



## Curriculum Letter Year 1 – Spring Term 2 2024

### General Information

A very warm welcome back to school! The children have come back raring to go with their new Spring learning, which is fantastic to see.

### Curriculum

*Maths:* We start our learning by re-visiting addition and subtraction within 20 before moving on to look at measurement by investigating length and weight and finishing with some number work with 50 and beyond!

*English:* Our texts this half term link to our Science and History topics. We begin with a look at features of a particular Traditional Tale that we will use our reading detective skills to discover! We then move on to places further afield, with the beautiful *Astro Girl* by Ken Wilson-Max, using it as a stimulus for instruction and non-fiction writing, before finishing off with the great *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett.

*Science:* Our topic this half-term is 'Plants and Animals' looking close to home and working scientifically to identify a range of trees in our local area as well as becoming planters ourselves. At the end of term, we will have some very special visitors to the classroom to help us learn more about life cycles and classifying animals!

*History:* This half term our topic is '*The Greatest Explorers*'. We start by looking at the characteristics and qualities of explorers before taking a closer look into the lives of significant people from a range of backgrounds and periods throughout history.

*Design & Technology:* We will be learning about different fruits and vegetables, choosing our favourites and developing our cutting skills before making smoothies.

*Music:* We will be building towards our live Songsack performance with our Enfield Music Service teacher, Elena. We can't wait to show off all the things we have been learning!

*RE:* We are reflecting on the importance of the Easter story for Christians, thinking about the events that lead to the crucifixion of Christ and His Resurrection. We will finish this with a local walk to Holtwhite's Bakery, to buy a hot cross bun.

*PSHE:* Our '*Safety and the Changing body*' unit will help us; understand which adults can help us in different situations in and out of school, understand ways to keep safe and what to do if we get lost and about potential hazards around the home.

*Phonics:* The children will continue to receive daily phonics sessions with a focus on the phase 5 sounds and applying them in both reading and spelling. We will also start to prepare the children for the Phonic Screening Check in June, by looking at 'alien' words.

*Class Reads:* In 1B we will be starting *Too Small Tola Makes it Count* this half term. In 1W we will be reading *The Animals of Farthing Wood* by Colin Dann.



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### PE Days

Outdoor PE sessions continue on **Tuesday** with our ELMs sport coaches. Our indoor PE sessions **continue on a Friday afternoon** with a focus on gymnastic skills and developing balance. Kits for indoor PE should remain in school and will be sent home every term for washing.

### Reading

Children will continue with their reading groups, reading with an adult in school at least twice a week. The groupings have recently been assessed, to ensure your child is reading a book best matched to their current level of confidence and fluency.

**Reading aloud is so very important at home!** We will continue to set Collins eBook copies of the books read at school, so children can show off their skills to you at home. If you feel that a book is too challenging or otherwise, please do let us know. Any feedback you give is much appreciated.

Sharing books will continue to be sent home on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. As children become more confident in their own reading skills, they may well start trying to read these themselves. This is fantastic, but the primary purpose of these books is to help foster a love of reading for pleasure and therefore sharing these books with your children in the role of a confident reader is so important.

Please ensure the books are returned on the correct day as this will allow us sufficient time to change them and increase our selection of available books for the children to choose from.

### Homework

Homework will be set every Friday on *Teams* and is due in the following Wednesday. Children may also be set homework on MyMaths or Purple Mash, this will be indicated on the work set on *Teams*.

### Key Dates

World Book Day (dress up)	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March
PTA Wonka Bar sale after school	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March
Songsack Performance	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2.45pm
Parent meetings (online)	18 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Open Afternoon	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Holwhite's Bakery Walk	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April (TBC)
Chicks in class	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March - Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
End of term	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April term ends at 2pm
School starts	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April