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# Year 1 – Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you've all had a restful Christmas. Mrs Bugbird and I are looking forward to welcoming your children back for the Spring Term curriculum.

We have the following visits planned for this term:

- A trip to St Lawrence Parish Church to take part in a 'Messy Church' (Arts and Crafts based) activity to find out about Epiphany. This will take place on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> January and children can wear school uniform as usual.
- A trip to Hamptonne to explore Hamptonne in the Winter and to find out about native birds of Jersey and their homes. This workshop will link well with our Science topic around Animal Classifications. The workshop will take place on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January in the morning and children are asked to wear clothes that you don't mind getting muddy and to bring Wellington boots I have been advised that Hamptonne is very muddy at this time of year.
- A trip to Hamptonne on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> February for a workshop with a focus on Storytelling. The children will hear three traditional fairytales over an hour in different settings at Hamptonne *Sleeping Beauty, Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and *The Gingerbread Man* to celebrate National Storytelling Week. As the children will mainly be based inside on this trip, normal uniform (PE kit on this day) will be required.
- A trip to the Royal Square in relation to our topic on *The Battle of Jersey*. With
  the help of Helen Otterwell from the Jersey Heritage Trust, we will be re-enacting
  the Battle of Jersey, marching into the Royal Square and pretending to fire at each
  other! We will look at the marks on the Pierson Pub where the muskets hit the
  walls and will go to the Town Church to see where Major Peirson and Baron de
  Rullecourt are buried. The date for this trip is Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February and
  school uniform is to be worn.
- A Science field trip led by Josh from the National Trust for Jersey where children
  will work in small groups to construct a watershed model using natural materials
  such as soil, rocks and flora in the area, and then test their model by simulating
  rainfall using a watering can. This trip will take place on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March.



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In addition to these trips, we will be welcoming Mandy Le Tensorer from Child Accident Prevention on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January. Mandy will be delivering a presentation called Speak Dog and Stay Safe, which is a campaign designed to teach young children how to behave around dogs. Further details can be found by clicking on the link:

<u>Speak Dog and Stay Safe – Child Accident Prevention Jersey (cap.je)</u>

#### **Literacy**

Our Read, Write, Inc sessions will continue daily, with writing as part of these sessions. Reading books are changed every Monday so please ensure that your child has their RWI folder on this day. Please could you also ensure that the reading books are inside the plastic RWI folders, not just inside the green book bags as the children only take their RWI plastic wallets to their lesson.

In our Writing sessions, the children will be continuing to use their phonic knowledge to support their writing as well as using capital letters at the beginning of sentences and for names, and full stops at the end of sentences. As the children learn to extend their sentences, they will be using connectives such as and, but, or to join clauses.

The children will learn to recite two poems this term – Snowball by Shel Silverstein and Now We Are Six by AA Milne and will be given the opportunity to present these poems in assembly.

#### Mathematics

We continue to follow the White Rose Scheme of Work for Mathematics. Details of the areas covered this term can be seen by clicking on the link: Maths resources for teachers | White Rose Maths

The White Rose scheme offers free workbooks to parents to help support their child at home. The workbooks can be downloaded via the following link: https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources

I've had positive feedback from parents who have used these booklets so they are worth looking at.

The Mathematics Fluency homework for this half term can be found on our website as follows (under Year 1, Spring 1 and Spring 2 – pages 8 and 9). https://www.stlawrence.sch.je/wp-content/uploads/Fluency Policy 2021.pdf

### Science

In **Science** this term, the children will be completing their learning around Animals Classifications. They will be finding out about the key features of fish and amphibians and consolidating their knowledge of mammals, birds and reptiles. The children will then move

Our Mission:

To develop responsible, independent individuals who love learning and have the knowledge and attitudes to be successful in an ever changing world'.





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on to Materials and will be identifying and naming a variety of different materials such as wood, plastic, glass and metal. They will describe physical properties of these materials and will also be testing different materials using our knowledge and observations. Our Science Field Trip will see the children working in small groups to create a watershed using a variety of different materials and testing these to see which are waterproof.

