

Computing - This unit introduces early programming concepts. The children will explore using individual commands, both with other learners and as part of a computer program.

PSHE - Our theme this term is Dreams and Goals which will be taught through a range of discussions and activities.

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

Our main topics this term are 'Our Country' and 'Materials'.

Science

In Science children will learn about 'Everyday Materials'. They will have the opportunity to explore the properties of different materials and carry out simple investigations. We will be focussing on the season Autumn and the changes we see.

English - We will be focusing on story writing including writing sentences independently using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. There will be lots of opportunities for reading in order to practise decoding and recognising a wider range of words by sight. Phonics lessons will focus on learning the alternative spelling patterns for sounds.



Year 1 **phonics** screening takes place in the summer term.

There are some excellent games and activities on www.phonicsplay.co.uk.

PE

In PE the children will continue to have sessions lead by Stevenage FC. We will be focussing on 'ball skills' and dance.



Maths - Daily lessons will include one main session and 3 short fluency sessions. The main maths topics will be:

- **Addition and Subtraction (within 20)** - This will include: using addition/subtraction symbols; number bonds; subtraction crossing 10; counting forwards and backwards; finding the difference; comparing addition and subtraction statements.
- **Place value (within 20)** - This will include counting forwards, backwards and writing the numbers to 50 (in numerals and words); tens and ones; one more and one less; comparing and ordering groups of objects and numbers to 50.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-workbooks/>

Humanities (History, Geography & RE)

Our Humanities topic is 'Our Country'. The children will be exploring the difference between the countryside and towns. They will also be looking at the United Kingdom and its 4 countries and comparing cities in different continents.



In RE, the children will look at the theme of belonging. They will investigate the importance of belonging to different religious groups.

Music: Music lessons will continue with Mr Mitchell. The children will explore the difference between rhythm and pulse through improvised movement exercises, singing games and instrumental playing.

Art: We will be exploring different materials. We will be developing our artistic skill using colour, pattern, line, texture, shape and space.



Homework activities:

Frequent **reading** practice will support your child to become a fluent reader. This will help them to decode new words using their phonic knowledge and to learn key words by sight. Please endeavour to spend 10 - 15 minutes each day reading with / to your child and practising key words.

Spelling: We will be sending home spellings each week. The spellings will be a combination of words with the same spelling pattern linked to phonics, as well as common exception and high frequency words. Spellings will be tested and new words handed out on Tuesdays.

Useful Websites to support learning

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home>

www.ictgames.com

<https://www.teachyourmonster.org/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> / Search for subject and year group.

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/> Again this covers lots of topics and has a parent's section.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize

REMINDERS:

Please provide your child with a **named 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.

- **PE will be on a Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning.** Your child will need navy shorts and a t-shirt in their house colour, but as most lessons will be taking place outside, please also ensure they have suitable warmer clothing i.e. 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 their PE bags is also very useful. 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 Website to remind you about rules regarding school uniform. Nail varnish and tattoos should not be worn at school and reminders will be given to remove them if the need arises.
- Please don't hesitate to email / contact if you have any queries or concerns: Naomi.turner@panshanger.herts.sch.uk