



Dear Parent/Carer,

Curriculum Information Year 1 – Spring Term 2020

Welcome back after a wonderful Christmas Break. Its Term 2 and I would just like to take this opportunity to say how impressed I am with the amount of progress the children in year 1 have made and are continuously making, not just academically but with their confidence and attitude to learning also. I would also like to say a big thankyou to parents for their continuous support to school, myself and the children's learning experiences. I am looking forward to this, it will be busy yet fantastic and I can't wait to start our term 2 adventure!

English

Throughout this term the children will continue to have daily English lessons. The sessions begin with a whole class direct teach where the children will work together as a class to discuss our focus story, create whole class writing pieces and also take part in some drama sessions. The children will then continue to work in small focused group activities alongside an adult. This term however, we are concentrating on becoming more independent learners therefore the children will have an adult within their group to start their task and then be left to complete independently before working with the adult again to look over, up level and improve their work.

When not working with an adult the children will still have their 'star challenges to complete' we have moved from 4 challenges to 6 a week with the aim of the challenges to consolidate learning from the previous week as well as promoting independence. The challenges are differentiated to meet children's needs and abilities. The children are eager to complete their challenges due to myself and Mrs Berry choosing one child a week who has worked hard to take 'Barry Bear' home for the weekend, however all children are rewarded each week once they have completed their challenges.

The children will have daily, discrete, differentiated phonics lessons where they will work in a group supported by an adult. Phonics will support their literacy development, alongside their reading and spelling skills which will also support their ability to write with good sentence structure and spell unfamiliar words using their phonics knowledge. We are currently working on Phase 5 split diagraphs and tricky words however we will shortly be moving onto 'sound families' with a focus of spelling which we will let you know about closer to the time.

We will be looking at both fiction and non-fiction texts based around our "Help Us" topic where we are looking closely at both animals and people who help the world around us as well as delving into the history of how families were helped in the past to spark imagination in their writing. Our first focused book is "A sick day for Amos McGee" where we will be writing letters to somebody who has helped us in our lives. During literacy lessons we will continue to develop your child's comprehension skills through asking key questions, predicting and also linking to our own experiences. Your child will also continue to develop these skills and transfer their phonics skills through 1:1 reading with an adult at least once a week where we will also change books. KS1 have recently adapted our book scheme, therefore your child will have 2 books each



week to read at home. 1 book on their current level provided for challenge and practice and 1 book on their previous level for your child to practice their fluency and expression as well as to consolidate focus sounds in the story. Our library visits have been a little up in the air recently, however I can confirm they are now on a Thursday Morning. Please ensure your child has their books everyday as we may provide extra reading as an when possible.

Maths

Maths in year 1 will follow the same structure as English to aid transition and allow for differentiation.

During the term we will be concentrating on Addition and Subtraction. Year 1 are confident with their number recognition to 20 however we will be continuing to consolidate their ability to count confidently up to 20 forwards and backwards from any given number, which we will slowly increase too 100. We will also be looking at tens and ones where we will delve into finding ten more at a time. We will also continue to count in 2s, 5s and 10s which is carried out at the beginning of our math lessons as part of our daily counting.

Topic and cross curricular

Our topic will cover lots of Science, Geography, History, Art, DT and PSED.

We aim to make all our learning as interactive and cross-curricular as possible throughout the whole year. As part of our topic "Help us" we started with a parent event which I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for attending. We also hope to have a visit from the dogs trust to find out how we can help animals. I would also like to set up a 5 minute chat at the end of a day for parents to come in and tell the children about their job and how they help people. If this is something anyone is interested in please let the year 1 team know and we can sort out a day best for you!

There will also be a topic day every half term that will focus on one area of the curriculum. Our first topic day was on the first day back (06/01/20) where we looked at the global goals – life under water. We looked closely at how we can protect and preserve our oceans by keeping them clean. Our next topic day will be held the week commencing 24th of February.

Physical Development, Music & Spanish

In PE we are lucky enough to have two specialist PE coaches. Our P.E days are Monday & Wednesday.

In Music we are working closely with Reception to form a musical band performance which you will hopefully be able to attend on Thursday the 13th of February at 9am. We will let you know more about this closer to the time.

We will also continue Spanish discreetly in other lessons.

Personal, Social, Emotional and Citizenship.

Our PSE development will discreetly run through all areas of the curriculum through developing confidence, independence, friendships and respect for ourselves and our world around us. In addition to this, it is normal



for questions to be asked or issues to arise, therefore I have planned a circle time on a Friday afternoon to discuss any issues or topics that have arisen through the week as a whole class.

To support PSE further I have added a talking tree to our classroom where the children will be asked a question, that they can answer and share with their peers. Questions may include "What is a friend?" "What do you like about yourself?" "Why do we say thank you?" I have also arranged for an area in the classroom to be focused solely on PSHE & R.E with lots of stories, workbooks and questions for the children to access during their free time.

Maths and Spellings

The children will continue to have spellings in their orange books each week. The spellings provided are discreetly tested by an adult during phonics sessions each week but please note it is not a formal test. We have set the spellings due to the words being used as a focus that week or being within the focus story of year 1.

Each week I provide a math homework task for the children to complete in their orange books. The challenge is always based around something we have been working on and is provided to allow links with yourself at home and show how we are teaching certain techniques at school but to also consolidate the knowledge your child is being provided during their daily math lessons.

Extra Information:

- The year 1 email address is year1@harden.bradford.sch.uk
- Our celebration assembly will continue to be held on a Friday. If your child is up for an award you will receive a text inviting yourself along to the celebration.
- We have kindly asked in an email recently for any spare junk modelling boxes/tubes or other materials for our upcoming art sessions.

We thank you in advance for the continuous and ongoing support. Should you wish to discuss anything further with myself or a member of the Year 1 team please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you!

Miss Roe and Mrs Berry