

# Class 1 News

Spring Term 2018



Miss Inman , Mrs Swales and Mrs Warren would like to welcome to Class 1 back for the first term of 2018! We hope that you have all had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready for what promises to be another very exciting term! We would also like to give a very warm welcome to our new nursery starters who are already settling in fantastically well.

As always, if you have any questions or queries about any part of your child's school life, please do not hesitate to see a member of the Class 1 team on a morning or after school. We want every child to feel happy and safe, and thoroughly enjoy their time at Greatham Early Years.

On the next page you will find an outline of what we will be covering across the Early Years curriculum in the Spring term. As always, children in Reception will also take home a weekly overview in their 'Busy Bee books' as well as a task relating to their weekly learning focus. We really appreciate all of the support that you give to your children's learning at home- it really does make a huge difference to both their development and their self-confidence! It is lovely for them to know that you really do take an interest in the things they do at school each day.

## Uniform

We love all the children to wear school uniform. It gives the children a sense of pride and belonging to the school and it looks wonderful!

- ★ Dark blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan.
- ★ Dark blue skirt/pinafore
- ★ Blue, grey or black trousers
- ★ White or blue polo shirt
- ★ Blue gingham dress
- ★ Sensible footwear (no trainers)

**Please ensure that all your child's personal clothing and property is clearly named.**

## Maths

In the first half term topics in maths will include:

- Counting
- Addition (Rec)
- Number bonds (Rec)
- Shape
- Symmetry



Singing number songs and spotting numerals in the environment is a great way to help your child at home with their maths. They also enjoy looking for shapes in the environment at school-this would be another fantastic activity to play at home to encourage their development.

## Literacy

We will be looking at lots of dinosaur stories this half term including: 'Dinosaur Rumpus,' 'Dinosaur Roar' and a selection of stories from the 'Harry and the Dinosaurs' series. We will also look at 'Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs' at the end of the half term in order to introduce our next topic of bears!

In nursery, children will be listening to and spotting 'rhyme' and 'alliteration' in words, songs and stories and Reception will be developing their writing skills by completing activities such as recounts, instructions and invitations.

## Understanding the World

Children will have lots of opportunities to develop their understanding of the world through our dinosaur topic by taking part in activities such as:

- Exploring and making fossils
- Looking at and constructing dinosaur bones and skeletons
- Observing our 'dinosaur egg' hatch and discovering what we find inside eggs.



# Dinosaurs.

In the first half term the children will be learning through the topic of dinosaurs. The children have shown prior interest and fascination in 'dinosaurs' and so lots of ideas have come from the children themselves in order to fully engage them in their learning.

## Physical Development

In PE children will be developing their skills in 'dance.'

## Communication and Language

- Exploring the 'adjectives' that describe our dinosaur
- Re-telling familiar stories
- Developing their language skills through their exploration and descriptions of shapes
- Communication and language is also promoted through our dinosaur themed role play and small world areas.

## Expressive Art and Design

- Making fossils
- 'Moving' shape dinosaurs
- Dinosaur bone pictures

## PSHCE

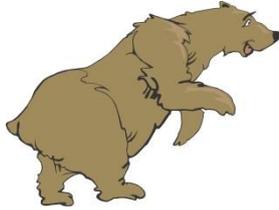
Throughout the term, the RE topics will be: Special Books, Stories Jesus Told and Easter. Through these sessions children will explore why different religions consider different books special; they will hear some of the stories found in the Bible and will learn why Christians celebrate Easter.

For PSHCE we follow the GoGivers scheme of work. Our circle time sessions this term follow the theme of 'Caring for Pets.'

### Maths

In the second half term the topics in maths will include:

- Length
- Measuring
- Subtraction
- Positional language
- Weight



### Literacy

In this topic the children will look at lots of familiar and popular stories including:

- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- Teddy Bears' Picnic

Children will learn, recite, re-enact and retell these stories helping them to become familiar with the way in which stories are structured.

### Understanding the World

Children will explore the features of the settings described in the story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' (grass, mud, wind, water and ice.) They will also be responsible for the Class 1 garden, taking on all of the responsibilities that go with it including: weeding, planting, garden maintenance and making compost, insect habitats and animal feeders!

## **Bears.**

In this topic, children will learn lots of popular and familiar stories all about bears. They will go on their own 'bear hunt' and will end the term by having their very own 'teddy bears' picnic!

### Physical Development

In PE children will be developing their dancing skills by enacting We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

### Communication and Language

Children will be learning and reciting 'Teddy Bears Picnic' and will have lots of opportunities for communication in 'hot seat' lessons where children take on the role of characters in familiar stories in order to understand more about them.

### Expressive Art and Design

- Sensory collages
- Fork bears
- Bear Masks

### PSHCE

Throughout the term, children will be continuing their Star of The Week selections, during which the previous "Star" chooses a peer that they feel has demonstrated an attribute worthy of special praise. In addition, they will continue to take part in "New Friend Friday," where children are selected to be special friends for the afternoon and throughout our 'team building games,' encouraging all children to mix socially within the class.

## **Nursery.**

- Singing number rhymes at home with your child is a great way to reinforce the counting skills that they will be practising at nursery this term.
- It is essential for children's literacy development that they have a bank of familiar stories, songs and rhymes so that they become familiar with the way in which stories are structured. This not only supports their writing skills, but also their communication and language skills. Reading to your child, and singing nursery rhymes with them at home can help with this. (Each child will take home a school nursery book each week to share with their families)

## **Reception.**

- Children often find forming numbers difficult. It would be fantastic if you could help your child with this using their favourite pencils, pens or paints!
- There are a range of brilliant websites with fun but educational games that will help with your child's learning, such as:
  - [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)
  - [www.crickweb.co.uk](http://www.crickweb.co.uk)
  - [www.busythings.co.uk](http://www.busythings.co.uk)
  - [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies)
  - <http://www.five.tv/milkshake>

Of course, the most important resource you have at home for your child is yourself! Spending time reading regularly with your child (school books and books from home) counting with them, and engaging and talking with them really does make a massive difference to their progress.