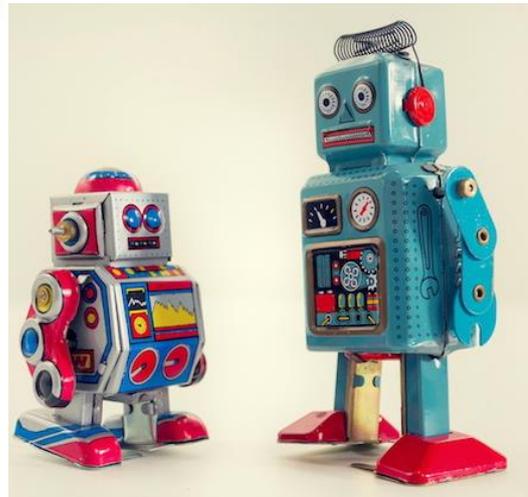


Class One Curriculum Newsletter: Machines



Our current topic in Class One is "Machines". The main curriculum focus for this topic are D+T, History and Science.

English

In our English lessons we will be looking at the features of fiction texts and instructions. We will be making links with our history topic by writing instructions on how to make paper aeroplanes. Our narrative unit for this topic is writing stories about robots and machines. We will focus on writing interesting stories where words have been chosen to create pictures in the mind of the reader.

Our grammar focus will be on writing sentences accurately, using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. Year Two will also be looking at selecting adjectives to create specific effects.

We will be reading a range of fictional and non-fiction texts about machines and robots, as well as information texts based on the life of The Wright Brothers.

Maths

In our maths lessons we will be continuing to focus on Number and Place Value. This will include counting to and across 100, forward and backward. 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 forward and backward. We will continue to recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (10s, 1s). Through the use of a range of problem solving activities and mental work the children will identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, including the number line.

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 square and other resources to help us. We will be exploring numbers bonds, patterns and related number facts. Also, we will be solving one step addition and subtraction word problems.

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

In Science we will be exploring materials and their properties, thinking about why materials are suited to their purpose. We will also explore materials that float and sink.

In History we will find out about The Wright Brothers and the history of aeroplanes. We will sequence events from their life and the history of flight. We will also be looking at how machines have changed over time and sorting them into past or present.

Our computing focus for this topic is on internet safety and taking photographs. We will be finding out about personal information and how we can keep this information safe. We will also look at how to take a good photograph. We will then insert these into paint programs and explore how we can edit them to create different effects. Our new skills will then be used throughout the year to capture our learning at school.

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

In D+T we will be focusing on designing and making our own machines. We will think about how to make the structure stable. Also, we will use our knowledge of materials to decide and explore which materials are best suited to make our design.

Music lessons are taught by Mr Dalziell. In addition to these lessons Class One will be learning a range of counting and number rhymes and beginning to practise part singing.

Religious Education

Our RE focus for this topic is Harvest, with a particular focus on celebration. We will think about when and why people celebrate. We will also think about how Christians celebrate at harvest time and whether celebrating at harvest time is important.

Physical Development (PE and Handwriting)

In PE we will be continuing to work on our co-ordination and balance. We will be practising 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 rolling. Through all of our PE lessons we will be focusing 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 (PSED)

We will be continuing to think about "New Beginnings". We will talk about how we feel at the start of a new year and the things we are looking forward to, as well as the things we are worried about. The class will work together to decide on our class rules and on the type of behaviours that we want to see whilst we are learning and relaxing. We will focus on identifying examples of our learning behaviours within the school day and on developing the skills of speaking, listening and group work.

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, as well as a sunhat if we have a warm September.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- * Read a range of story books, talking about the characters and settings. Identify events, characters and settings that you like. Try and find stories that link together (for example, stories involving different machines)
- * 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. What materials are the things you have collected made 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.
- * Discuss properties of different objects in your home. Why is the object made from that material? Is the material waterproof?

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.