

Year 1 Newsletter : Spring 1 2022

We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready to return to school to start some new exciting learning! We would like to thank parents and carers for all of your support in Autumn 2. The topic 'What do we know about the Great Fire of London?' was fun and interesting for the children and we hope they shared all of the facts they learnt with you such as; where the fire started and how it was put out. The topic for this term is 'Would You Be An Astronaut?' and will provide lots of exciting opportunities for children to develop their knowledge of astronauts, rockets and space suits. If you have any concerns with regards to your child's learning, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the school office to speak to a member of Year 1 staff.

Many thanks,

Miss Stone, Ms Kumari and Miss Teague

Thematic Learning

Our thematic topic is 'Would you be an astronaut?' which focuses on developing Geography, DT, History and Art skills.

To begin the topic we will be building on children's knowledge of the continents as we plot where space agencies are in the world using a map. We will also be looking at the geographical features of different planets in the solar system, deciding whether it would be good to explore them.

In History we will be learning about the Apollo 11 mission that led to Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landing on the moon. We will also be comparing this to modern day astronauts such as Tim Peake.

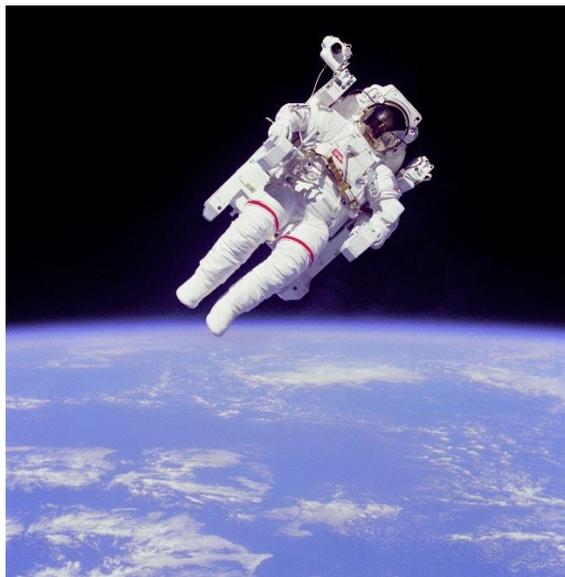
In DT we will be learning about space rockets and their features. This will lead to children evaluating pneumatic pump rockets and designing and creating their own space rockets which will then be launched into the air!

There will also be opportunities for children to develop their art skills, as they will be studying the former astronaut Alan Bean's artwork. They will use this to create their own image of the Earth using chalk.

Dates for your diary:

7th February- Mental Health Week

8th February- Safer Internet Day

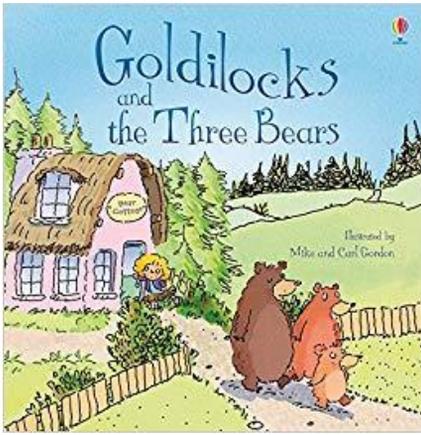


P.E

Please remember that there is a requirement that your child wears a white t-shirt, dark bottoms and appropriate footwear for P.E.

P.E kits should be brought in on Monday and taken home on Friday to be washed.

Tracksuits can be worn now that the weather is colder and some PE lessons will be outdoors.



Literacy and Phonics

In Literacy we will be continuing to develop phonics skills so that children can apply them when reading and writing. Our text focus for this term is 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. This story gives children lots of opportunities to generate adjectives to describe characters and use their own ideas to create and publish a retell of the story. We will also be learning how to write more than one sentence about an idea whilst still applying full stops, capital letters and finger spaces in sentences.

Numeracy

In Numeracy we will begin the term by recapping the addition and subtraction methods from the autumn term. Children will then be taught how to add and subtract larger numbers using methods such as partitioning and counting up to find the difference. We will also be recapping multiplication and division using jottings to solve increasingly difficult practical and word problems. Measure will be another focus this term, as children will be comparing lengths and heights and measuring weight and capacity. At the end of the term we will be recapping 2D and 3D shapes, recognising these common shapes but in different orientations and sizes.

Attendance and Punctuality

The continued message from last year is of course that 'Every Day Matters' - Every day that your child misses is a day of learning lost. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends school every day and is in school ready to start their learning by 8.50am.

Homework- Reminder

In Year 1, children are expected to develop some independent work skills. This includes reading (approx 10 minutes per night). We are trying to encourage a love of reading at County Bridge and would love you to share some of your favourite books, stories, poems etc. with your child. Reading books will also be sent home from school which **MUST** be brought to school every day to be used in one to one reading sessions with a member of staff.

Your child will also have a Reading Journal - We encourage you to write in this book once a week when you hear your child read. We would really love to create a dialogue between parents and school.

Maths homework will continue to be set on Purple Mash on a Friday and the deadline for completion will be Wednesday - this way children will be able to speak to their teachers on Monday or Tuesday if there is anything that they don't understand.

Spellings will also be set weekly on Purple Mash on a Friday. Children will then do their spelling test on the following Friday. Your child is expected to learn their spellings by carrying out Look, Cover, Write & Check and then use the spellings in context by writing different sentences.

Your child will also receive a Thematic Homework Challenge this week. This has been designed to encourage collaborative work between children and their parents. It can be handed in at any point during the half term and should reflect children's learning in school.