

Year 1 Bulletin – Spring Term 2018

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a fun-packed Christmas break.

Key dates for the diary

- Monday 8th January- Toys Immersion Day
- Friday 26th January – Trip to the Museum of childhood
- Phase 2-6 Parents phonic workshop 11th January at 9.30am
- Last day of term - 9th February
- **Half term: 12th February – 16th February**
- Wednesday 24th February – 1L Class Assembly
- Book week – w/b 26th February (World Book Day - March 1st)
- Wednesday 7th March – 1H Class Assembly
- Parent conference day – March 23rd (no school for children)
- Year 1 Toy Museum – March 28th and 29th
- **Last day of term – March 29th (2pm finish)**

Autumn Term saw your children make the transition from the largely child-initiated, play-based approach of Reception to the more formalised learning of Key Stage 1. We intend to build on their growing maturity with a term full of engaging and exciting learning activities, and to continue our focus on the importance of the school values - resilience, responsibility and thoughtfulness.

Rather excitingly, this term we are launching a new growth mind-set initiative at Heber Primary School. With a growth mind-set, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication, hard work and a positive attitude to challenge. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishments. At Heber we wish for all our children to have a growth mind-set. We have already started to explore the power of 'Yet'. Rather than a child saying "I can't do this," they'll be encouraged to say "I can't do this, yet", giving them the mind-set that with hard work and extra effort, achievement will follow.

Topic – Toys

This term the children will be learning about a subject close to their hearts: toys. The classrooms will be transformed into toy museums, with the children acting as curators. Expect an invitation towards the end of term to come in to class to visit the museum! There will be a strong history, science and DT emphasis, with the children learning about toys from the past, the materials with which toys are made, and even making toys themselves. The English during this term will also be linked to toys (see later). We will be visiting the Museum of Childhood this term where the children will gain first-hand experience on what a museum is like and the role of the museum curators. They will participate in a workshop where they will be exploring a range of toys.

The immersion day will take place on the 8th January. The children should bring in their favourite toy and have some information about it. They are going to present their toy to the class and teach the other children how to play with it. They can talk about who bought the toy for them, how long they have had it for and how they like to play with it. Any background information that they can find beforehand, such as the purpose of the toy, who made it and when could be useful. If they like, they can even dress up as their favourite toy!

Maths

The children will begin the term by learning about 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. Then we will revisit place value using numbers up to 20. After this we will move onto addition and subtraction within 20. Next, we'll focus on place value, this time using numbers up to 50. This will include multiples of 2, 5 and 10. We will finish the term learning about measurement. The children will learn how to measure in length and height, then in weight, mass, capacity and volume. We'll carry on developing the children's reasoning and problem solving skills throughout the maths units.

English

English lessons at the start of this term focus on exploring a book called 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas. This will be followed up by a trip to the Museum of Childhood where this book was set. This story enables the children to explore predictable and patterned language. The children will be using drama and language play to explore, adapt and invent sentences or lines based on patterns within this story. Towards the end of the unit the children will write their own version of the story.

In the second half term we are exploring the book 'Yeti and the Bird'. We will continue to focus on grammar, punctuation and description. The children will be developing their ability to write longer pieces including how to write the beginning, middle and end of a story. They will also be developing their editing skills of their own and their peers' work.

Phonics (and the recognition and spelling of high frequency words) continues to be taught in streamed groups across Year 1. In writing, the construction of sentences remains our main objective – initially, simple units of meaning, starting with a capital letter and ending with a full stop; then becoming more interesting, using adjectives and more unusual vocabulary, being joined with conjunctions (such as 'but' and 'so') and ending with a range of punctuation (. ! or ?). This term there will be a big focus on grammar including tenses and pronouns.

Science

In Science the children will be learning about winter. The children will be going outside to observe signs of winter. They will be looking at the habits of animals in winter such as hibernation and migration. Furthermore, they will be observing the weather in winter and seasonal changes. Finally, the children will investigate the freezing and melting of water.

Linked to our 'Toys' topic the children will be exploring everyday materials and their properties. They will explore the materials that toys are made out of. This will lead up to the children making their own toys out of suitable materials and displaying them in our Year 1 Toy Museum.

Computing

Starting this term, we are changing the way that Computing is taught. We will take a topic based approach to teach the three aspects of the subject in fun and exciting new ways. In Spring 1, the children will become image collectors, finding images using the web to create presentation slides and will explore ways in which those pictures can be organised. In Spring 2, they will become treasure hunters and program a toy to move around a map to find buried treasure. They will start by thinking of algorithms for their routes, and then input these as stored programs for the robot. They will predict how the robot will move and will debug their programs.

Art

Product design/Beach Towel:

The children will research and design an appropriate product for a child: A beach towel. They will identify and select appropriate colours and shapes in their sketchbook and be able to act on research to create a design, commenting on and understanding other designers and the design process.

Music

The children will be focusing on genre and mood this term. They will explore different genres of music, how they sound, and the way this is represented in a piece of music. They will also look at the mood of a piece of music, how we can represent this musically, and how it can change the sound of a song. We will also use the song 'Fiore' to look at structure, and we will be using this song in some composition activities.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Education)

The children will be starting the year with a unit entitled 'Going for goals!' The children will focus on what it is to be a good learner, and will then attempt a series of 'learning challenges' (including inventing and performing a dance, inventing a game, building a paper bridge, learning and performing a poem) in which they will be encouraged to explore and build on the four key learning qualities of resilience, curiosity, collaboration and reflectiveness. They will all feel confident in identifying their own strengths and areas for improvement. After half term we will move on to 'Getting on and falling out', which examines how to work and play well with others and what to do when things go wrong in social situations.

PE

1L will have outdoor PE on Thursday and indoor PE on Wednesdays. 1H will have their PE sessions outdoors on a Friday and indoors on Wednesdays. The children will focus on team skills, balance, strength, ball skills, following instructions and building up general fitness.

RE

This term the children will learn all about Judaism. They will learn about their places of worship, special customs and different celebrations that are unique to the Jewish religion.

Home Learning

- Please support your child's literacy development by reading with them every day, and sharing information with their class teacher by commenting in your child's reading record book. Always check understanding by asking your child questions about what they are reading.
- Involve your child in practical real-life maths situations as much as possible – e.g. How much change should I have? How long until tea time?
- Encourage your child's independence, both practically and in terms of their learning.

- Please ensure your child plays Mathematics frequently. The tasks will often reinforce the learning from that week in class. Books will be changed each Friday.

Routines

Please ensure that your child arrives at school promptly at 8:50am (Lordship Lane playground) and is collected at 3:20pm (Crystal Palace playground). If your child arrives late in the morning, please inform the office of their arrival. If you are late to collect your child in the afternoon, you will be required to complete the late book.

If you have any further questions, please speak to your child's class teacher at the beginning or end of the day or telephone the school office to make an appointment.

We are happy for you to take Maths and English books home to look at over the weekend; however, we will require them on Monday morning.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your child's learning.

The Year 1 team