

# 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!

It has been so lovely to welcome you back to school and to the start of your Year 1 journey. We have been working closely with your Reception adults to make sure we get off to the best start and you have shown us how ready you are for this new challenge. Well done Year 1, we can't wait to see what you can do.

### Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge

The Learning Challenge Question for this period will be 'Whose footprint is this?'. We will begin by looking at our own bodies and the ways in which we can keep ourselves healthy. We will then start exploring the animals around us and make comparisons between them and us. If you have any photos of your pets or interesting animals you have seen, please send them into school or share them on Tapestry for us to enjoy together.

### English and Maths

**English:** This half term we are going to be looking at the book 'Life-Sized Animal Tracks' by John Townsend. During our writing we are going to initially focus on our must haves - finger spaces, letter formation, capital letters and full stops. By the end of this unit, we are going to create and write about our own imaginary animal.

**Maths:** In maths we will be focusing on number and place value which includes ordering and comparing numbers. As well as consolidating counting skills from Reception. We will then begin to look at adding and subtracting numbers within 10. We will look at different ways of representing ten and we will be introduced to the part-whole model.

### The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge: "Whose footprint is this?"

#### Science Knowledge:

- Identify and name a variety of common animals that are birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and invertebrates
- Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and invertebrates, and including pets)
- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense
- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults

- Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)
- Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

**Science Skills:**

- Raise our own simple questions about the world around us and begin to recognise ways to answer them.
- Experience different types of science enquiries including practical activities.
- Carry out simple tests.
- Use simple features to compare objects, materials and living things, and with support decide how to classify them.
- Begin to notice patterns and changes.
- Use equipment to make observations and to gather and record data.
- Use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.
- Talk about what they have found out and how they found it out.
- Communicate findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language.

**Other subjects within the wider curriculum**

**Music:** This half term we will be focusing on pulse, rhythm and pitch, exploring rhythm and pitch patterns and understanding the difference between them.

Learning and performing simple songs, chants and rhymes in unison and from memory. We will be listening and moving to/discussing different styles of music including hip-hop, jazz, pop and classical. We will listen to excerpts from The Carnival of the Animals and link this to our animal learning. We will also be playing tuned (boomwhackers) and untuned percussion instruments. Finally we will be improvising and composing short question and answer musical phrases using voices and instruments.

**PE:** Thursday's PE will be circuits and is taught by a specialist PE coach. Friday will be focussing on playground games and skills. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own.

**Art:** We will be focusing on drawing skills and the different marks we can make with pencils.

**PSHE and Circle time:** Our PSHE focus will 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.

**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.

**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