



# Class 1 Newsletter

## Term 4

Be the BEST You Can Be

*Whatever you do, do with all your heart. Colossians 3:23*

### WELCOME!

I hope you all had a lovely half term holiday and were able to refresh and have some fun. We have another full and busy term to look forward to. This newsletter, plus other information about the term, can also be found on the Class 1 page of the school website.

### What we are learning

Our topic this term is called *What's Under Our Feet* and it's a local area study primarily looking at how Radstock used to be a thriving mining community and how it – and its people – have changed since then. We will have a taste of what life would have been like as a Victorian child at school and we will be finding out more about how life was very different for children. To consolidate our learning, we usually visit Radstock museum and see what life in a Victorian school and also for a miner would have been like. This educational visit will take place on the morning of

We are reading *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* in Literacy and using *Talk for Writing* strategies to develop our extended writing. The children in the class are becoming much more independent writers and it's great to see their development. We will also use the book as a springboard to write instructional texts as our non-fiction genre.

In Maths we will begin with and complete Addition and Subtraction within 20 before moving onto Place Value within 50. The KIRF this term is *I know doubles and halves of numbers to 10*.

In Science we have a focus on plants. We will be planting seeds and observing how they grow. Also, we'll be learning about the different types of trees, plants and flowers that grow in our local environment.

In RE we will be finding out about how important Easter is for Christians and how it signifies a time of Salvation.

Our topic in PSHE is Healthy Me and we will be trying to understand the difference between being healthy and unhealthy, and know some ways to keep myself healthy in body and mind.

In Art our main focus is on drawing. We will use the work of LS Lowry to focus our learning which will tie nicely into our topic as Lowry was famous for painting scenes of life in industrial districts. Our final pieces will depict the Radstock wheel.

In ICT we are working on Animating Stories and the lessons will provide an opportunity for the children to develop the skills to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content through the creation of their own animated story book.

## Reading and Homework

We will still continue to change and send books home for the children to read but we will now (whenever possible) be doing this every Wednesday. We hear them read during guided reading sessions from these books. Our three guided reading are based around 1. Vocabulary; 2. Prosody (expression) 3. Comprehension

Homework in Year 1 is still reading daily. Please, where possible, write a comment or simply sign the children's reading folder so we know that the book has been read.

As you already know, our school – along with our academy trust - have chosen 45 words that we believe all Year 1 children should be able to read and spell correctly by the end of Class 1. The list is made up of a mix of high frequency and tricky words that they have learnt across Reception and Year 1 and also fits with words identified in the Little Wandle phonics scheme. Many of the words cannot be decoded using phonetic knowledge. You will have seen that we have been sending these words home occasionally as part of their homework and this will continue through this term. We will be focusing on 6 words each week in class and then checking how well the children are doing at the end of the week. Thank you for your continued support with this at home.

## Forest School:

We are lucky to have Adam and Mash leading Forest School sessions this term on Tuesday afternoons.

Children will need suitable warm, waterproof clothing that they can wear to school every Tuesday.



## Useful Information

PE – This term our PE sessions will continue to be **Friday**.

## Maths – KiRFs

Our *Key Instant Recall Facts* for this term is...

***I know doubles and halves of numbers to 10***

If you have any opportunities to practise this at home, that would be really useful.

**Use practical resources** – You could use many household objects to find doubles and halves of numbers. Try sharing between 2 members of your family to practice halving.

## ...and finally

we are going on an educational visit to Radstock museum on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March. If anyone can help with the trip – we will be walking down (and back up!) – please let me know.

As always, please grab us at the gate if you need to ask or talk to us about something or send me a message through Dojo. If you want to let me know about someone else collecting your child at the end of the day, I may not always pick it up on Dojo so it may be better to phone the office instead.

**Thank you**