

# Year 1 Curriculum Report– Autumn Term B 2018



Welcome back to a very hectic but also exciting half term as we continue our learning journey and prepare to celebrate Christmas with one of the highlights being our Christmas play. This half term, our topic is Toys. A big thank you for sending in toys for us to use in class – have you heard that the toys came to life last Monday morning and we discovered them all over the classroom!



## **Literacy:**

The main focus of our Literacy teaching continues to be writing in sentences, and particularly developing independence in checking for capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Alongside this, the children are being encouraged to use sound mats and word mats independently to support their spelling skills.

The surprising events of our toys coming to life and the film Toy Story has led us to write stories about what our toys get up to when no one is around to see! Later in the half term we will be looking at non-fiction writing, creating captions about toys and using adjectives to describe them.

The children are continuing to develop their reading, spelling and handwriting through daily phonics sessions. They are taking part in Guided Reading sessions each week, working with a teacher in a small group to read and discuss a variety of texts.

## How to help at home:

- Listen to your child read their reading book daily, and fill in their reading message book to complete the reading challenge. They can change their reading books as often as they need.
- Help your child to learn the spellings that are sent home on a Thursday. Little and often practice is the best approach. The children will be tested on a Tuesday. Children in Ms Jelliff's phonics groups have different words to learn – please ask your child's class teacher for more information.

## **Mathematics:**

The children have developed real confidence working with numbers up to 20 over the last half term, representing these numbers using different resources and are adding and subtracting using both equipment and number lines. The children are beginning to learn number facts and record them systematically (e.g.  $0 + 5$ ,  $1 + 4$ ,  $2 + 3$ , etc.).

Most children are confident to read and write numbers to 20. We are now learning to read and write numbers to at least 50, beginning to break the numbers into 10s and units (e.g. 43 is 4 tens or 40 and 3 ones).

We are also learning to describe and sequence events and name and order the days of the week and months of the year. Each class has a role play shop, which is helping the children to recognise coins to 20p and use the coins to pay for their shopping.

## How to help at home

- The children need to be confident and fluent with counting forwards and backwards to at least 50. Counting your steps, taking it in turns to say the number names or saying which number comes next are vital skills which can be practised anywhere and make a real difference to your child's progress.
- Recite the days of the week and months of the year
- Name pairs of numbers that add up to any number up to 10 (e.g. 4 and 3 equals 7, 4 and 6 is 10)
- Give your child the opportunity to pay for things at the shop, helping to find the 10p coin etc.

**Science:**

The focus for science this half term is observing and describing what we see happening. We will do this through investigating the changes of the seasons and weather. We are also learning to observe changes, for example, how can you make a ball of plasticine float?

**History:**

History is a key focus this half term. The children have sorted and described their toys from home. We are now exploring toys from the past, identifying their features and comparing them to the toys we play with today. We will then try to sequence them along a timeline from Victorian times, to the toys the children play with today.

**Personal, Social and Health Education:**

The title of this half term's P.S.H.E. is, 'Other People are Special Too' and it encourages the children to think about all of the different groups to which they belong – e.g. family, class, dance group, etc. We will also look at how some people are special to us and can help us when we feel worried or hurt.

**Computing:**

This term we will be looking at the internet. The children will understand what the internet is and the different ways in which the children can access the internet. They will then explore ways to stay safe whilst using the internet.

**Religious Education:**

In this curriculum area we will look at light as a symbol. We will consider why Christians light candles at Christmas and learn about the advent ring.

**Physical Education:**

This half term's PE will focus on dance and games. Games will concentrate on ball skills: the children will be throwing, catching and dribbling with a range of different sized balls. Dance will lead up to performances as part of our production at the end of this term.

**Art and Design Technology:**

We will be exploring a range of skills this half term: colour, pattern, texture and shape. We will use all these skills when we draw the old toys.

**Music:**

In music this half term will be learning to use our voices expressively by singing songs as part of our Christmas play.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like further information or have expertise to support our curriculum and the children's learning in any way. We are always very grateful for willing volunteers to support reading and other areas of the curriculum in school. In particular, *we would like to invite into school any adults who would like to talk about any old toys that they still have. This will really help to bring history alive!*

**Home learning challenge:**

*Either:*

*Talk to an older member of your family about toys that they played with when they were your age. Can you draw and write about their special toy? What was the toy like? How is it different to toys we play with now?*

*Or:*

*Find a toy you played with when you were a baby. Draw and write about the toy. What is the toy made from? How is it different to toys you play with now?*