

Class One Newsletter

Spring Term 2018



Happy New Year and welcome back! A very warm welcome to Faith and her family - we are delighted that you have joined us here at Fountains Earth! I hope you all had a fabulous Christmas and a wonderful New Year celebration. Mrs Issitt and I would like to say a very big and heartfelt thank you for all your kind and generous words, cards and gifts at the end of last term. They were all greatly appreciated!

We only have a short half term ahead - and so much to cram in! Our big idea this term is 'Up'. Based on the film of the same name, we will be 'visiting' different places by balloon. We will begin by looking at maps of the world and learning the names of the oceans and continents as well as the compass points. Then we will 'travel' to Egypt and learn a little about life in Ancient times. On Tuesday 30th January we will be visiting Leeds City Museum for an exciting Egyptian workshop day. A letter will come home soon with further details.

In our Science work on Everyday Materials we will be testing and then choosing the best materials to create our very own model flying machines! In RE we will be finding out what makes good leaders and founders, with a focus on leaders in the locality and Jesus as a leader. In PE this term we will continue to go swimming every Friday afternoon and will be walking to the village hall for gym on Thursday mornings. However, please keep your child's indoor kit at school all week as we often have changes to timetable or additional lessons! Thank you. Our Year 1 and 2 children have a further opportunity to participate in Infant Agility this half term. Again, a letter will soon follow.

In addition to daily phonics or spellings, this term the whole class has daily handwriting sessions for 10-15 minutes. It would be great if you could support handwriting at home by helping your child practise writing from the baseline. I have attached a letter formation sheet for your information. In English we will be reading more classics such as 'Peace At Last' by Jill Murphy, and learning how to follow and write instructions, beginning with sandwich making. All our Reception and Year 1 children will continue to have daily phonics sessions and their 'to and fro' phonics packs are regularly updated with new sound and word cards. Please do spend a few minutes each evening practising blending these sound cards with your child and making simple words. The more short bursts of low-key practise using these cards the better. Year 1 children are also learning letter names, so please sing alphabet songs to your heart's content!

Mrs Issitt will be teaching the class on Tuesday afternoons this half term whilst Miss A has her non-contact time.

If you would like to catch up with what we have been doing in class, please come in with your child on a Friday morning from 8.45 for an informal chat and look around. Certificate assembly follows this at 9.05 am and parents are welcome every week. Unfortunately we are unable to speak with parents after this assembly as it is then the children's learning time.

Homework

Please continue to read with your child regularly and sign their reading record - this pays real dividends! Year 1 and Year 2 spellings will continue to be sent home every Wednesday ready for a quiz the following Monday.

Year 2 Maths homework is handed out every Thursday. In addition to periodic home learning tasks, for this half term we would like the Year 1 and Reception children to continue working with you on their Maths passports. This helps consolidate the work we do in school. Thank you. We do check passports regularly but children will only be 'signed off' when they can complete a task three times.



If you would like any further information, or if you have any queries about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak with either of us.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Aldridge and Mrs Issitt

