



Happy children aiming high

## Autumn 2 Half Term Information for Parents Year 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

**Themes:** Autumn 2 – All the World is a Stage

**Cross curricular links:**

**English:** Alongside our Read Write Inc sessions, children will be provided with a variety of reading and writing opportunities linked to our topic, including: Instructions for pumpkin carving and magic spells; Play scripts for puppet theatre and drama; Traditional tales /Panto stories (Aladdin).

**Science:** We will continue with a focus on the changing seasons. Children will learn about why our seasons change, using a simulation of earth spinning on its axis and moving around the sun.

**Geography:** Children will be taught how to use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map. We will locate local Theatres including Theatre Royal in Newcastle, Seaton Delaval Arts centre and Peoples Theatre, Jesmond. Discuss where these are in relation to key landmarks, features and places of interest as well as ways in which we could travel to these places.

**History:** Although not explicitly taught this half term, children will find out about significant historical events and places in their own locality by looking at the history of the Theatre Royal as one of England's leading theatres. We will complete a timeline activity from 1788, when the theatre was granted its Royal licence by King George III and opened on Drury Lane. Key events including; its move to Grey Street in 1837, three months before Queen Victoria ascended the throne; the interior destroyed by fire in 1899 right up to modern day.

**Art:** Children will learn to use a range of materials creatively to design and make shadow theatre puppets to tell traditional tales in our very own puppet theatre. As a school we will be producing artwork to display at the Peoples Theatre in Newcastle for the panto Aladdin. Through this, children in Year 1 will develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. We will also apply these skills when we create firework pictures and our Christmas crafts, cards and calendars.

**PE:** Our PE sessions this half term will be split between Gymnastics, developing control and coordination and Dance, learning simple routines and movement patterns linked to our Christmas performance.

**Music:** (To be taught by Miss Pickering) Children will take part in a weekly drumming workshop with a visiting drum teacher, learning simple rhythms and drumming patterns. They will continue to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs linked to our Christmas performances.

**Maths:** Cross curricular links will be made to weights and measures – problems involving presents for Santa's sleigh.

**Subjects being taught separately this half term:**

**Maths:** Working with numbers to 20, children will use objects, pictures and the number line to develop their skills, knowledge and reasoning of Place Value with a focus on counting, reading and writing numbers in numerals and words, identifying one more/one less than given numbers, using the language of equal to, more than, less than/fewer, most least. Children will continue to develop their knowledge of addition and subtraction and be able to solve one step problems using objects and pictorial representations.

They will also learn to recognise and name a range of common 2-D and 3-D shapes.

**Computing:** Following on from last half term, children will be using individual usernames and secure passwords to log onto PCs and tablets. We will discuss what is meant by personal information and how to keep ourselves safe online.

**PSCHE:** (to be taught by Miss Pickering) Getting On and Falling Out, with a focus on cooperation and team work within the classroom setting and as a cast on stage.

**RE:** (to be taught by Miss Pickering) Unit 5: Festivals and Celebrations. Focussing on Christmas presents that the three kings brought to Jesus and Jesus as a gift to the world. Children will also learn about Judaism, covering aspects of Hanukah.

### How can you help?

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn. This includes having all the equipment they need for the day, such as PE kit, reading book and reading record.
- Practise Speed Sounds (phonics). These will be sent home with your child in their reading folder.
- Practise core vocabulary words. Can your child read and spell them? A copy will be provided for you to use at home.
- Complete homework activities with your child.
- Share your child's school reading book with them, discussing characters, events and opinions. This is best done often and in short bursts.
- Practise mental maths including times tables (2, 5 and 10 in Year 1) and number bonds (to 10 initially and then to 20); discuss money, time and measures with real examples.
- Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.
- Please check your child's book bag frequently for letters and other information.
- If you have any interesting topic related artefacts that your child could share for a display or discussion, please bring them into school.

### Homework

Our homework policy is currently under review and as the year progresses we will have a more topic based approach. Please bear in mind that the 'How can you help?' section covers ongoing homework activities that are to be done on a regular basis.

### Class Reminders

**PE:** Y1 – Tuesday (gymnastics) and Friday (hall games)

Please ensure PE kits are in school on all school days to ensure it is available for any extra PE sessions.

Children must always have sandshoes. There are labelled boxes under the Y1 coat pegs for PE bags.

**Reading books and records** must be in school **every day**. All children will be given a new book at the beginning of the week and will share that book in small groups and/or 1:1 with an adult in school across the week.