

Year 1 Spring 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a relaxing half-term break. Our topic for this half term will be **Castles**. We will be learning about what it was like to live and work in a castle for different people. We will gather information about castle features, people who work and live in a castle and what it was like to live in a castle. At the end of the topic the children will take part in a Castle Day and celebrate the end of the topic with Knight training and medieval dancing.

If you have any queries, please speak to us on the door in the morning or at the end of the day.

Our Curriculum

English: George and the Dragon, Castles

Maths: Place Value to 50, Length and Height, Mass and Volume.

Science: Animal Survival

History: Castles

RE: Holi and Easter

PE: Striking and Fielding, Fitness

PSHE: Rights and Respects

PSHE: Being my best

ICT: Computer Science (Maze Explorers)
Information Technology (animated story books)

Music: Pitch and Texture, tuned percussion

The children will also have phonics and handwriting lessons.

Home Challenge

This half term we will be looking at castles in History. The half termly challenge is for you and your child to create a shield for them to use during Knight's training in school later in the term. You can think up your own designs for the front of your shields. We have included a few pictures to give you some ideas. Please can you bring in your shield on our Castle day on Friday 28th March. Please see the separate letter included in next week's mailing.



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Reading

We cannot overemphasise how important and beneficial it is to listen to your child read at home as often as possible. There are clear links between how frequently a child reads and their progress in all academic areas.

At the end of every half term we will count how many times your child has read at home. Anyone who reads (on average) at least 3 times per week will receive a bookmark and will have their name in the newsletter. A **big well done** and **congratulations** to the following children who all read at least 18 times at home during Spring 1.

Squirrel Class: Abigail, Aubrey, Emily, Musab, Nicholas, Talia, Toby

Fox Class: Anders, Ashvath, Ben, Ellie, Fallow, Helena, Oliver, Olivia, Toby

Otter Class: Gabi, Hudson, Oscar, Alex, Isla, Maya, Grayson

The child who reads the most in each class will also be rewarded with a book. Congratulations to Nicholas (Squirrel Class), Oliver (Fox Class) and Hudson (Otter Class).

When you listen to your child read, please record this in their reading diary and write what page they read to. Please don't use a green pen as that is what we use in school. We usually recommend reading a book twice before changing it so the children can build their fluency. We do not expect the children to read a whole book in one go and just a couple of pages every night will still be very beneficial. In school we encourage the children to read a page and use their phonic knowledge to sound out any words they are unsure of. We then ask them to re-read the same page so they can "read with speed" before moving on to the next one. This means trying to read the sentence again without having to sound out all the words.

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PE

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing a tracksuit and brings some shorts in their book bag to change into for indoor PE. If your child has their ears pierced, please ensure their earrings are removed on P.E days if their ears are newly pierced please ensure they have padded micro pore tape over them. Please can long hair be tied back too.

The normal PE days are as follows:

Squirrel Class: Monday and Tuesday

Fox Class: Monday and Wednesday

Otter Class: Monday and Friday



Dates for your diary



Thursday 6th March: World Book Day. Please come dressed as your favourite Book Character

Friday 21st March: Red Nose Day

Wednesday 26th March: Mother's Day Sale

Wednesday 26th/Thursday 27th March: Parents Evening after school

Friday 28th March: Castle Day - please bring in your shield

Monday 31st March: Cinema

Friday 4th April: Easter Egg Hunt

Kind regards,

The Year One Team