

Dear Parents and Carers

Our topic

Our topic this term is 'Heroes'. We will be thinking about people who help us (police, firefighters, nurses etc), the children's personal heroes, fictional heroes and heroes from the past. We will also learn about some events from beyond living memory such as the Great Fire of London and look at seasonal changes, weather patterns and the countries of the United Kingdom in our ongoing geography work.

English

Our topic will provide lots of opportunities for writing. We will continue to work on writing clear sentences, linking with connectives (such as and, but, so, because), using capital letters and full stops correctly and using adjectives. Our phonics work will include consolidation of the phonemes we have already learnt, looking at alternative spellings and pronunciations of sounds and reading and spelling tricky words.

Maths

In Maths we will continue to work regularly on our Passport targets to secure basic facts and skills. To achieve each target, the children have to say or write their answers in 30 seconds so it's really helpful to practise each target regularly at home.

We will also continue to work on addition and subtraction. Money will be an important topic which will include coin recognition, paying for items and giving change. Problem solving will continue to be an important part of our maths, when children are encouraged to apply their knowledge and skills and to persevere when they are stuck.

Trips and visitors

We are hoping to arrange for visits from people who help us, such as firefighters, our community police officer PC Wilkinson and others. If you know of anyone who might be willing to help, please speak to one of the Year 1 staff.

Clothes or equipment

Please make sure your child has PE kit in school. As always, please make sure that everything is labelled and placed in a named bag. We prefer kit to stay at school for the full half term. It can be washed in the half term holiday!

It is very helpful if you can provide a named water bottle for your child. These are refilled every morning and can go home at the weekend for washing.

How you can help

Regular reading with your child is vital in Year 1. This should be a short session of about ten minutes at least three times per week to enable your child to practise their phonic skills and to recognise tricky words by sight. Please date and sign your child's reading record so that we know they have read their home reading books. These will continue to be changed on Wednesdays along with library books.

You will receive a separate homework leaflet with details about our big homework project this half term and ideas for other activities you can do together at home. Please remember that the most important homework you can do is reading together regularly, practising phonics and spellings and helping children to learn facts for their Maths Passport targets.

We are always interested in how children are getting on with their learning at home and want to work with you to keep your child safe, happy and learning well. Feel free to arrange to see us by catching us at the start or the end of the day or by asking at the office to make an appointment.

Thank you

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Hopkins

Staff working in class this half term	PE Days	Reading book day	Spelling day	Library book day
Sue Bennett Susie Hopkins Sue Strange Robert Shaw	Tuesdays and Wednesdays	Wednesday	Phonics – every day	Wednesday