



# Year 1 Curriculum Report for Parents

## Spring B 2020

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. Our topic this half term is based around science and is named '**Can you dig it?**' We shall be developing our understanding and experience of growing, plants and change. The activities the children complete during our visit to Hillier's Gardens will provide first hand experiences to develop their learning about plants, and support all our subsequent learning at school. We are hoping for some beautiful sunshine so we can regularly work in the courtyard too!

**Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE):** This half term we explore emotions and how everyone is unique and special. 'Caring for Others' explores with the children the value of being part of different groups and communities and how their choices can affect others. They will also look at the difference between *needs* and *wants*.

**Literacy:** This term literacy will be based around our science unit and we will be looking at lots of different types of non-fiction writing and giving instructions to look after a plant. Using sunflowers as our inspiration, we will also be writing our own poems.

*Please continue to help at home by encouraging your child to complete the reading challenge every week. Children who are reading regularly make better progress.*

*It is also important to practise the spellings that are sent home on a Thursday, ready for testing the following week. We have noticed that some children are not learning these words at home. The children need to practise the spellings little and often to ensure they remember the words for their test and are able to use them in their writing.*

**Mathematics:** This half term has begun with a strong focus on halving and will move on to explore quarters and sharing.

We will continue to build on mental skills by learning to mentally halve and double small numbers and adding and subtracting up to 10. Adding and subtracting using a number line continues to be a focus of our learning, as well as learning all the different words that tell us to add or subtract (and, altogether, sum, minus, difference between...)

*At the end of last half term, we were learning to tell the time to the nearest half hour (o'clock and half past times) so please practise this important life skill at home.*

**Science:** As already mentioned, learning about plants is a key focus for our science this half term. The children need to be able to identify the different parts of a plant (bulb, stem, petal, etc) and identify many different common plants and trees. The children will also learn about treating all living things with respect and care.

**I.C.T:** The children will continue to learn about algorithms and debugging by programming bee-bots.

**Religious Education:** We will be focusing on the Easter story and the lead up to Easter and thinking about why it is a very important time for Christians.

**Physical Education:** In P.E. we will be aiming, throwing and catching using a range of different equipment. We shall also be using balls to develop our core strength and co-ordination.

**Music:** We will be listening to a variety of styles of music and thinking about what it makes us feel and imagine. We are going to be playing lots of games exploring pitch and timbre.

**Home learning challenge:** *Visit a park or garden with a camera or a sketch book. Make a list of the different plants (including trees) that you find. Bring it into school to share what you found, and you will also receive a special seed to plant at home!*

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like further information or have expertise to support the curriculum and the children's learning in any way. We are always very grateful for willing volunteers to support reading in school. You do not have to have any particular skills; just some time that you can share with us.