



Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

February 2015

Dear Parents,

Kung Hei Fat Choi!

We hope you have had an enjoyable Chinese New Year 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 these 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.

Can we also please ask that if there are any changes to family circumstances, no matter how minor, if you think they may affect your child please do inform us so that we can help support them as well.

As the weather has turned wetter 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 their 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.

As you may have heard already, your child is learning the recorder. They can bring their instruments home to practise but must remember to bring them back for their music lessons on these days:

- 1A – Wednesday and Thursday
- 1B – Tuesday and Wednesday
- 1C - Wednesday and Friday
- 1D - Wednesday and Thursday
- 1E - Thursday and Friday



Also a polite reminder NAIS is a nut free school. Please ensure that this is strictly followed for the safety of all our children, this includes Nutella related products which contain Hazelnuts.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

ENGLISH

English lessons will be focused around our topic 'Gardener's World'. We will be writing recounts about our school trips and learning to use time connectives to improve our writing. After this, we will be studying Eric Carle's 'A Tiny Seed' and using this story to learn about seasons and how plants grow.

MATHS

This term we will begin by looking at time. In this subject we will learn to sequence events, order the days of the week and months of the year. If you would like to get involved, please could you make sure that your child knows what month their birthday is in. We will also recap our basic number work, including addition and subtraction.

THEME

'Gardener's World'

Mr. Cooklin has set the children a challenge. He would like the children to research and find out which plants would grow best in our school environment. Therefore the children will be investigating which plants grow in our local area. We will conduct experiments to find out how plants grow and use this knowledge to help us grow our own plants.

MANDARIN

Beginner pupils will be learning about animals and Chinese culture. They will be able to say animal names and categorise them into farm animals, wild animal, family pets and ocean animals in mandarin. They will also learn how to ask question about favourite animals and pets.

Intermediate Y1 pupils will be learning more vocabulary and sentences for talking about animals, food and drinks and weather in Mandarin. They will learn how to read and write more Chinese characters to describe the topics above and they will learn to sing some Chinese classic children songs.



Advanced pupils will be learning some new words and expressing themselves confidently in Chinese. Topics will include sports, time and family members. An increasing focus will be placed on how to use different phrases to talk about the topics accurately and fluently in Mandarin.

MUSIC

Year 1 will be engaged in music activities linked to school and pastoral themes and the “A Gardener’s World” year group theme. They will use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. They will also play tuned and untuned instruments musically and listen with concentration and understanding to a range of music. They will experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the dimensions of music.

DRAMA

Pupils will engage in a range of drama activities on the theme of nature and living things including story based role-play, improvisation and movement.

ART

Year 1 classes will continue to explore their class theme of ‘Gardeners world’ by investigating the beautiful landscapes by Claude Monet. Pupils will develop their media handling skills as they experiment with pastels and paint to create their own reproduction of ‘Water lillies’.

PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games and striking & fielding activities. Pupils will take part in increasingly challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination. Focus will be placed on improving striking techniques and body awareness for fielding and defending.

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



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