

Planning and Assessment Time

Every Tuesday afternoon Mrs Cowan and Mrs McLean spend their time out of the classroom planning and preparing for the following week. During these sessions your child will be enjoying 'Happy feet' dance sessions with Nicola, whom the children know very well, and working on Computing with Mrs Gaulton.

Useful Websites

- www.dunstonhillcps.org
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- www.ictgames.co.uk

Don't forget to check out our class pages on the school website and the school Facebook page for regular updates.

Dates for the diary

May

- Monday 8th - Creative Homework Progress Check
- Wednesday 10th - Visit from Tony Bauckham re. historical artefacts
- Monday 22nd - Creative Homework Progress Check
- Friday 26th - Break up for Half Term

June

- Tuesday 6th - Back to school
- Week beginning Mon 12th - Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
- Monday 12th June - Creative Homework Progress Check
- Friday 16th - Whole School French Day (details to follow)
- Friday 16th - Parent Workshop: What is Bullying?
- Monday 19th June - Key Stage 1 & Foundation Stage Sports Day
- Monday 26th June - Creative Homework Progress Check

July

- Friday 7th July - Summer Fayre at Dunston Hill
- Monday 10th - Creative Homework Progress Check



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact one of the Year One Team.

Curriculum Overview



Year 1

SUMMER TERM



English Overview



This term children will continue to learn English through our highly successful Read, Write, Inc. programme, along with daily English lessons based around some highly enjoyable story books and topic related texts.

Reading - This term we will be continuing to help your child develop their phonics skills so that they can continue building up their love of reading a wider range of texts. This will help us prepare for the Phonics Screening which will be taking place in June. We will also be reinforcing to the children how to read alien words (nonsense words) as well as consolidating the sounds taught in lessons.

Writing - We will continue to develop children's punctuation, use of vocabulary and connectives through exciting activities such as writing a superhero checklist, stories about superheroes and information writing about real-life hero Grace Darling. In addition, your child will also be developing their use of suffixes (word endings) -s, -es, -ed, -ing, -er and -est, and use of the prefix un-, e.g. **unhappy**.



Mathematics Overview



This term we will be further developing your child's addition and subtraction skills in order to secure quick mental maths skills. Mental maths is something that is incredibly important for your child's future mathematical development as well as being something that the children really enjoy doing. We will continue to develop our understanding of place value - understanding how many tens and ones there are in 2-digit numbers - and use this knowledge when adding and subtracting, including with money. In addition to this, we will also be measuring weight and capacity/volume and reading basic scales for these, e.g. using simple balances and scales for weight, using measuring jugs and cylinders for capacity.



Topic Overview



CASTLES

This term's topic will link to all areas of the curriculum. This will include how and why castles were built, their different features and the people who live and work in a castle. We will also compare the life of medieval times to our modern day life through role play. Our visit to Newcastle Keep will help us to reinforce this information.

Your child will also be exploring different art techniques to create their own personal coat of arms, exploring the significance of different colours and motifs. They will also develop their design skills when creating a castle with a team to use outside the classroom.

As a celebration of the children's hard work, a medieval banquet will be held in our hall. The children will use their creative skills and knowledge to prepare for this by making medieval food, crowns and outfits for the special event.

Supporting your child at home



Thank you for your continued support with our Creative Homework. The children have been bringing in a variety of items to extend our learning and develop our excitement for not only our topic but our English, Maths and Science too. Keep it up everyone!

Please make sure that your child's reading books are brought to school **every day** and their reading record is signed each week. This is an invaluable support for your child's learning and we can't thank you enough for your support in this.

We know you're not quite 'history' yet but if you have any historical resources or information that could support our topic learning, we'd love to see them! Speak to one of the staff at the door if you can help us with this.

Special Requests



- Please ensure that your child has a summer PE kit in school. This should include a t-shirt, shorts, suitable outdoor clothes and outdoor shoes. PE is currently on Tuesdays and Fridays, however, sometimes dates need to be changed so it is important that your child has a kit in school at all times.
- New spellings will continue to be given out on Mondays for a quiz on Fridays. Please ensure that your child has their book in school on Fridays.
- As the weather will hopefully be improving, we encourage children to have a water bottle and sun hat in school. Please ensure these are marked with your child's name. Children should not have sun cream in school with them - please apply in the morning before school.
- We would like to remind parents that children are not allowed to wear earrings in school.

School Links



This term we will be visiting Newcastle Keep as part of our topic and inviting Nick the Chef from Cooking4Life to assist us in learning about what medieval food was like. We are looking forward to our visit from Tony Bauckham this week who will be sharing some historical artefacts with us to help us understand what life might have been like in the past.

We are very lucky indeed this term to be working with a Newcastle Eagles Basketball coach each Friday morning. Your child will be learning skills like dribbling and shooting as well as taking part in team matches and activities.

We also welcome Mr Clark into 1C. Mr Clark is a trainee teacher with the Gateshead SCITT programme and will be with us until June.