



Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

April 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you've had a great Easter break.

GENERAL INFORMATION

With the weather becoming warmer and sunnier we will be reinforcing our "no hat, no play" policy. Please make sure that your child brings a named hat with them every day to wear during break and lunch times. School hats will now be able to be purchased from reception at a cost of \$75 for those of you who can't get to the uniform shop.

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.

Year 1 PE Days remain Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that all earrings and jewelry have been removed for these days and 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

If your recorder has been broken it can be replaced by the school for a fee of \$50. Please let your class teacher know and send this in, in a labeled envelope.

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 'Ahoy, me hearties'. We will be learning about all things pirate! Our fiction writing will be based around the book 'The Night Pirates' and we will be researching about a historical pirate's life for our non-fiction writing. We will also be using our writing skills to create instructions.

MATHS

This term we will continue to consolidate our number and shape knowledge while introducing multiplication and division to the children. We will also be extending our knowledge of measure by learning about capacity and mass.

THEME

'Ahoy, me hearties'

Following Miss Byrne's discovery of a local pirate map the children will be researching a famous local pirate. We will be investigating materials in Science thinking about their properties and linking this knowledge to a waterproof experiment. In DT we will be using our knowledge of structures to create a disguise. In ICT we will be programming using algorithm 'bee bots' to find treasure. In PHSCE we will be learning about safety in the environment, particularly safety in the sun. We will also be looking at health; healthy eating and how to avoid scurvy!

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

MANDARIN

Beginner pupils will be learning to name body parts, use this vocabulary in phrases and sing the 'my body parts' song. At the end of this unit they will be able to name at least 17 body parts in Mandarin. They will also learn phrases combining numbers, colours and measures.

Intermediate pupils will be using vocabulary about stationary, nationalities, food and drink, hobbies and school life, transportation, seasons and weather as well as occupations. They will learn how to read and write more Chinese characters to describe these topics. They will also be encouraged to participate in a range of games and feel more confident to present on a topic in front of the whole class.



This term advanced pupils will begin by re-enforcing work from the previous term's topics. They will then increase their vocabulary and usage skills in the areas of animals, homes, finding things and verbs. By gradually increasing the focus on the accuracy and fluency of language usage, pupils will become more confident and effective in Mandarin.

ART

Year 1 will be further investigating their class theme of 'Pirates' in Art as they create a pirate portrait. Pupils will develop their knowledge and understanding of portraiture by learning about facial features and proportions. The project will encourage creativity as pupils design clothing for their pirate and will also enable pupils to further develop their media handling skills as they experiment with paint, pastels and cut paper.

MUSIC

Year 1 will be engaged in music activities linked to school and pastoral themes, and the "Pirates" 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.

PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games (tennis and volleyball) and a striking & fielding activity (kwik cricket). 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. Pupils will also cover athletic activities focusing on jumping, throwing and running over various distances at different speeds. Pupils will also investigate movement, stillness, and how to find and use space in gymnastics. Pupils will develop their gross motor skills, become increasingly competent and confident and access a broad range of opportunities to extend their agility, balance and coordination.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 1 Team

Jen Rowland Jennifer.rowland@nais.hk

Hannah Rogers Hannah.rogers@nais.hk

Gillian Johnson Gillian.johnson@nais.hk

Patsy Morgan Patsy.morgan@nais.hk

Katie Malone Katie.malone@nais.hk