

Year 1 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to Maney Hill in 2019! ☺

The children have returned enthusiastic and refreshed after the Christmas break and are ready for another busy term.

We have got lots of interesting topics for the children to explore this term. Here is an outline of some of the things we will be focussing on:

English

In English, this term we will be completing activities to develop reading, writing and speaking & listening skills. Using stories as a basis, including *The Gruffalo*, we will be writing in different styles and for different purposes. We will continue focussing on sentence structure, ensuring that capital letters, full stops and finger spaces are used mostly correctly. Furthermore, we will look to add in question marks and exclamation marks where appropriate.

Maths

- Place value – recognising and ordering numbers up to 100
 - Counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10
- Addition and Subtraction – including finding the inverse, missing number problems and worded problems
 - Measurement – grams and kilograms
- Fractions – finding a half and a quarter of an object, shape or quantity
- Time – recognising time to o'clock and half past on both analogue and digital clocks

Science

Plants

Until half-term, we are learning all about plants! We will be identifying and naming a variety of common garden and wild plants including deciduous and evergreen trees and identifying and describing the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. We will explore our local environment throughout the topic to explore and answer questions about plants growing in our habitat. We will also be growing some plants of our own and investigating the best environment needed for plants to grow.

Animals

After half-term, we will further explore animals, looking at differences between them. We will identify, describe and compare a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Additionally, we will learn about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and will name a variety of common animals for each one.

Topic

This term the children are learning about different types of homes and their features. We will be comparing the similarities and differences between homes in the past and homes today.

We will explore how life was different in the past, and how lifestyles have changed.

P.E.

P.E. will take place on Monday and Thursday/Friday for both classes. Each child will take part in the 'Balanceability' programme run by an external provider for four sessions this term. This programme teaches basic cycling skills and will take place within school. All equipment, including bikes and helmets, will be provided. We will also develop skills in dance and gymnastics this term.

Children will also have regular R.E. lessons.

Homework and Spellings

- One piece of homework will continue to be handed out each **Friday**, to be returned no later than the following **Wednesday**. Homework will usually alternate between English and Maths although the first half-term will be a Science project – details to appear in Homework books!
- The children will also get spellings to learn on a weekly basis. Spellings will be handed out on **Friday**, in spelling books, to be learnt at home for a test the following **Friday**. As a way of learning spellings, we would recommend getting your child to use them within basic sentences which can be written in Homework books. Not only does this help with spelling the words, but also puts the words into context, builds your child's vocabulary and develops their sentence structure.

Reading

- Each child should be reading frequently at home and children will have the opportunity to change their reading book on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** although should establish a deep understanding of the text before changing books.
- Children will be read with regularly in school so it would be helpful if they had their reading record with them in school every day.

Diary Dates

- Class Assembly – 6th March (IM)/27th March (IR)
- Parents' Evening – 6th & 7th February

Thank you for all of your support so far this year. If any concerns or queries arise, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Mr T. McNicholas & Miss S. Randall