



Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

January 2015

Dear Parents,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you have had an enjoyable Christmas break and are ready for the new term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please continue to return any notes or forms in the zip reading folder as we will be checking this daily. Thank you to all the parents who have been contacting us by email please continue to do this and don't forget to check our Year 1 blog which will be updated regularly.

As the weather has turned colder please ensure that all jackets, coats, fleeces are labeled as many unnamed coats are finding their way to lost property and we are unable to find their rightful owners. Please remember we have a no hat no play policy all year round so ensure that your child continues to bring the named hat.

Here is a quick reminder of Year 1 PE Days – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Also please ensure that all earrings and jewelry have been removed for these days and their hair is tied back.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

ENGLISH

English lessons will be focused around our topic 'Dinosaurs'. We will be looking at differences between fiction and nonfiction, focusing on note taking and writing non chronological texts. After this we will be creating our own stories about dinosaurs focusing on our individual targets.

MATHS

This half term we will be continuing to develop our mathematical skills by furthering our knowledge of place value, addition, subtraction and measures. In particular we will also be focusing on problem solving. This will help the children to apply their learning to new scenarios and gain independence in their application of these skills.



THEME

'Dinosaurs'

I am sure you have all seen our video from Mr Bishop asking for Year 1's help to research dinosaurs for his friend Amy in Argentina. We will be looking at timelines of this period in history and exploring the work of paleontologists. In science we will be conducting our own investigations exploring the effectiveness of different types of dinosaur teeth and classifying prehistoric animals. We will be designing and making our own moving dinosaur puppets culminating in the children writing and performing their own puppets shows linked with our English work.

MANDARIN

In Year 1, children will be introduced to the following skills through various activities;

Beginner pupils will be learning vocabulary related to food and eating. They will do survey about their favorite foods. Through this they will learn how to use a sentence to ask questions about food.

Intermediate pupils will be learning more vocabulary and sentences for better introducing themselves in Mandarin. They will also learn to sing more Chinese songs and get to know traditions for celebrating Chinese New Year.

Advanced Pupils will be learning some new words and how to express themselves confidently in Chinese. An increasing focus will be placed on comprehension of a short passage and will write sentences. Students will also get to know more about Chinese culture through Chinese Spring Festival and other interesting activities.

MUSIC

This term, students will explore a dinosaur soundscape using their voices, untuned and tuned percussion. They will sing a repertoire of songs associated with different types of dinosaurs.

DRAMA

Pupils will engage in a range of drama activities on the theme of dinosaurs including: Story based role-play, improvisation and movement. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year and acting out the traditional story.



ART

In preparation for the forthcoming Chinese New Year celebrations, pupils will be designing and creating a variety of art pieces relating to The Year of the Goat, 2015. Pupils will have the opportunity to further develop their media handling and design skills as they compete in the Sodexo design competition. This project will enable pupils to enhance their understanding of Chinese traditions and culture.

PE

Individual work will focus on close control in rugby, football, netball, basketball and hockey. Co-operative games will be developed to practice and progress sending and receiving skills. Basic evasion techniques will be covered.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions. We look forward to an enjoyable and hard working half term.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 1 Team

Jen Rowland Jennifer.rowland@nais.hk

Gillian Johnson Gillian.johnson@nais.hk

Katie Malone Katie.malone@nais.hk

Hannah Rogers Hannah.rogers@nais.hk

Patsy Morgan Patsy.morgan@nais.hk