



KEY STAGE 1 NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all enjoyed a lovely summer break and enjoyed an ice cream or two. We have been very impressed with how the children settled back into their new class already, and we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead.

The Autumn term is all about setting the right standards with the children, so they know what to expect from us at school and what is expected of them at home as well. We want all our children to be settled and happy and achieve.

Key dates

Wednesday 3rd September- Back to School.

Tuesday 9th September- Year 1 Meet the Teacher (3:30-4pm)

Wednesday 10th September- KS1 Trip to Newstead Abbey

Thursday 11th September- Year 2 Meet the Teacher (3:30-4pm)

Friday 17th October – Last day of Autumn 1 (Non-Uniform)

Monday 3rd November – 1st Day of Autumn 2

Friday 28th November – Panto (5pm finish)

Friday 5th December – Christmas Fair 3.30-5.30pm

Hawthorn's Nativity - Tuesday 9th December (2pm and 5pm)

Elm's Nativity - Wednesday 10th December (2pm and 5pm)

Hazel's Nativity - Thursday 11th December (2pm and 5pm)

Friday 19th December – Last day of Autumn 2 (Non-Uniform)

Please keep an eye on the school weekly newsletter that is posted on Class Dojo to keep up to date with any extra important dates for this term.

Reading

Reading is paramount to our children's education and therefore is a big part of our daily learning. We ask that children bring reading books and organisers **EVERYDAY** to school. We ask that, if possible, you read with your child each night with the aim of getting 5 home reads recorded in their diary each week. The children will receive a raffle ticket for a prize draw each week that this is achieved. For any children who do not appear to be reading at home, we will contact yourselves to see how we can support with this to ensure that it happens as much as possible for the children. If you have any questions about how to support your child reading at home, then please do get in contact with your child's class teacher.



Curriculum Enquiry

Our knowledge-based curriculum will involve the children studying a history-based enquiry question this term, with our learning for life lessons enhancing this. The children will investigate the question, 'Who changed the world for me?'



This history topic will include looking at a range of significant people from the past, and understanding what they did that has impacted our lives today. With a focus on people from the Victorian era onwards, children will gain an understanding of the impact people can have for the good. The children will complete the enquiry by coming up with their own idea as to how they could change our world in school for others.

Our learning for life enhancer will give the children to opportunity to understand how they themselves can be the change in the world for the better.

At the end of the term, the children will be able to discuss 'Who changed the world for me?' by using knowledge gained and examples of ways we have done this through the event the children will plan.

English



Year 1/2

The English topics (which will usually link closely with our curriculum enquiry) are as follows:

- Instructions
- Mysterious Narrative
- Diary
- Biography

Through these genres, we will be focusing on handwriting, expanding our vocabulary, and we will be covering a range of grammar and punctuation skills, such as expanded noun phrases, using a range of suffixes and using conjunctions. These topics will also provide the children with an opportunity to consider this term's enquiry question: Who changed the world form? And how we can make our mark through our writing.

Mathematics



Year 1

This term, we will be learning:

- Place value up to 10
- Beginning addition and subtraction to 10.

Year 2

This term we will be looking at the following areas in Maths:

- Place value
- Addition
- Subtraction
- Shape

Science

In Science, the children will be working to develop their understanding of plants. We will be looking at the different parts of a plant and then getting out into the school grounds to explore the different plants and trees we have.

Physical Education

During this term the children will be working on skills needed for team games. They will be thinking about teamwork, problem solving and how to apply skills they have learnt to real life games.



As a continued safety measure, it would be great if your child could attend school in their PE kit for both of their PE days. As **no jewellery** should be worn during PE, it would be best that if on these days all jewellery is left at home.

Religious Education

Religious education in Autumn will be focusing on the Hindu faith. The children will gain an understanding of Hindu religious practises and the importance of them as well as various Hindu festivals and celebrations. The children will also compare these celebrations to celebrations in other religions that they have previously learnt about.

Learning for Life

Our lessons this term are all about understanding ourselves and how we can change over time. We will look at our emotions, mental health and how we can begin to understand careers that might interest us. We will look at ways we can approach difficult situations and the emotions connected with these.

Music

This term we are taking on the role of composers! We will learn all about how to compose music using a variety of percussion instruments to compose our own piece of music at the end of Autumn 1. In Autumn 2 we will be building on our singing skills in preparation for our Christmas plays.

Forest School

We are fortunate enough to be going to Forest School this term, unfortunately due to the number of children in Key Stage One we are unable to go all together. Therefore, Year One and Year Two will be going on alternate weeks. We will be going on a **Friday afternoon**, the exact dates each year group will go are being clarified over the next week and will be communicated through Class Dojo as soon as possible. Permission splits have been sent home with children at the end of last year, please can you ensure these are handed back to their class teacher by Friday 5th September.

Forest School Kit: The children will need to come to school on their day wearing their Forest School clothes and they will return home wearing their Forest School clothes. Your child will be provided with waterproof clothing from school. Please feel free to provide your child with their own waterproof clothing if you wish. We will be attending Forest School whatever the weather! All children must bring in a pair of wellies to stay in school. If you need any more information about what your child should wear, please ask a member of staff. Again, please see the Dojo message regarding when Year 1 / 2 will be attending Forest School.

DT

In D&T this term the children will learn how to sew and will use this skill to plan, make and evaluate a hanging Christmas tree decoration ready to hang on their Christmas trees at home. They will make this out of felt and will use a plastic needle and thread and scissors to cut and join the material together in the shape of a tree and decorate it.

Home learning

We will set this each week on ClassDojo which will consist of spellings (ready for a test the following Friday), either an English or Maths activity and reading. The most important thing that we would request of you throughout your child's time is Mapplewells is that the children read at home.

Class Dojo

As a school, we continue to utilise Class Dojo as an amazing tool for communicating with home and school and supporting your children's learning. Whilst we aim to reply to messages as soon as we can, this is not always possible. Please be mindful that staff have their families to go home to and spend time with and will not be expected to reply or check messages outside of working hours which are between 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday-Friday.

If something is particularly important, please contact the school office, as staff may not check our messages until the children have gone home due to teaching commitments. Thank you for your continued support in using Dojo to support our children's learning

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and we look forward to the exciting term ahead.

The Key Stage 1 Team