



The Abbey Primary School

Winchester Road, Delapre, Northampton, NN4 8AZ
Tel: 01604 660100 Website: www.abbeyprimary.co.uk

19th April 2017

Key Stage 1 Topic Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you have enjoyed creating lots of memories with your children during the half term, and the children are refreshed and ready to learn for the new term. The following units that your children will be studying are:

Year 1 Topic – Growing Galore!

We will be using the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' as a stimulus for our topic work this term. The children will be using atlases and Google maps to locate seas and oceans, and continents of the World, along with developing an understanding of the importance of water. As scientists, we will be studying a variety of plants; identifying characteristics, making predictions and investigating to see if our predictions were correct.

Year 2 Topic – What makes us like animals?

The Year 2 children will have the opportunity to develop their scientific enquiry skills this term; gaining an understanding of both human, and animal, lifecycles. We will be identifying different animals and learning about their habitats; as well as investigating what plants and animals need in order to stay alive.

Please look at the school website www.abbeyprimary.co.uk for more curriculum information about your child's year group.

Blogs

Our Year Group blogs which can be found on the school website and will give you the opportunity to stay up to date with all the exciting things your children get up to.

Year 2 SATs Assessments

During May, the children in Year 2 will undertake Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). These are administered in small groups; the emphasis not being on a test, but on the children trying their best. At home during this time, that the children have lots of free time to rest and play, and that they have breakfast before they come to school. We thank you for your support at this time.

Headteacher: Mrs Renuka Popat B.Ed Hons., NPQH

Showcase of Learning 2.30 - 2.50pm

Thank you to all of the parents who came to share their child's learning during our March showcase. We feel that it is valuable for the children to share their learning with you, within the classroom/school environment. Make a note of the dates below in your diary; it would be lovely to see you!

Year 1 – Wednesday 17th May 2017

Year 2 – Tuesday 16th May 2017

Reading

We encourage all parents/carers and grandparents to read daily with their children at home to further develop their child's reading skills. **Please can we remind you to date, sign and make a positive comment regarding your child's reading in their Reading Record.**

Teach Your Monster to Read: This is an amazing interactive resource with which your child will use and develop their phonetic knowledge. To access this resource, type the following link into your toolbar: <http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/>
Children can find writing a real challenge; they need encouragement, support and praise for their efforts. In order for them to become a successful writer they need to be able to spell accurately. At The Abbey Primary School your child will learn the rules and conventions of the system and the spelling strategies needed to become a confident speller. In Year 1 and Year 2 the children have daily sessions of 'Letters and Sounds', where they learn phonics, spelling patterns and high frequency words. The activities will help the children to read, write and spell the words they are learning. The children also have daily spelling sessions; learning the strategies and conventions which can then be applied in their writing.

Bug Club: This is an amazing online resource which allows the children to access a wide range of ebooks at home. The children will be given their login details during the first week of term. To access this resource, type the following link into your toolbar:
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk>

Homework

Homework is an extension of your child's schoolwork, and we have high expectations for presentation and the level of work. Homework will be set weekly. Please spend the time to share your child's homework experience; talking to them about what they are learning about, and allowing them to explain and reason. The expectations for KS1 children are below:

English, Maths or Topic

Set: Wednesday

Due in: Following Monday

Mathletics - Please spend the time to help your child to log in, and complete their task. At the end of every week, the percentages of children who have completed their Mathletics tasks, are collected, and the class with the highest percentage, wins the Maths cup.

Reading every night - sharing books you have at home, alongside their school reading book, will enable your child to extend their bank of vocabulary, which will then be applied in their writing.

ICT Passwords

The children have log-in cards to enable them to access Mathletics, Purple Mash and Espresso at home. If your child has mislaid their log-in card, then please ask your child's class teacher. These are excellent, age appropriate, free learning resources and we encourage you and your children to take full advantage of these.

PE Kit

Classes have PE twice week for an hour. The sessions may be indoors or outdoors depending on the weather. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school every day; this should include a jumper, jogging bottoms (no bright colours) and trainers/plimsolls in case the lesson takes place outdoors. All jewellery should be removed prior to coming to school (this includes earrings, bracelets and necklaces); and long hair should be tied back.

Important Dates

Wednesday 19th April 2017 - Class Photos

Monday 24th April 2017 - School led clubs start

Monday 1st May 2017 - School closed (Bank Holiday)

Monday 4th May 2017 - School closed (Polling Day)

Tuesday 16th May 2017 - Year 2 Showcase of Learning (in the hall) 2.30 – 2.50pm

Wednesday 17th May 2017 - Year 1 Showcase of Learning (in the hall) 2.30 – 2.50pm

Thursday 18th May 2017 - The Greeks (Miss Lambert's) Class Assembly 9.05am

Thursday 18th May 2017 - Abbey's Got Talent

Friday 26th May 2017 - School breaks up for Half Term 3.00pm

If you have any questions regarding our topic work or homework, please speak to your child's Class teacher at the end of the school day. We are more than happy to help.

Yours sincerely

Miss Neil
Key Stage 1 Coordinator