



## **EYFS & KS1 Curriculum letter: Mrs Squance**

### **Welcome back to the Spring Term 2022**

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you were all able to enjoy the Christmas period. All the children have had a fantastic first term of school and should all be really proud of themselves and all the learning they have already done. I am looking forward to the rest of the year as I know all the children will continue to make great progress this year. Please do continue to catch me in the mornings and after school if you ever have any concerns or questions.

Mrs Pearce will continue to join us as Class TA Tuesday-Friday and we will also be joined by Miss Mathews a trainee teacher until the Spring half-term. The children will also continue to work with Mr Miners on Fridays for music and Mr Luxa for PE. We will be continuing our joint learning opportunities with Pre-School during the week with Yoga and Welly Walks.

### **Topic Learning**

Each term we will have two different topics and the first topic is:

3, 2, 1 Blast Off!

We will begin by exploring an alien crashing landing and working out who the mysterious astronaut is that landed on the moon in 1969. We will spend lots of time investigating the history of space travel and recreating the moment when man landed on the moon for the first time!

After half term we will be comparing and contrasting life in South America by exploring local habitats and the Amazon Rainforest. There will be lots of opportunities to investigate the culture, climate, habitats and wildlife of South America!

### **English**

The children will be able to explore many different texts, including poetry and non-fiction books. The children will have lots of opportunities to recreate characters and events from the stories as well as begin to form letters and sounds and narratives of their own. This term we will begin our learning by looking at instruction texts such as recipes and some lovely poetry from 'Zim, Zam, Zoom'. Later on in the term we will be exploring non-fiction texts about the Amazon Rainforest and stories set in woodlands.

Our daily phonics sessions will continue this term and I am so pleased with all the progress the children have been making - and they should be pleased also! If you have any questions regarding our phonics scheme or reading programme please do ask. It has also been great to see that some of the children have been able to access the reading books online via Phonics Bug.

We ask that your child reads the book at least three times; once for decoding the new and learnt sounds, once for understanding (whereby the adult can read but the child discusses the pictures, characters, and events) and once as a confident reader.

We continue to have a different 'book of the week'. Each week a different child will be selected to bring and share their favourite book with the class. A note will be sent home with them the Friday before as a reminder.

### **Mathematics**

We begin this term exploring number bonds to 5 and numbers to 10 (Reception) and place to 50 (Year 1), we will then move onto investigating shape. The children have already learnt and mastered a range of mathematical vocabulary - well done!

Children will continue to have plenty of opportunities to explore number through handling concrete resources during provision as well as more formal learning experiences. For more information, please refer to the maths skills progression document which can be found on the website under the Curriculum section.

### **Science**

We will be asking ourselves: What does it take to become an astronaut? Through this question we will be exploring the human body and what we need to maintain a healthy lifestyle and balanced diet. This will link closely to our DT as we evaluate, design and make our own dips and dippers fit for an astronaut! Later on in the term we will be immersing ourselves in the habitats and animals of South America! We look forward to the many small world and role-play opportunities that this will bring!

### **Physical Education**

The children will be developing their skills in and outside the classroom. We continue to develop our fine motor skills with a range of activities each day. This really makes a difference to the children and their writing. The Reception children will continue to join in with yoga at the pre-school. PE sessions will be Mondays and Fridays, with Mr Luxa from the Link Academy PE team taking the Friday sessions. Children need to come to school in their PE kit on those days. This term we will be developing our movement through dance and throwing and catching skills.

### **PSHE & RE**

Our PSHE programme, 'Jigsaw' continues, this first half-term we will be focusing on our 'hopes and dreams'. The children have embraced Jigsaw and have learnt several calming techniques to help them learn and focus. The children have learnt to join in with discussions nicely and to take turns and listen to each other. We will continue to develop these skills as the year progresses.

After half term will be learning about significant stories in faith, including Easter celebrations. We hope to have an Easter service this term - COVID guidelines permitting.

### **Music**

Mr. Miners will be introducing children to the five elements of music. The children will have lots of opportunities to learn various songs, rhymes and rhythms. This term the children will explore musical patterns through a range of recorded music and pitch with simple notations.

### **Welly Walks**

We are very excited to be returning to the Scout Field once again this term! On Tuesday mornings all Year 1s and Reception will be going on Welly Walks. Please remember to wear old clothes and appropriate footwear. Please also remember as the weather gets colder/wetter to send your children in with waterproof clothing, warm layers, and overalls.

### **Tapestry**

Not only will Reception children continue to have their Tapestry profile but so will all Year 1 children. Please do continue to update your child's Tapestry profile as we will continue to do so at school. It is a great way to be involved in your child's learning journey!

### **Film Consent**

To enhance the children's learning, we occasionally find it useful to show clips on DVD. All material used is carefully viewed by staff first and checked for suitability. DVDs are not always rated U. We ask that if you have any queries, or do not wish your child to see these materials, that you let us know. If we hear nothing, we will assume that this is acceptable.