



Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

February 2016

Dear Parents,

Kung Hei Fat Choi!

We hope you have had an enjoyable Chinese New Year break and are ready for the new half 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 (if you click on the 'follow' button down at the bottom right you will be automatically notified when we update it).

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 please ensure that your child continues to bring their named hat.

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. Snacks should also be a small healthy portion, bus and ECA children are allowed to eat a snack at the end of the day before their ECA or going home on the bus.

Homework in Year 1 will continue to be set on Firefly and phonics homework will be found in the pink homework books. If there is 'myimaths' homework we will let you know through Firefly so please continue to check this weekly. Homework is sent out on a Friday and collected in on a Wednesday.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

ENGLISH

English lessons will be focused around our topic 'Gardener's World'. We are opening our topic with Jack and the Beanstalk focusing on story endings and how we can make them just as exciting as our beginnings. 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 fractions including halves and quarters. We also continue our number work specifically looking at number patterns, adding and subtracting multiples of 10 and continue our number bond knowledge. We will also be learning mass.

THEME

‘Gardener’s World’

This unit will heavily focus on science and our knowledge of plants and growth. The topic will begin by walking to our local Lam Tin park discussing the variety of plants and their features, we will follow this up later in the term with a trip to Wetland Park. We will conduct experiments to find out how plants grow and use this knowledge to help us grow our own plants.

MANDARIN

In Term 2 beginner pupils will be learning more vocabulary about school activities, stationary and playground games in Mandarin and Pinyin. They will also continue to learn the basic strokes.

This term, lower intermediate pupils will study the topic of sports, telling the time, family members and homes. They are expected to know more words and phrases to talk about the topics above.

Upper intermediate pupils will be studying the topics; Time “现在几点”, Health and Well Being “我感冒了” and This is my School “这是我的学校”. An increasing focus will be placed on how to write down some basic words. Students will also get to know more about Chinese culture through Mandarin Matrix online reading activities.

Advanced pupils will be learning more new words and Chinese stories through different chapters, they will have more opportunities to express their own opinions in lessons. An increasing focus will be placed on how to comprehend a small short passage and develop their writing skills with the correct stroke order.

MUSIC

This half term, Year 1 will continue to learn a selection of game songs around the topic dinosaurs. They will learn about the seasons and the outdoors through lessons focused on enabling all students to find their singing voice and perform both as a soloist and as a part of a group. We will also be exploring the keyboard and continue to explore music theory through this as a medium, focusing on recognition of the notes on the treble stave and basic dynamics. They will also learn a repertoire of well known childrens’ songs, linked to school themes.



DRAMA

Pupils will engage in a range of drama activities around their class theme of nature and living things. They will also be enjoying the classic tale of *Jack and the Beanstalk* through story based role-play and improvisation.

ART

Year 1 classes will explore their theme '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 Lilies'.

PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games (tennis & badminton). Pupils will take part in increasingly challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination. In dance pupils will explore basic body actions such as jumping and turning, as well as using different parts of their body to create a simple sequence of movements. They will create and repeat short dances inspired by themes such as animals.

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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