

The Giles Nursery and Infants' School



Summer Term 2024 Newsletter

Year One

Big Cats, Red Foxes and Walker Bears

Our topics this term are **'Plants and Growing'** and **'At the Seaside'**. The children will have the opportunity to plant a range of seeds and learn about seaside holidays in the past.



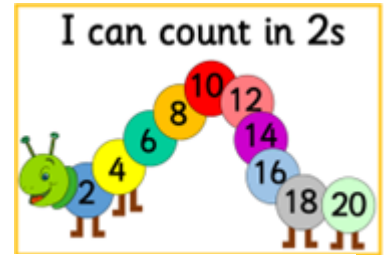
English

In English, the children will be focusing on the text **'The Gruffalo'** by Julia Donaldson and writing their own story in this style. The children will be learning how to write simple instructions through their work on the topic of sunflowers. In their seaside topic, the children will write letters to the RNLI asking questions about their role and write facts about the coast. In poetry, the children will write their own spine poem about a character from **'The Gruffalo'** based on ideas from Pie Corbett.

As part of their phonics work, the children will continue to learn new sounds and blends, including alternative sounds and spellings, and take part in a variety of activities and games. The children will learn about adding **'-ed'** and **'-ing'** to the end of a word and learn how to use apostrophe contractions. They will practice blending and segmenting **'alien'** (pseudo) and real words for reading. The Year 1 Phonics Screening check will take place in the week beginning 10th June 2024. The children will continue to practise correct letter formation and develop greater pencil control in handwriting.

Mathematics

In mathematics, the children will be introduced to place value within 50, measuring length, height, mass and volume, using repeated addition and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s as a basis for multiplication, and begin to look at fractions. They will continue to develop a range of strategies for addition and subtraction. Regular fluency practice through the Fluency Bee scheme will help the children to consolidate their confidence in number. They will tackle reasoning and problem-solving in a variety of contexts.



Science

This term the children will be learning about growing plants. They will spend time in the woodland area and begin to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. The children will identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of trees and common flowering plants. The children will have the opportunity to plant their own sunflower seed and observe the growth of a sunflower.



Computing

The children will begin the term learning about coding. After half term, they will learn how to use tools to create a digital storybook. This will include creating a picture, adding a simple sentence and making a digital recording. The children will continue to develop their understanding of staying safe online.



Humanities

In RE, the children will be looking at and exploring special books, both personal and religious.



In history, the children will look at what seaside holidays were like in the past. They will make comparisons with holidays of the present time and explore the use of timelines.

In geography, the children will investigate geographical features of the coast and identify differences between coastal towns and Stevenage.

Art and Design and Technology

In art, the children will be learning about the artist Vincent Van Gogh, looking carefully at his sunflower paintings. The children will make observational paintings of flowers, inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. In design and technology, they will plan and make their own delicious snack, inspired by the story of The Gruffalo.

After half term, the children will take part in a range of seaside art activities, including painting seascape pictures and using felt to make a sea creature.

Music

In music, the children will explore the elements of pulse, rhythm and pitch, using percussion instruments. They will be listening to a range of genres of music and learning about them. They will be composing their own lyrics to a song.



Physical Education

On Wednesday mornings, the children will continue to have P.E sessions with Mr. Pullin. With the finer weather, where possible, Mr. Pullin will take the children outside for PE. The children will be practising striking and fielding skills, net and wall games and further developing their agility with athletics.



Please make sure your child wears PE kit to school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

**Forest School Days:
Walker Bears– Monday
Red Foxes – Thursday
Big Cats – Friday**

PSHCE

Our Jigsaw topics this term are ‘Relationships’ and ‘Changing Me’. During the relationships topic, the children will be learning about families and making friends. They will be recognising their own special qualities and learning how to give themselves praise.

Towards the end of the summer term, we will be completing the ‘Changing Me’ topic. In this topic, the children will be learning about changes and explain how their body has changed since they were a baby. They will be identifying male and female body parts and learning the correct vocabulary.

More information on the statutory requirements for PSHCE and what we are required to teach is available on the school website in our ‘PSHE and Citizenship’ policy, along with our ‘Relationships Education’ policy.

Reading

Children take part in individual reading on a regular basis in Year One, as well as taking part in shared whole-class and guided reading sessions.

Please continue to enjoy sharing books together with your child at home in these early stages of their reading development. Please continue to fill in the red reading record and feel free to comment on your child’s reading at home.



Reminders



Please ensure your child brings in their book bag each day.

Please make sure all items of clothing, trainers, book bag, and PE kit are clearly named.

Online learning opportunities - Please look inside the front cover of your child's reading record for their log-in details to access the following online platforms:

Bug Club: an online reading scheme through which the children can enjoy and share books at home.

Purple Mash: our online homework and remote learning platform. There are lots of educational games to play on here.

Numbots: our online mathematics fluency platform.

If you wish to ask any questions please feel welcome to speak to the Year One staff at the end of the day. However, please inform staff of important information at the start of the day or ring the office to let us know of any changes to collection arrangements.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Dalton, Mrs. Collinson and Miss O'Regan Class teachers

Mrs. Furr, Mrs. Long and Mrs. Hayhurst Teaching Assistants

Mrs. Scantlebury, Mrs. Oakley, Mrs. Rabbani Support staff