

# Curriculum Update

October 2021

Hello again everyone!

Our second theme for the term is a short theme - Never eat Shredded Wheat. This is based around where food comes from, with a key focus on geography. It begins by looking at compass directions and locational language, before moving on to learning about continents and oceans. Physical and human geographical features are explored, and the UK is then examined more closely. The learning then moves on to where foods come from around the world. We look forward to learning some new geographical skills and to sharing what we have been doing with you.

## Reading

Thank you for all your hard work and support with reading at home this half term. We hope that the reading rota that we have in operation is working well for you as well as us and that you are finding that you have enough reading material to keep you going each day! It is especially valuable to be able to read the feedback and comments from you in the reading diaries and this is a good channel of communication for us! It would be really useful if the children have their bookbags, reading books and diaries in school each day as we occasionally catch them for an 'extra' read whenever we can! We are encouraging the children to choose a 'real' book from our bookshelf to share with you at home each time they change their books as this offers some breadth and interest. We are looking to add nonfiction texts to the selection after half term as many children particularly enjoy these sorts of books. Please do return them when you are finished with them as they are a valuable resource!

Once again, do have a look at the Learning Guidance section on our class web page as this has a copy of the Common Exception Words for Year One. These are the tricky words that the children will be expected to learn to read by sight alone (without having to sound them out) before the end of this academic year. They just have to learn to recognise them as they do not sound out!

## Outdoor Learning

Please can you make sure that any items that the children wear to school are named, including clothes worn on forest school days if possible. A biro name on a label is fine as long as we can read it! We do seem to spend a lot of time trying to match up lost clothes with the right children!

We shall continue to do Forest School on a Wednesday afternoon. Do please dress the children with warm layers as it can be considerably colder under the shelter of the trees. We will be on site one week and then up at the Forest School site the next.

## Literacy

The children have been working really hard at phonics and are revisiting some of the sounds learned already in Reception in order to consolidate their knowledge as well as learning new sounds. They are working really hard at sitting letters on the line and at putting spaces between their words. It is a great achievement when they can do this automatically without having to be reminded! They have produced some really super writing both in guided groups and independently. They loved listening to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and retold the story beautifully. We looked back at their writing at the start of the year and we were pleased to see how they have improved already!

### Science

In Science the children have been studying different animal habitats and are beginning to identify which animals live in particular areas and why. They have enjoyed learning about different animals. They have loved listening to some of the Percy the Park Keeper books and have linked these to our forest school experiences.

### ICT

In ICT we have been learning about simple commands and instructions. The children enjoyed creating routes on the ground using natural materials and then had to create a set of sequenced commands in order to find a way through the route.

### Maths

The children have been developing their number skills and have enjoyed playing simple games. We have moved on to work on addition and have started writing number sentences and finding the answers using resources. They have loved using the iPads to play maths games.

You can help at home by using the free **Topmarks** website. If you look at the number games for maths under the addition and subtraction section there is a great game called Mental Maths Train. We have looked at the game 'up to 10' but you can easily find more challenging games to suit every ability on here. **Please have a go!**

### Our Week

Monday - Miss Freeman all day

Tuesday - Miss Freeman/Mr Hutton

Wednesday Miss Freeman/Mr Hutton

Thursday - Miss Freeman/Mr Hutton

Friday - Mr Hutton all day

Learning Support Assistant - Mrs  
Chadd

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any  
queries or concerns.



