new skills and find out information about castles, different types of homes and explore castle-themed art and music topics. We will be learning about traditional tales in English which links in with our 'castles' topic. We also look forward to sharing what we have learned with you in our first Year 1 Class Assembly which will be on Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm, in the school hall.

We have already made the move away from 'Let's Explore' activities running concurrently alongside Maths and English to whole class teaching, with groups requiring additional support being supported by an adult.

I have included a copy of the weekly teaching timetable.

Morning Routine

All Year 1 children will now follow the whole school arrangements for coming into school each day.

If you need to make us aware of any issues relating to your child for the day please talk to myself or Mrs Hill who will be at the classroom door. As you can appreciate the entrance area to the classroom is very congested when children arrive in the morning. We would ask that if you need to come in to see a member of staff that you wait until the majority of the children have entered the classroom.

If you would like to talk to me in more detail, please catch me at the end of the day. If you have a specific issue you would like to discuss, please make an appointment via the School Office or email adminoffice@ropleyschool.hants.sch.uk.

Communication with parents/carers

If your child is not being collected by you, we do need to be informed. You can do this by email (adminoffice@ropleyschool.hants.sch.uk), by phoning the office or writing on the Year 1 Message Clipboard which is to be found on a hook opposite the office hatch at the main entrance.

Behaviour Management and Rewards

We have started to use an interactive 'Class Dojo' system which positively reinforces good behaviour and good attitudes to learning and children have responded very well to this system.

House points and stickers will also continue to reward good behaviour and learning and we are continuing with a whole class reward system ('Pebbles in the Jar') to encourage children to work as a team and encourage each other.

The class teddies, Rainbow and Olivia, will go home with the 2 helpers of the week on Fridays.

If there is a reoccurring issue with behaviour we will be in touch with parents/carers if any further action is required.

General Information

Reading

Reading books will be changed two to three times weekly, though the day may vary. Children will usually have two guided sessions per week with myself or Mrs Simons or Mrs Hill. Children also read individually with parent helpers.

Library

This term we will continue to visit the library as a class, during which time the children will be able to choose and return two books by using their own library card. The children will be taught how to use the computerised system themselves and how to access the library to find books of individual interest. We will visit the library every two weeks on a Wednesday and children will be reminded the day before book exchange day.

P.E.

P.E. will be on Monday and Fridays. George and Alex will teach Multiskills, Gymnastics and Dance. Children will require shorts, t-shirts, plimsolls, socks and trainers and also warm tops and bottoms for outdoor sessions during the winter months. PLEASE ENSURE EVERYTHING IS CLEARLY NAMED.

Clothing

We are outside all year round. Please ensure your children have appropriate coats in school all year. In the summer your children will need sunhats and in the winter your children will need woolly hats and gloves. We will let you know in advance if children need to bring wellies or waterproofs to school.

Water

Your child will need a named water bottle in school which they can access throughout the day. Children will bring their water bottles home each day to refill with fresh water at home.

Fruit/Lunch

We are a 'nut aware' school. Please do not allow your children to bring any nuts or nut based products into the school. Year 1 have their snack at break time, provided by the National Fruit and Vegetable scheme. Children select their school lunch from the published menus. Children order their lunch using the same system as in Year R.

Adult Helpers in Class

We welcome parental help in class. Please let me know if you have time available to listen to readers or participate in other activities.

Homework

Weekly Year 1 homework will be in the form of:

- Reading – the books sent home and their tagged words
- Spelling – this term we will start to have weekly spelling tests, practising phonics or spelling rules learned each week
- Maths – your child will receive a weekly Maths activity which will be stated in the weekly homework letter
- Writing/Topic – your child will receive either a writing or topic activity will be stated in the weekly homework letter
- Phonics – later this term we will start to send home some phonics practice activities to support progress in reading and spelling

Your child will have a homework folder in which evidence of their homework should be put. Parents/carers will be expected to sign that the homework has been completed.

Yours sincerely

Ms Pandey
Class 1 teacher

LSAs

Mrs Hill