

January 2024

Dear Parents/carers,

Happy New Year, I am delighted to welcome the Spring 1 term and we are really looking forward to the wonderful learning Panda Class will take part in in the coming weeks. Autumn term was filled with lots of achievements, creative arts and learning that focused on the topic question; 'Are we lucky to live in London?'.

This term we will be answering the topic question '**Where shall we go? and Why do you want to go there?**' This question will enable our children to explore their understanding, knowledge and geography of the wider world whilst developing new vocabulary, oracy skills and confidence in retrieving information. Their imagination will be stimulated as they learn different ways of finding out about the world through questioning, technology, photographs and books. As children explore and find new information, they will learn to communicate their own opinions and thoughts. We will focus on our core values of **Respect and Kindness** to welcome and share answers for our topic question, 'Where shall we go? and Why do you want to go there?'

English

In English, children will start the term with poetry and innovate their own poem based on 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough. Children will collaborate on a class poem and then extend their poetry skills of rhyme and repeated structure to create their own sound collector poem. It will be wonderful to take part in a **sound hunt** as you travel to and from school to help children notice and recognise the different sounds around them and at home.

Our Traditional Tale focus will entice children's curiosity about what can be found in the woods as they learn about Hansel and Gretel. With the use of story maps, puppets and roleplay children will be able to orally retell the story, before writing a retell of the ending. It is important for children to be exposed to alternative versions of a story and Anthony Browne is a great author who always tells stories in a way that gets children asking questions. Children will compare different versions of the story and share their likes and dislikes. When writing, children will use strategies of '**think it, say it, write it and check it**'. These are easy steps to follow when writing simple sentences to ensure children are writing in full sentences. Children will be supported to re-read and edit their own writing by looking for the correct use of capital letters and fullstops. They will be encouraged to read their words and use the correct letter formation. This will support children to meet their end of year writing outcomes. Additional stories that children will read to compare the text with are The Deep, Dark Wood by Algy Craig and The Black Hat by Maiza Walczak.

Phonics

Children will continue to progress through the Read Write Inc programme and read books matched to their reading level. Children will take part in daily Phonics lessons that are fast paced, well sequenced and engaging to improve their sound knowledge and decoding abilities. We are working on children's

sound recall and reading fluency. Your support in home reading is always appreciated and enables our children to become confident readers. Please ensure your child brings in their reading wallet **everyday** so that they can participate in reading opportunities with an adult using their own levelled books. Children will mostly be learning their Set 3 sounds and alternative diagraphs for sounds. Please see attached a complex speed sounds chart. Phonics play is a great website to get children to sort and decode real and nonsense words accurately.

Core book challenge

The children have been waiting eagerly to start their core book challenge and we will be launching it this term. These are picture books that have been handpicked for Year 1 to increase their reading habits and promote a love of reading. I will be holding a morning session with parents on Friday 19th January 9:00am to explain the core book challenge. Your child can choose when they wish to take part, how often they read their core book and when to change their core book. After a core book has been enjoyed and read at home, your child will fill out a reflection on the story at home and then finally use the reflect sheet to share their thoughts with an adult at school. This reading challenge will run until the end of the summer term, and it is an ongoing reading journey.

Geography

Children will be learning about the wider world and finding out what they see can around the world. As we have looked at features of landmarks in London, children will recognise landmarks around the world for example where they can find pyramids, the longest river, the highest mountain. We will build on their learning of the British Isles by discovering the wider world. Children will learn to locate the equator and the North and South pole on a globe, locate and name the 7 continents and oceans on a map, recognise hot and cold climates, discuss the human and physical features of places and use geographical language to describe locations. The class will produce a quiz based on what they have learnt as the end outcome. If you have photographs or postcards of your family holidays to different countries, please share them via the admin email for us to use in our continuous provision. A photograph is a wonderful talking tool for children to develop their oracy skills and discussions. The children are really enjoying role playing in the airport that they have set up in their classroom.

Science

In Science, the topic is Materials and their properties. Through tactile tasks, explorative play and investigations, children will be learning about different types of materials and their physical properties. Children will investigate a solution for The Three Little Pigs to find a waterproof material to build a house. They will identify and name a variety of everyday materials. Children will develop their science skills of identifying and classifying and fair testing. We will attend a workshop at the Soanes Centre to learn about naturally occurring and non-naturally occurring everyday objects. Children will learn that we can change materials using heat as they collect sticks to turn into charcoal. Children will also explore the work of the scientist, Charles Macintosh and create an information poster about his work. Please see below a list of tier 2 and 3 vocabulary related to science.

Maths

In Maths, children will learn about place value and continue their learning on addition and subtraction (within 20). Children will deepen their number knowledge of teen numbers, count forwards and backwards from any given number, use a number line up to 20, compare and estimate numbers to 20 and order numbers. They will be encouraged to represent numbers to 20 in different ways using a range of maths resources and number stories. Learning will evolve from recalling number bond to 10

to using number facts to solve addition and subtraction sums to 20, solve missing number questions, doubles and related number facts. It is important that your child understands their number bonds to 10 to allow them to add and subtract ones within 20. For example, 'if I know $4-1=3$ then I know $14-1=13$ '. We have uploaded a link for Maths home learning on the school website if you wish to consolidate learning with your child.

