

**Spring Term 2016**



**Year 1 Newsletter**

**Miss Cox & Miss Yohai**

## Children will be learning:

**English** We have started spring term reading a book called Beegu, this will be followed by The Man on the Moon and other traditional tales. We will be performing a class assembly on one of the traditional tales at some point this term. Parents/ Carers will be invited to come and watch this. We will then move onto non-fiction books about safety (which is our Humanities topic) and children will be creating their own safety manuals. Children will still be exploring and developing letter writing, writing in role and story writing. All children in the UK are tested at the end of Year 1 on their knowledge of phonics. Children need to be able to sound out words using their phonic skills accurately. We will continue with daily phonics lessons. When reading with your child at home, please make use of the phonics mats, which were given out at parents evening.

**Maths** This term we will continue using the Maths No Problem scheme, which incorporates the Singapore Barr method. It focuses on mastery of each topic, which means that your child will be encouraged to have a deeper understanding of each concept before moving on. The workbooks work towards the national curriculum end-of-year expectations. It is a very visual way of teaching maths and children will take part in a lot of practical activities and use a lot of manipulatives, such as unifix cubes and dienes. We have covered number and place value, addition and subtraction up to 20, number bonds to 20 and reading and writing numbers in words. We will now be moving onto shapes and patterns, measurement and numbers up to 40.

**Science** This term the children will once again be studying two science topics alongside one another.

Seasonal Change: We will be continuing our topic of seasonal change. This term we will be looking at the seasons winter and spring and discussing the features of each. We will create our own rain gauge in order to investigate how much rain falls in a certain amount of time. Children will make their own scientific predictions

and will be involved in creating their own representations of the data they have collected.

**Everyday Materials:** As well as this, we will be starting a new science topic studying every day materials and their properties. Children will learn what materials different objects are made from and sort and classify them into groups. They will also be given the opportunity to explore how materials change when they are heated and cooled, through a variety of experiments.

**RE Islam:** We learn what the Muslim special book is called and what the symbol looks like. It is explained to children that in the Islam religion God is known as Allah. Children are shown what the Muslim place of worship is called and may look like. We look at *The Day in the Life of a Muslim* and see how special occasions are celebrated.

**Christianity:** We will learn about the teachings of Jesus and why he is still remembered in Christianity. Children are also taught why Easter is celebrated.

**Design Technology** We will be linking this to safety and making our own moving pictures to create a safety manual.

**Computing** This term, children will continue to work with Miss Charles, taking part in weekly lessons in the computer suite.

**PE** This term we will be starting gymnastics in the hall and during our outdoor PE sessions, children will continue to develop ball skills and play team games.

**Humanities Safety:** This term, we will learn all about safety. It is an exciting unit for the children, as it provides us with the opportunity to take them to the fire station. We are also very lucky to have contacts with our local community police officers who will come to visit us in school. Children will discuss how we stay safe and will be taken on a walk around school to think about the possible dangers they might face and how to prevent them. During the second half of the term, we will focus on The Great Fire of London.

Art During the second half of term, children will be creating their own artwork based around their study of The Great Fire of London. We will be looking at the artist Colin Ruffell and creating some pieces of work in his style. We will be looking at the London skyline and creating our own sketches and looking at using different mediums such as: marbling; painting and chalk.

### Barnaby Bear

Every Friday, children will take turns in taking Barnaby Bear home. The teddy bear has its passport, where you and your child can write what Barnaby has done that weekend (visits, shopping, trips, etc). Feel free to include small photos or drawings. Please let us know if you are doing anything special that Barnaby would 'enjoy' doing with you, so that we can try to make sure that he is available.

We are looking forward to the spring term, filled with lots of exciting opportunities for the children. If you have any questions or need any help please make an appointment to see us, otherwise we will see you at the parents evening.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Miss Cox and Miss Yohai