

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

The children have started the summer term full of energy and enthusiasm after our lovely two week break. Year 1 began the term by reminding ourselves of classroom rules and expectations, discussing how good behaviour and positive attitudes to learning ensure that we are successful and happy learners. The children have responded well to these discussions and during circle times are showing support and care towards one another in order for every child to achieve their best. We are looking forward to a summer term full of sunshine, fun and new exciting topics to learn about!

Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge

The Learning Challenge question for the next unit of learning will be 'Has school always been like this?' This unit has a history focus and revolves around the theme of education in Victorian times. We will learn about life during this era, Victorian schooling and some significant people from this period.

Later in the term we will begin two science units, one focusing on animal parts and one focusing on plant parts respectively. We will also link our plant learning to a DT unit about food preparation.

English and Maths

English: At the beginning of the term we will be writing about our PSHE focus around healthy lifestyles and balanced diets. Once we begin our Victorian themed topic we will write a recount all about our special immersive history day from 'History Off The Page'. We will then move on to fairy stories and finally stories by the same author (Julia Donaldson). During our writing we are going to continue to focus on our must haves; finger spaces, letter formation, capital letters and full stops as well as reading our own writing to edit and improve.

Maths: In maths we will be focusing on multiplication and division, fractions and place value. The children will also be exploring position and direction in geometry, money and the measurement of time.

History Skills and Knowledge:

- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.
- Historical artefacts are objects that were made and used in the past. The shape and material of the object can give clues about when and how it was made and used.
- Express an opinion about a historical source.
- Stories, pictures and role play are used to help people learn about the past, understand key events and empathise with historical figures.
- Learn about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally.

Science Skills and Knowledge:

- Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- Animals are living things. Animals can be sorted and grouped into six main groups: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, invertebrates and mammals.
- Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Identify, compare, group and sort a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees, based on observable features.

Other subjects within the wider curriculum

PE: Thursday PE will be taught by a specialist PE coach. Monday PE will be focusing on instructions and problem solving. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own. In addition can we please request full PE kits are available on these days as missing kit can lead to children being unable to physically participate in the lesson. Please can long hair be tied up for PE lessons. Finally, due to our busy timetable, children will get changed for PE in class but will go home in PE kits on PE days (with school uniform in their kit bags) to maximise learning opportunities throughout the school day.

Art: We will be focusing on murals created through the use of various natural materials and resources.

PSHE and Circle time: Our PSHE focus will be 'coping with new situations', we will consider the changes ahead as we enjoy our final days in Year 1.

RE: We will cover units about both sikhism and buddhism focusing on special days and festivals.

Useful Information

Reading: Please try to read with your child daily. Children will be bringing home two books as part of their homework. One book is their reading book and is matched to your child's phonics level. Please encourage your child to re-read their reading book, and question them to ensure they have fully understood it. These will be changed every Friday, so please ensure that the book is returned on Thursday. Reading records will be online. The second book is a 'Reading for Pleasure' book. Please share it with your child and enjoy reading for pleasure.

Phonics: We would really appreciate completing any additional phonics home learning with your child as they bring it home in the coming weeks.

Spelling: Children will be taking home look, say, cover, write, check sheets to practise spellings. These are to be completed daily please to support literacy skills.

PE: PE will be taught on Thursdays by a multi-skills PE Coach and on Mondays by the class teacher. Please ensure that you have your indoor and outdoor PE kit in school all week and that earrings are not worn on PE days (or can be removed by the children themselves).

Coats: Please ensure that a coat is brought into school every day along with appropriate footwear.

Water Bottles: Can water bottles (containing water only) please be brought to school daily. Children should be able to open and close / tighten the water bottle that they bring to school independently.

Useful websites- for both children and parents

<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login-type?>

<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