

Class One Curriculum Newsletter: Storytellers



Our current topic in Class One is "Storytellers". The main curriculum foci for this topic are Science, Art and Geography.

English

In our English lessons we will be looking at the features of narrative texts in particular *traditional* tales. During this unit we will be reading a range of traditional tales, role playing and writing our own traditional tales. We will focus on writing interesting stories where words have been chosen to create pictures in the mind of the reader. We will use role play and oral rehearsal to explore story language before creating our own narrative texts. Also we will be comparing stories thinking about similarities and differences.

Our poetry unit will focus on riddles. We will learn riddles and talk about how to describe characters in ways that are interesting. We will also look briefly at how questions can be used to structure our ideas.

Our grammar focus will be on punctuating sentences correctly and using a capital letter for "I". Year One will use "and" to join words and phrases. Year Two will be looking at using "and", "or" and "but" to join phrases together and turning adjectives into adverbs by adding "ly".

We will be reading a range of traditional tales and stories thinking about the story language that is used.

Maths

In our maths lessons we will be continuing to focus on number, measurement and shape. This will include counting to and across 100, forwards and backwards. The children will also be learning how to identify 1 more and 1 less than a number and count in sequences of 2, 5 and 10 from 0 forwards and backwards.

We will use this knowledge to solve addition and subtraction calculations with one and two digit numbers up to 100, we will use number lines, 100 squares and other resources to help us.

We will be exploring numbers bonds, patterns and related number facts. We will apply our number skills to contexts involving money and measures. We will also be solving one-step addition and subtraction word problems. We will beginning to look at division and multiplication facts for 2, 5 and 10 and solving 1-step word problems.

We will be looking at a range of 2D and 3D shapes discussing their properties and names.

Understanding the World (Science, History, Geography and Computing)

Our scientific focus this half term will be on seasonal changes and the weather. We will observe different weather conditions and learn how to measure wind and rainfall. We will go on several 'Welly Walks' to look at how our local environment is changing from autumn into winter and record our observations. We will also use our materials knowledge to experiment materials most suitable for a specific purpose.

Our computing focus for this topic is using the programme **Publisher**. We will use this to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve work. This will involve copying and pasting images, saving and printing work.

Expressive Art and Design (Art, D+T Music)

We will look at collage to create seasonal pictures. Then, nearer the end of this half term we will be designing and making our own Christmas tree decorations using different techniques.

Music lessons are taught by Mr Dalziell: The theme of 'Listening, Looking and Responding' will be continued using a wide range of approaches including body sounds, singing and instrumentation. In addition we will be preparing for our Nativity Services by learning new carols.

Outside of music lessons, Class One will be learning a range of counting and number rhymes.

Religious Education

Our RE focus for this topic is on Christmas. We will be learning about how Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will think about the nativity journey and the emotions of the different people at journey's end. We will also find out about the history of some of our Christmas traditions and how these celebrations have changed.

Physical Development (PE and Handwriting)

In PE we will continue to work on our co-ordination and balance. We will practise moving in different ways and combining movements. We will also practise changing direction using pivot points. We will investigate different static balances and holding these for increasing periods of time. We will also practise using a range of equipment and playing mini-games. In the hall we will practise using apparatus to explore balancing and different ways of travelling. Through all of our PE lessons we will focus on developing the personal skills of listening and awareness.

Handwriting is taught to small groups depending on their needs. We will be ensuring children are using a correct pencil grip and that they form the individual letters correctly. Once children can do this they will move on to learning how to join their letters correctly following the Nelson Handwriting Scheme.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (P.S.E.D.)

This half term we will be thinking about 'Getting On and Falling Out' We will look at friendship and what makes a good friend. Also we will be thinking out what we can do if we fall out with a friend. We will continue to explore different emotions and feelings.

Trailblazers

Trailblazers is a Hampshire County Council initiative that encourages children to learn outside the classroom. The number of hours children spend in the outdoors at school is marked by different certificates. We will be taking our English and Maths lessons outside wherever possible. We will also be exploring the plants and animals found within our local area. Please make sure that your child has a pair of outdoor shoes and a warm coat available in school.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- * Read a range of traditional tales, talking about the characters and settings. Identify events, characters and settings that you like.
- * Write a review of your favourite traditional tale.
- * Begin a collection. What will you collect and why? Label your collection so that you know what each aspect is. Talk about where each part of the collection came from.
- * Play board games. Practise calculating in your head where you will land before counting the squares.
- * Play dice games. What is the largest total you can make with two dice? What about three? Who can be the first to make all the totals between two and twelve?
- * Practise pairs of numbers to ten, twenty and one hundred. These are the basis of lots of mathematical skills and so quick recall is essential.
- * Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Websites to use at home

<http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com> – you will need to create an account for your child for this free game that will help them practise their phonic skills.

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> – phonics games to reinforce phonic skills. This website has a free section and a section that you need to subscribe to – the children have used the free section at school.

<http://www.ictgames.com/lcwc.html> – an online version of the “Look, say, cover, write, check” approach to learning spellings

<http://www.booktime.org.uk/have-some-fun/#/d/booktime/have-some-fun/> – games, animated stories and creative activities related to well-known children’s stories.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=loopcardsv6> – develop mental maths skills with a range of different number facts. The game is played like dominoes.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> – quick fire mental maths practise against the clock

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering> – practise ordering numbers

http://mrcrammond.com/games/understanding_number/Understanding_number.swf?sid=3683 – a game to practise number recognition for 1 to 10.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/5_6/science_5_6.shtml – interactive activities related to different areas of science.