

English

Reading

We will continue to develop our phonics knowledge this year by daily speed sound sessions and reading sessions. We will be focusing on reading three-four syllable words, as well as reading 'alien' words, which aren't real words, but use all of the phonics the children need to know.

We will continue to change reading books as we finish them in our groups, which may mean that some groups will be changed on different days to each other, and will not always be on the same day each week. Thank you for all the home reading that is going on; the impact of daily home reading is huge and we can always see such a difference in their confidence and fluency.

Writing

We have some lovely books ready for our writing inspiration, starting with *Coming to England*, by Floella Benjamin. We will also be reading and then writing our own versions of *The Three Bears*, *On the Way Home*, by Jill Murphy, and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*, by Judith Kerr. As well as stories, we will be writing recipe instructions, and facts and recounts about visiting a park.

History

How have people's lives changed in living memory?

We will be starting our history topic by looking at the history of our school, which was founded in 1855, thinking about what a century means and what the similarities and differences are between children who have attended George Street in that time.

We will count in tens to make timelines, and look for clues in photos of people and places.

We will then focus on how lives have changed since the 1960s, comparing three main aspects:

- we will play with toys that our grandparents and great grandparents might have played with
- we will listen to music from the 1960s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s.
- we will look at and maybe even try some food that children had at home and for their school dinners!

You might want to listen to some of the music we will be singing and dancing to over the weeks:

- 60s: The Beatles and The Beach Boys,
- 70s: Abba and The Jackson 5
- 80s: Queen, Kylie Minogue and Wham
- 90s: Oasis and The Spice Girls
- 00s: Coldplay and Beyonce,

Let them know who your favourites were and ask their grandparents, too!

Maths

Maths

This term we will continue to make our maths practical and fun. Children will use number lines, objects to count, as well as pictures and even each other's bodies to understand our key mathematical principles.

Place Value

In the first term of Year 1 we began by sorting, counting, representing numbers to 10. We will continue building on this knowledge for digits to 20. We will then learn how to recognise our numbers as words. We will then focus on adding 1 and subtracting 1 more and 1 less to and from a digit and establish how we count back from 20. We will then teach how to group numbers.

Addition and Subtraction

Having understood the basics of adding or subtracting 1 more or less we will use a model to help the children add and subtract larger number – whole part models. We will learn our number bonds to 10 and begin using some mathematical problems.

Length, Height, Mass and Volume.

We will learn more about measure. We will learn to use rulers, scales and height charts.

Physical Education

In **P.E.** our units are:

- Gymnastics
- Games that include attacking, defending and shooting.
- Send and Return skills.
- Dance (including our music through the decades from History!)

Our PE Day will continue to be Wednesday.

Music

In **Music** children will:

Spend the first half term learning about rhythm. We will firstly look at the difference between pulse and rhythm and then progress on to read and write songs using rhythmic notation.

In the second half of the term, we will see how we can hear different types of pitch in the music world. We will focus on high and low sounds and how they are different.

R.E.

In **R.E.** children will be learning about:

The Jewish community, who are Jews and how they live. We will be welcoming a Jewish Rabi into our class and will interview him about Jewish lifestyles.

We will also think about Jesus dying on the cross in the run up to Easter.

Science

In **Science**:

In our first science topic for this half term we will be looking at everyday materials, we will be:

- ✓ Looking at the different materials around us.
- ✓ Identifying what materials everyday objects are made of.
- ✓ Comparing and grouping materials

We will also continue to look at seasonal change as it happens, and use ideas from that to write sentences, labels and poems.

PSHE

In **PSHE** children will be learning about:

How to look after themselves, making healthy choices, keeping clean and how to use money responsibly.

Art

In **Art** children will be learning about:

The work of Henry Moore and thinking about sculpting. We will look at how to draw sculptures and make one of our own.

Important Dates

Thursday 4thth January 2023 - First day back

Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th February - Parent's evening

Friday 16th February - Finish for half term

Monday 26th February - Back to school

March – Date TBC - Gadebridge Park trip

Wednesday 27st March 2pm - Finish for Easter holidays

Monday 15th April - Return to school

Reading Target and Home Learning

Children should continue to read at least four times a week at home with an adult. Please write down every time your child read in the orange reading record.

Children will have their reading books changed by their Read Write Inc group's adult, at the end of each book read in school. Homework is set on Fridays and due in on the following Wednesday. Do bear with us whilst we transition to using Google Classroom for online homework.

Suggestions for days out /activities

Visit the adventure playgrounds - Chaulden, Addeyfield, Bennetts End – they often have activity sessions planned too.

Make some heart biscuits for Valentines Day, weigh the ingredients and follow the recipe.

Go on a trip to Gadebridge Park, Stockwell Discovery Centre, Verulamium Park. Take photos and explore.

Ask the children to help clean a little around the home.