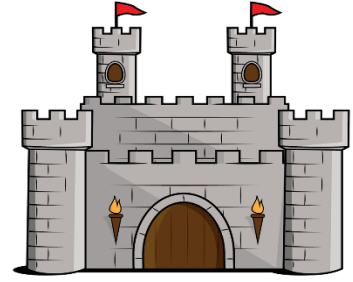




Key Stage 1 Autumn Newsletter



Our Work this Term

Welcome back to school. We hope you have all had a wonderful summer. We are very pleased at how well all the children have settled into their new classes.

This term our topic is 'Dungeons and Dragons' which we are sure will prove to be very popular with all our children. Throughout this topic the children will be given the opportunity to explore castles through role play. They will be discovering the history of castles including the styles and features of medieval castles and they will be finding out about the folklore of Robin Hood. We are hoping to give the children an opportunity to experience some forms of castle life by taking part in medieval dancing and archery.

In **English** this term we are looking at the author M P Robertson and his books about dragons. The children will be writing imaginative stories taking inspiration from the texts we will be exploring. After half term we will be looking at non-fiction books and writing a book about castles.

In **Maths** we will be focusing on number work including 'comparing, ordering and sequencing', this will be with numbers suitable to your child's ability. We will be providing the children with a range of activities to apply their maths and develop methods of calculating.

Geography – This term we are looking at the local area, aerial images and we will be devising our own maps with symbols.

Science – We will be identifying and naming different materials and identifying their uses and properties. We will also be experimenting with the most appropriate materials for making parts of a castle.

Design and Technology – The children will be designing and making their own castles – this will include building a working draw bridge. We will also be weaving place mats in preparation for a banquet.

Art – Children will be sketching castles, creating shields with their own coat of arms and they will be using their knowledge of materials to add texture to our topic collages.

Computing – We will be focussing on developing basic skills, logging on and off the laptops and using iPads to create stop motion animation to generate story books.

Author of the term

This term our chosen author is M P Robertson - please encourage your children to become story tellers by asking about the stories we have read in class.



Homework

Please listen, read and share stories as often as you can with your children. Your child will read weekly within a guided group and they will also have the opportunity to read with volunteers during the week, so please ensure your child brings their Reading Folder to school every day.

Homework, targeted at your child's ability will be sent home on a Friday. This will include spellings and either a Maths or English piece of work. Remember to practise their spellings throughout the week, children will be tested on a Friday. Please return homework by the following Thursday.

Show and Tell

Children may bring in objects, books, pictures or drawings linked to the topic. We also enjoy hearing about special achievements and rewards from out of school activities.

P.E

We will have P.E twice a week on a Monday and Tuesday – both sessions will be taught by Mr Robertson, our PE teacher. One of these will be outside so please ensure your child has suitable labelled outdoor clothing, ie: joggers/leggings, t-shirt, hoody and trainers. We encourage that children should leave PE kits in school all week, in case of a change of plan and to prevent forgotten kit on PE days.

Name Labelling

Please ensure that all your children's belongings, especially clothing, P.E kit, bags and lunchboxes are clearly labelled. This ensures that if something does get misplaced we have a greater chance to return it to the correct owner. We also encourage children to bring labelled water bottles to school.

Snack

Children are provided with a fruit/veg snack daily. The children will be able to visit the school tuck shop at break time but you give money to your child for this, they need to be responsible for it themselves.

Spare Clothing

If anyone has spare clothing (pants, socks and trousers) to fit 5, 6 and 7 year olds, we would appreciate them to use, in case of accidents.

Key Stage 1 Blog

We have a key stage 1 group blog page. Look here to see some of the exciting activities year 1/2 have been busy with. You can find our blog by visiting our school website and following the link. We welcome your comments.

Mr Robertson, Miss Cannock and Mrs O'Dell will be covering PPA in KS1 on Tuesday mornings and Miss Cannock will also cover Mrs Harding's management time on a Tuesday afternoon.

Key Dates:

14 Sept – Dot Day: wear something dotty!
19 Sept – Meet the Teacher, 4.30pm & 5:15pm
3 Oct – Harvest Festival, 2.30pm – Parents Invited
TBC – Archery in school
WC 17 Dec – Medieval Banquet (more information to follow)

Thank you for your support. If you have, any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask.

The KS 1 Teacher

