

Curriculum Information Year 1

Spring 2024



Wow 2024! Welcome back we hope you all had a lovely Christmas with your families. We seem to be racing through year 1.

During the first half term we will be focusing on Geography, learning about the countries of the UK and then specifically focusing on London. We will be learning about key landmarks and places of interest. If you have visited London (or other parts of the UK) we would love to see photos.

Year 1 we will continue to have PE on Wednesday and Friday so please could children come to school in their PE kits on these days.

The Year 1 Library day will remain on a Wednesday, please bring your books to swap each week. Reading books will be changed on Mondays and all children will read at least 3 times a week in school. Please ensure books are in school every day.

Maths

This half term, we are continuing to build the children's confidence and understanding when working with numbers initially to 20 then up to 50. They are becoming familiar with what each digit of a two digit number represents.

We will also build on our work on addition and subtraction using objects and pictures to help to secure their understanding especially when problem solving.

The next units will focus on length and height and mass and volume. Initially using non-standard units such as cubes before introducing them to centimetres. These lessons will be very practical to allow the children as much chance as possible to demonstrate their understanding.

To help at home please encourage them to use the Numbots app (passwords can be found in their home journals.) They would also benefit from spotting numbers up to 50 in the environment e.g. bus numbers, house numbers etc.

English

We are going to link our topic work with our English by using Paddington as our text. Michael Bond is our year 1 author and we have a wide selection of stories which will enable the children to learn about London and also demonstrate their written skills.

Initially we will be looking at writing a character description including adjectives and similes. Then we will be writing instructions for, you've guessed it, marmalade sandwiches!

After half term our topic will switch to a history focus and we will be writing reports based on the events of the Great Fire of London.

Science

Our focus in science this half term is plants particularly identifying common trees, understanding the difference between evergreen and deciduous. This will enable us to answer the big question "Are all plants the same?" We will of course as part of this be developing the children's understanding of the parts of plants and be growing some plants ourselves. We are planning to include a local walk to allow us to look at a wider range of plants and trees.

As part of our work on seasonal changes we will be regularly tracking the weather and making observations of rainfall and temperature.

ICT

Our first unit of computing this term will be "Lego builders". This will give the children the opportunity to continue to develop their skills when creating and following algorithms. The next unit will focus on creating our own animated stories. For these projects we will be using programs on purple mash. It is great to see children growing in confidence when logging themselves into purple mash and would be great if the children could continue to practise this at home.

History

After the half term we will be moving to a history topic and the focus will be "How has fire safety changed over time?".

We will be travelling back in time to learn about the Great Fire of London, using books, paintings and extracts of Samuel Pepys diaries to gain an understanding of the events and causes of the fire.

We will compare the fire fighting techniques then to those that modern fire fighters use today.

Geography

In Geography, we will be using atlases and maps to identify, name and locate the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom.

We will then have a focus on London and by the end of the unit we will be able to answer the big question 'What is life like in our capital city?'

The children will conduct research about London using secondary sources and be able to identify and name famous landmarks. They will be able to compare London to Harden, identifying key physical and human features.

Art/DT

In DT, the children will be developing their food technology skills. They will learn about healthy food choices and where our food comes from. The children will conduct research, design and make their own smoothies based on a healthy recipe.

Next half term, there will be an art focus where the children can develop their painting skills. They will paint pictures of the Great Fire of London and develop skills such as using thin and thick brush strokes.

PE

During the first half term our PE sessions will focus on gymnastics and sending and receiving. In gymnastics children will learn travelling actions, shapes, balances, shape jumps, barrel roll, straight roll and forward roll. The sending and receiving lessons will focus on how to roll, throw, catch, track, kick, receive with feet and send with a racket. After half term the focus will switch to fitness and invasion games.

Music

Our first music unit focuses on a chant and learning how to make ostinato rhythms to a song called "football". We will then create music inspired by the sea while learning about Benjamin Britten's Dawn from sea interludes and then work on how to create musical conversations. All of these units allow the children to continue to develop their knowledge of rhythm and pitch.

PSHE

Our first unit will be "myself and others". During this unit we will be thinking about what makes ourselves and others special. The second unit will focus on "fun times". Children will learn about special times in different cultures and countries and will learn some active playground games from around the world. We will continue to have regular "my happy mind" sessions to develop the children's understanding of how to look after their mental health and celebrate their strengths.

RE

Our focus this term will be "What does it mean to belong to a church or mosque?" Children will think about groups they belong to in and out of school and will then gain an understanding of what it means to belong to different religious faiths. We are hoping to arrange visitors for this so if anyone has any contacts please let us know.

Homework

Reading - Children are expected to read at home for 10 minutes at least 4 times a week and we would really appreciate it if you could make sure your child's reading book is in school every day. Books will be changed on a Monday.

We will continue to have phonics lessons every day and children will be working on the remaining phase 5 sounds and tricky words. Practicing recognising and spelling the tricky words will really help your child with their reading and writing.

Maths - The children have their Numbots login and are encouraged to access this regularly at home.

If you have any questions please feel free to leave a message with the office and we will get back to you or contact us via email year1@harden.bradford.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Miss Bearder, Mrs Moore, Mrs Berry and Miss Hall