



We will practise oral and mental skills daily including counting, recall of number facts and calculating. We will be working with numbers up to 100 with a focus on quick recall of key addition facts e.g. pairs of numbers that add up to 10 and 20. There will be a range of problem solving activities using addition, subtraction, sharing and grouping and practical work using measures e.g. telling the time, measuring length, weight and capacity. We will be using coins to buy items and find change.

Welcome back!  
Happy New Year.  
We hope you all had a lovely break.

Our main topics this term are 'The Local Area' and 'Animals, including Humans.'



In English this half term we will be focusing on Story writing. A focus of this term is on writing sentences independently using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. There will be lots of opportunities to read weekly to practise the skills of decoding and learning the key words. Phonics lessons will focus on learning the alternative spelling patterns for sounds and recognising these within own writing and reading



Our Geography topic will be 'Our Local Area'. The class will explore their local area using first hand observation to enhance their locational awareness, along with developing essential map and fieldwork skills.

In RE the children will look at the theme of belonging. They will explore different clubs and groups to which they belong. They will then investigate the importance of belonging to different religious groups. In the second part of the term the theme will be 'What is important?' looking at what is important to them and moving into a focus on Christianity, including stories told by Jesus and why Easter is important to Christians.



In Art this half term we will be exploring the work of LS Lowry - having the opportunity to explore the life and work of Lowry and to learn about the industrial landscape that compares works of art, colour mixing, perspective, drawing figures, drawing buildings and scissor skills.

**Each half-term the children will participate in dance, gymnastics and games.**



In Science the children will learn about 'Animals including Humans'. In this unit children learn about human and animal bodies and consider similarities and differences between them. Children will engage in a variety of activities including drawing and labelling the body, using their senses to conduct an investigation, describing animal bodies and sorting animals into groups.

Year 1 teacher surgery days are Tuesday or Wednesday.



## Reminders

- ✓ **Please ensure all items of clothing and equipment are clearly named.**
- ✓ Ensure that your child has correct **school uniform** including dark plimsolls and plain socks. Refer to the School Newsletter to remind you about rules regarding school uniform. Many items are available at the office. Please also name all items of clothing and equipment. Nail varnish and tattoos should not be worn at school and reminders will be given to remove them if the case arises. Girls should wear suitable hair bands in school colours and they will be asked to remove large/ inappropriate bows and hair bands
- ✓ **PE** will be on a Wednesday and Thursday, your child will need navy shorts and a jade T-shirt for indoor PE and suitable warmer clothing for outdoor PE e.g. plain navy jogging trousers and sweatshirt. They will also need suitable trainers for outdoor PE. If children have shoes with laces they need to be able to tie them independently. Please provide hairbands to tie back long hair. Should your child have pierced ears, tape must be provided to cover the earrings during PE times in accordance with Health and Safety rules. A spare pair of socks in the PE bags is very useful!
- ✓ If you need to talk to us for any reason, email - [Amanda.reed@PanshangerhHerts.sch.uk](mailto:Amanda.reed@PanshangerhHerts.sch.uk) or through Tapestry. Alternatively call the office and we will call back ASAP.
- ✓ **Book Bags** should be in school every day as there are daily opportunities to read alone, with a friend, with teaching assistant or class teacher. Please check book bags daily for letters / notes and remove them to keep the contents to a minimum.
- ✓ Frequent **reading** practice will help your child to become a fluent reader. This will give them practise at decoding new words using their phonic knowledge and opportunities to learn the key words by sight. Endeavour to spend 10 - 15 minutes each day reading with / to your child and practising key words. Again you can contact us through email or through Tapestry and let us know how you are getting on.
- ✓ Please provide you child with a **water bottle** for use in the classroom. It should not contain juice or squash as a 'Healthy School' we want to promote water as the best drink throughout the day. Please ensure that packed lunches do not contain any items with nuts. If you send a snack for your child, please choose a healthy one (not chocolate) - fruit or vegetable snacks are provided in school each day.

### Useful Websites to support learning

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)

[www.topmarks.co.uk/](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/) Search for subject and year group.

[www.teachyourmonstertoread.com](http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com)

[www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/](http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/) Lots of different topics if children want to research one of our topics.

[www.dkfindout.com/uk/](http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/) Again this covers lots of topics and has a parent's section.

[www.play.trockstars.com/](http://www.play.trockstars.com/) See the attached password.

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize)

[www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework)