Personal, Social and Health Education

As we embark on a new term, the children begin their unit on Dreams and Goals. They will learn about setting goals, how to use stepping stones to reach a goal and how to work well with others. Children will discuss how to deal with challenges and acknowledge what that feels like and how to overcome obstacles. We will follow and respect our class charter during discussions to enable positive and respectful dialogues amongst peers. All children have the confidence to share and listen to each other. The lessons are interactive, and activities are a mixture of paired work, group work, singing songs, drawing our thoughts and reflecting on scenarios.

Religious Education

In RE, Children will recognise sacred times and festivals celebrated in Christianity. They will learn about the Easter story and discuss how Easter is celebrated in Christianity. Children will explore what Christians do, give, sing and think about during celebrations. Children will also learn about Jewish festivals of Chanukah, Shabbat and Sukkot and learn how these are sacred times and reasons why it is observed. As always, please inform us of any festivals or celebrations that are special to you and your family this term so we can participate and learn about sacred times.

Music

In Music, children will access different instruments and think about the sounds they make. Then they will explore the effects as a listener when music is played and when there is no music. As a class, they will compose music linked to the poem The Sound Collector. Through mindful listening of everyday sounds children will think about how to make the sounds to perform the poem. Children will also attend weekly singing assembly as part of our school community.

Computing

Children will participate in the Programming – Moving a Robot Unit. They will be introduced to early programming concepts such as moving the robot with the following instruction: forwards, backwards, left turn, right turn and clear command. Children will identify what each command for the floor robot does, and use that knowledge to start predicting the outcome of programs. Children are also introduced to the early stages of program design through the introduction of algorithms where they will understand the importance of clear, simple instructions and what to do when they need to debug an algorithm.

Art

Children will use their knowledge of colour mixing to produce their own block printing. They will learn the primary colours and understand what colours need to be mixed to make the secondary colours. Children will use a range of materials like, straw, string, sticks and buttons to print. Children will use their Maths learning on shapes and pattern to create a print of repeated patterns. Children will be encouraged to extend their imaginations to explore colour, texture, patterns and shapes. Children will look at craft makers and discuss their thoughts about the artwork. When producing their artwork, children will be encouraged to describe and reflect on their own work.

Important dates and events:

- 15th January PERFORM Storytelling workshop
- 19th January Year 1 Core book Challenge parent session
- 23rd January Hansel and Gretel Creative workshop 8:50 -9:30
- 30th January - Year 1 Parent Maths Workshop
- 6th February Science Material workshop at Soanes Centre
- 9th February 2024 - Chinese New Year Parade

This term we will be doing the following:

Weekly PE lessons	Tuesday and Thursday at the Sports Hall
Spelling	Monday (Spell check Friday)
RWI reading book and RWI bookbag Book	Weekly- mostly every 3 days (groups defer)
Core Reading Challenge and Class Library book	Friday
Give Me 10	Every Thursday 8am (During Breakfast Club) and 8:50am
Celebration Assembly	Every Friday 3pm (no entry after 3pm)

Daily reminders:

Our uniform consists of:

- A purple sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Purple or white polo shirt with school logo
- Black trousers, black skirt or black pinafore
- Lilac/purple school gingham dress (summer)
- Black shoes
- If a headscarf is worn this should be black, white or purple

Our PE kit consists of:

- A white polo shirt with school logo
- Black jogging bottoms or black shorts
- Black plimsolls or suitable trainers

Please can all clothing items be labelled with your child's name.

Water

Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school.

Bookbag – Please check regularly and take out letters and communication

This should carry the reading wallet with:

- RWI Reading book
- RWI book bag book
- class library book
- reading journal
- Core Book Challenge – optional

Homework:

Year 1 home learning involves weekly spelling and daily reading of Phonics book. Additional books in bookbag can also be used to do home reading. Half Termly homework projects, which is submitted on the last week of term. This term's Homework Project is **All around the world with Panda Class** and it is due on **Monday 5th February 2024**. Optional Maths home learning can be accessed via the link on the school website.

Thank you for your continued support, Year 1 have so many exciting learning opportunities this term and we look forward to all the fantastic learning and experiences that they will achieve.

Year 1 Team

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Description	Basic words that most children know before entering school	Words that appear frequently in texts and for which students already have conceptual understanding	Uncommon words that are typically associated with a specific domain or content area
Examples	clock, baby, happy	coincidence, fortunate, insist, adapt	chrysalis, peninsula, decimal

(Beck, McKeown, Kucan, 2002)

Geography Tier 3	Science Tier 2	Science Tier 3
Continent	Wood	Stretchy
Sea	Plastic	Bendy
Ocean	Metal	Rough
Capital city	Rock	Not bendy
Country	glass	Twist
Equator		Squash
North/South pole		Stiff
North America		Shiny
South America		Dull
Africa		Waterproof
Asia		Absorbent
Europe		
Antarctica		
Oceania		
The Pacific Ocean		
The Atlantic Ocean		
The Indian Ocean		
The Arctic Ocean		
The Southern Ocean		

Complex Speed Sounds

Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch				dge							

Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				<u>a-e</u>	y	<u>i-e</u>	<u>o-e</u>
					ai	ea	ie	oa
						e	i	o
							y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
<u>u-e</u>			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			au							