

# Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This newsletter is to give you an overview of what your child will be learning through engagement and enquiry over this half term.

## Year 1

### Welcome back!

We hope you had a wonderful holiday together and we look forward to starting the new term. We would like to thank all of the parents/carers who have supported reading, spellings and challenges at home. We can see such an improvement in the children already. We expect the Christmas holiday to approach at speed with all of the exciting activities we have planned and so we would like to thank you in advance for your continued support at home.

### Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge

The Learning Challenge Question for this period will be 'How have toys changed?'. We will begin by looking at toys we know and love. We will then start exploring older toys and make comparisons between the material and how toys operate. After that, we will begin to look at books and how they have adapted over time. If you have any old toys or books that you would like to share, please send them into school or share a picture of them on Tapestry.

### English and Maths

**English:** This half term we are going to be looking at the book 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas. During our writing we are going to continue to focus on our must haves - finger spaces, letter formation, capital letters and full stops. By the end of this unit, we are going to be adding adjectives to make our writing more exciting and applying these to retelling the story of Mr Bunting and his toys in the museum.

**Maths:** In maths we will be focusing on addition and subtraction. We will use a range of strategies to support our understanding i.e. tens frame, part-part whole model, number lines. We will then move onto Geometry, where we will be recognising and naming both 2D and 3D shapes. We will consolidate our place value knowledge and stretch our understanding of place value up to 20.

### The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge: "How have toys changed?"

#### Science Knowledge:

- be able to describe the changes in the materials that toys are made from and the innovation in design that has been possible because of this
- describe the change in how toys are operated related to recent innovations e.g from wind up toys to batteries to micro-chips
- describe changes through time of books including innovations that have taken place e.g pop up books and books which have sounds

- compare and contrast toys from grandparents time and their own time

### History Skills:

- Sequence artefacts closer together in time
- Sequence events sequence photos etc from different periods of their life
- Describe memories of key events in live
- find out about people and events in the past
- confidently describe similarities and differences between present and past
- compare pictures or photographs of people or events in the past
- be able to identify different ways to represent the past
- confidently sort artefacts “then” and “now”
- use a source – why, what, who, how, where to ask questions and find answers

### Other subjects within the wider curriculum

**Music:** We will continue to sing simple songs, including Christmas ones, from memory and listen to different musical styles including Reggae and 20th/21st Century Orchestral. To link in with our Learning Challenge we will be listening to/discussing and moving to ‘March of the Toy Soldiers’ from The Nutcracker and we will select instruments/make sounds to represent different toys. We will be exploring rhythm and pitch patterns using Boomwhackers and untuned percussion instruments and performing in small groups.

**PE:** Thursday’s PE will focus on fundamental movement skills that develop our core skills for all other sports and is taught by a specialist PE coach. Friday will be focusing on Circus Skills. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own.

**Art:** We will be focusing on painting skills and the different marks we can make with a variety of media.

**PSHE and Circle time:** Our PSHE focus will still be ‘Managing Change’ where we will think about how we have changed, how to cope with change and name emotions that we may feel when going through changes. We will also be taking part in ‘Anti-bullying Week’ whereupon we will discuss ways to look after ourselves and each other.

### Useful Information

**Home Learning:** Home learning will be sent home on a Friday and is due the following Friday.

**Reading:** Children will be bringing home a reading book either based on a colour or on a ZPD (reading range). Reading records will be sent home on a Friday and are expected back the following Friday. It is very important that your child enjoys reading time so try to make it as relaxed and enjoyable as possible. You can read any books from home that you have too. Please write these on your child’s record as well.

**PE:** PE lessons will be taught on Thursday and Friday. Please ensure you have your indoor and outdoor PE kit in school all week and ensure earrings are removed.

**Cold weather:** Please ensure your child comes into school with a named coat.

### Useful websites- for both children and parents

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - Phonics games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> - Number bond game

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/ks1> - KS1 book suggestions

E-safety: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> - Stay safe online