#### History

Our main focus in History this half term will be finding out about the Battle of Jersey. The children will look at the timeline of events and find out why the battle took place. They will re-enact the Battle on a visit to the Royal Square and look at the details in Copley's famous painting of this battle:

The Battle of Jersey

# Geography

During the second part of this term, the children will be learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom, and locating them on a map and on a globe. They will be finding out about the flags and the national flowers of the UK.

# **Religious Education**

In RE this term, the children will be learning about Judaism and finding out about the customs and celebrations associated with Judaism. We are fortunate to be able to welcome the 'Open the Book' team every fortnight who use puppets and stories to share Bible Stories with the children in Key Stage One.

#### **Design and Technology**

In DT, the children will be using the resources from our sewing trolley and designing and creating an item. One option available will be sock puppets – any odd socks that you may have (plain or patterned) would be gratefully received!

### **Physical Education**

Our PE days this term will continue to be Monday and Tuesday. We are excited to continue working with the Sports Bug team on Mondays who will be introducing the children to team play, communication, and basic techniques for a range of sports, such as football, tennis, cricket, basketball and hockey. On Tuesdays, the PE sessions will be dance-based with a focus on using Nursery Rhymes to encourage the children to recognise that dances can have themes and stories. Children will be taught to compose and link a series of movements as a group. During the second part of the Spring Term, the children will be working on a circuit-



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based approach, building up their strength, stamina and co-ordination with a range of different circuit activities.

# Computing

The children will use the software just2easy to explore paint programmes and familiarise themselves with different tools such as brush sizes, colours, line thicknesses and the 'fill' tool. The children will then move on to using the 'Write' tool on this software and compose sentences about pictures they have created or photographs they have taken. Click on the link below to find out more about this software:

### Just2easv.com | tools | iit5

Later in the term, the children will be using the 'BeeBots' to develop simple programming skills, using a sequence of commands to move the BeeBot. Click on the following link to find out more about BeeBots:

Bee-Bot – The Education Partnership

#### Art

In Art this term, the children will be learning about the very colourful work of Romero Britto and using different media such as collage, clay and paint to work in the style of Britto. Later on in the term the children will be exploring watercolour and will use the work of Emma Burleigh for inspiration.

### Music

Our Music sessions take place every Friday. This term, the children will be learning new songs and will be using a range of instruments to accompany the songs. They will be learning to use instruments to explore short, rhythmic patterns, to recognise repeating patterns in music, to be able to perform with others, to start and stop together (easier said than done!) and to follow simple instructions when performing.

#### Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

In our PSHE sessions this term, the children will be learning about *Identity, Society and* Equality. They will learn about what makes themselves and others special, about roles and responsibilities at home and at school and about being co-operative with others. During the second part of the term, the children will focus on *Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco* Education. They will learn about safety around household subtances and items in nature (such as berries) and why some substances are harmful.

In relation to safety, the children will also be taking part in a Speak Dog and Stay Safe workshop led by the Child Accident Prevention Team on January 16<sup>th</sup>.



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### **Homework**

As well as the Maths homework outlined above, children are encouraged to read to an adult at least four or five times a week for ten / fifteen minutes each time – this alone will make a huge difference to their progress in reading. All children will have reading books to read that are changed every Monday. Please encourage your child to point to the text and 'Fred talk' words when they get stuck. Some words can not be 'Fred talked' and these are known as red words (e.g. you). These are words that the children need to learn to read by sight. As the children re-read the texts over the week, they will develop their fluency and speed of reading. Children are encouraged to discuss the stories to develop their comprehension skills.

Children are also working on reading and spelling the 'Common Exception Words' at school. Please could the children also practice these at home as this will have a positive impact on their writing skills – your support with this is much appreciated.

CommonExceptionWords Y1.pdf (oxfordowl.co.uk)

We would like to invite you to our 'Shared Learning' afternoon on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm when the children will be able to share their work from the term with you.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Kim Banks k.banks@stlawrence.sch.je

