



YEAR 1 TOPIC NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2023

Once Upon a Time... (7 weeks)

During this topic, the children will be immersed in a wide range of traditional stories and fairy tales. The main focus will be on the stories of The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children will then learn how to read, sequence and write instructions in order to bake their own gingerbread men. At the end of the topic, the children will share their stories with the other children. As part of this wonderful topic, on Tuesday 3rd October, we invite your children to come into school dressed as their favourite fairy tale character and be immersed in the story of Jack and the Beanstalk with our special storyteller. In the afternoons, we will be continuing our learning through Discover and Explore, like the children are used to from EYFS. In science, we will be looking at different materials and describing their properties. In art, we will be mixing primary colours to make secondary colours and selecting materials to build our own castles.



Home Learning Activity

There are many activities that you could do to support our topic at home. We do understand that life at home is very busy but it is really good for the children to see that learning extends beyond the classroom. Below are a few ideas that could inspire you:

- You could visit your local library, borrow fairy tale stories and then share them with your child and enjoy the stories. You could take pictures of your child enjoying the stories and encourage them to write a sentence about which stories they liked and why.
- You could encourage your child to make up two of their own fairy tale characters, one 'good' and one 'bad', drawing and writing about each character.
- Maybe you could create a picture of a fairy tale castle or recreate a home for your favourite fairy tale character with your child choosing any material to use, e.g. pencil, paint or chalk, or even use Lego, play dough, or cardboard.

We look forward to seeing your fantastic home learning. Each child will be able to share their home learning with the class and receive a certificate too.

Please can you send in your child's home learning at the latest by **Friday 13th October 2023**.

PE – Gymnastics and Fundamental Skills

This term, in PE, we will be improving our gymnastic skills. In outdoor PE, we follow a scheme called 'Get Set PE' which focuses on the development of agility, coordination and cooperative learning.

Penguins: Indoor PE – Monday Outdoor PE – Tuesday

Dolphins: Indoor PE – Thursday Outdoor PE – Wednesday

Turtles: Indoor PE – Wednesday Outdoor PE – Tuesday



Please ensure that a full kit is provided, including shorts for indoor PE and long tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE. Any earrings must be removed on PE days (tape is no longer allowed). Please ensure all PE kit is named. Your child's PE bag will be sent home at the end of each half term to be washed.

PSHE and Religion and Worldviews

PSHE will be delivered using many resources from a programme known as JIGSAW. The sessions use friendly characters to help them learn more about personal, social, emotional and cultural themes. This term, our PSHE work will focus on 'Being in My World'. The children will think about and discuss their aspirations for the new school year and will be supported to develop new friendships in their classes, learning about themselves and each other. These sessions will be taught in whole class sessions, circle times and assemblies. We will continue linking the lessons to our school values of trust, excellence, aspirations, collaboration and honesty, alongside the rights and responsibilities of the child. RE has changed to being called Religion and Worldviews and we will be looking at the Christian creation story and how this might impact what most Christians might feel about the looking after the world around them.

Focus Author

This half term, we will focus on authors who have written fairy tale stories to help with our literacy.

Calendar Dates

Thursday 7th September – Year 1 Welcome to Base information evening for parents

Tuesday 26th September – Sound Storm music event

Tuesday 3rd October – Jack and the Beanstalk Drama day (Dress up)

Wednesday 4th October – Year 1 Disco 4:15 – 5:15pm

Thursday 5th October – Fraser Photography (individual and in school sibling)

Friday 6th October – Fraser Photography (Ad Astra and Haymoor sibling photos)

Tuesday 17th October – Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 18th October – Parent Consultation Evening

Friday 20th October - Julia Donaldson sponsored read day/ break up for Half Term

If you have any questions about our learning please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr Watt, Mrs Adams, Mrs Blake-Mckeown and Mr Booker