



## Curriculum Newsletter for Bluebell Class – Year 1 Children Half Term 1 2023-24

Welcome back! We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your kind gifts and messages at the end of last year. We are so pleased to be teaching a mixed class this year and having the opportunity to continue to work with your child and your family for another year.

This newsletter should give you an insight into the curriculum areas we will be covering this half term. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to make an appointment through the school office to see us.

Kind Regards

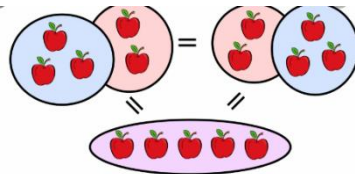
Mrs Gilhooly and Mrs Fisher



### Maths

#### Numbers

In class we will be doing lots of counting to and across 100, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number. We will be working on reading and writing numbers to 100 in numerals and counting in multiples of twos, fives and tens. We will be finding one more and one less than a given number.



#### Part-whole within 10

The children will be taught to read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (–) and equals (=) signs

#### Addition and subtraction

The children will be using a range of different ways to represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20

Throughout the maths curriculum the children will be using different models and representations. They will be using practical objects to support the deepening of their understanding and we will be working on their ability to solve problems and apply reasoning strategies, they will be working on answering 'why' or 'how' an answer was reached.

### English

This half term we will be looking at books around the themes of kindness and making new friends. We will be retelling these stories, writing to characters in the book, describing characters, predicting what might happen next and changing one part of the story to make our own version. The key focus for our writing in Year 1 this half term is using capital letters and full stops in the right place and re-reading work back to check it makes sense.



#### Phonics

The children will briefly revise 'Phase 4' of our Bug Club Phonic sessions. In these sessions the children will practise reading and spelling CVCC words ('bump', 'nest', 'belt,' 'milk', etc). Practise reading and spelling high frequency words. They will also be applying their phonic knowledge that they have learnt so far to read and write sentences. We will then begin 'Phase 5' teaching focusing on new ways to write the sounds the children have already learnt. For example we will revise 'ai' as in 'rain' but also learn 'ay' like 'play' and 'a-e' as in 'cake'.

### RE Our topic for this term is: God's Great Plan

The children will be learning about the story of creation from Genesis and beginning to reflect on its meaning. We will be talking about the beautiful things God has created and reflecting on any wonders we have about our world. We will then we reading the story of Noah and the Flood and thinking about how the rainbow is a sign of hope.



### PE – In PE this term we will be learning about:

Focusing on basic movement development, as well as discovering/developing a range of travelling methods such as running, crawling, hopping, side-galloping, leaping, jumping and skipping.

The children will be doing PE led by Mr Gibson. The sessions may be inside our school hall or outside depending on the nature of the lesson and the weather. Our PE days this half term are on a Tuesday and a Friday and we ask that on those days the children come into school dressed in their PE kits.

## Curriculum- Our topic this half term is 'Me and My Community'

**Geography:** We will be devising our own maps of our school grounds, looking at aerial photographs of the local area and using symbols and a key to add information to a map. We will be looking at physical and human features in and around Ilkley. We will be learning about people who work in our locality to help us and keep us safe.

**Art and DT:** We will be exploring different colours, mixing colours and talking about how different colours make us feel.

### Science: Humans - 'Me and My body'

The children will be identifying, naming, drawing and labelling the basic parts of the human body. The children will then say which part of the body is associated with each sense. We will be looking at how humans have offspring which grow from babies, toddlers, children and then to adults.

**To support our topic work can we kindly ask for a recent family photograph to be uploaded to Tapestry. Also can we ask on the week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> October that the children please bring in one small item that is special to them. This could be a photograph, a toy or a teddy. Please can I ask that this is something small enough to fit in their book bag and if possible something that they would be confident talking about in front of the class.**



### Homework and spellings

The children will be sent home a weekly spelling pattern and some ideas on how to practise that way of writing and remembering that sound.



In addition to the work set from school to help your child at home, you could:

- Read the school reading book every day.
- Read a selection of other books and stories to your child or listen to an audio book together.
- Playing games such as snakes and ladders, bingo and other board games that involve number.
- Talk to the children about what day of the week/month of the year it is and what season we are in. Have a go at learning to spell the days of the week and months of the year.

### A request for help! -

As part of our curriculum this half term we would love to be able to welcome parents or family members of the children who work and help in the local community. This could be a nurse, vet, fire fighter, doctor, police officer or a shop assistant. We would like to welcome you to come into class for half an hour for so. We are looking at doing this during the week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> October and 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The children will ask you questions about your role as part of our learning about 'jobs in my community'. If you think this is something you or a family member can help with, please email the school office with your availability.

Many thanks

### General information

#### Outdoor clothing

Due to the nature of our wonderful classroom environment we will continue to use our outdoor space for a range of learning opportunities. The children will always have the option of going outside so it is important that they have the appropriate attire. Every child should have a warm outdoor coat and a pair of wellies that can be left in school. When the weather becomes colder, children should also have a hat, scarf and some warm gloves.



#### Rewards in the classroom –

We have many rewards set up in our classroom and we always aim to motivate the children through positivity and praise. We talk lots about being a 'bucket filler' and talk about how we can make someone feel happy by doing kind things 'and filling their bucket'. Alongside this we talk about how 'we can take from someone's bucket' by our actions. The children in class all have their own little bucket, when we notice the children trying hard, sharing, turn taking, listening carefully or giving something new a try we will put a stone in their bucket. The children will then come home with a certificate after they have achieved 15 stones.

We also choose a '**star of the day**'. This child will get to be the front of the line, take the register and do other special jobs.

In line with the whole school behaviour policy in the classroom we have our 'Reach for the stars' Traffic light system. Where every child aims to reach 'the shooting star' through trying their very best with what they have been asked to do.