# Curriculum Update

# Year 1

#### February 2020

This term, the name of our theme is 'Here We Are.' Our theme encompasses countries and languages. During the planning stage, Year 1 wanted to discover more about other countries and what they were like. They especially wanted to have a go at learning other language too.



We started our theme by learning about some simple facts of the Earth, using the book 'Here We are' by Oliver Jeffers. Next, we learnt about the oceans and continents of the World and looked at a range of different Atlases to help us explore them and become more familiar with where we are. So far we have learnt about Australia, China and Antarctica! This week will be looking at Japan and having a Japanese Day!



When learning about Australia, we were excited to welcome Michelle

from Madley Plants brought in lots of lived in Australia and



to our class. She pictures of where she some more recent children thoroughly in Australia and were

photos of her Australian Christmas. The enjoyed learning about what it was like to live surprised to hear that they cooked outside on a BBQ most of the year.



Next, we celebrated Chinese New Year in Class one when looking at the country of China. We learning about the story of Chinese New Year and how the Years were named after different animals. We then discovered different ways Chinese new year is celebrated around the world and the children worked hard writing poems to reflect this.

Last week, we teamed up with Class 2 to listen Mr Johnson about his centurion adventure to the South Pole in the Antarctica. We

loved learning about what it is like there and looking at all his photographs. We also loved learning about the first expeditions of 'Amundsen and Scott' and the tough conditions they faced. We used this to inspire writing our own Newspaper reports about Mr Johnsons exploration.

After half term, we look forward to learning more about Europe and learning French, German and Spanish. We will also be looking more closely at Africa.

# 40 reads

Children are starting to achieve their 80 Reads! This is great so let's keep this up!

Reading with your child every day is very important and can help toward their fluency, comprehension skills and confidence in reading. Reading regularly also introduces the children to new vocabulary and supports their spelling and writing.

## PE

Year one have PE on a Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoon

Please can you ensure that Year One have the correct PE uniform in school every day. This is, black shorts or joggers and white polo shirt with trainers or PE pumps. Girls may need a spare pair of socks if they wear tights to school. These can be placed in a spare bag and left in school on their pegs or in their draws in the classroom.

### Dates for your diary

- 14<sup>th</sup> February Half term
- 24<sup>th</sup> February INSET day
- 11<sup>th</sup> March Year 1 class assembly

#### Independence in Year 1

As you are aware we aim to develop the children's independence in Year 1, especially when coming into school. When dropping your children off in the mornings, please could we ask that you say a swift fair well to help them develop their confidence when coming in on their own.

If on some occasions, you do need to escort your children to the classroom. we would like to encourage you to allow your child to organise their own bags and drinks bottles in the morning to allow them to settle into school.