

# The Giles Nursery and Infants' School

**Autumn Term 2023**

**Newsletter key stage 1**



**Year 1**

**Big Cats, Walker Bears and Red Foxes**

A warm welcome to our Year 1 pupils and parents. For the first couple of weeks this term we have been making sure the pupils are happily settled into the routines of Year 1. Our topics this half term are '**Ourselves and our Senses**' and '**The Natural World**'.

As part of their topic work, the pupils will be investigating their senses and using these to find out about the natural world.

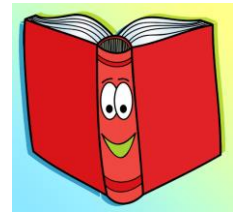


## English

During the first half of the autumn term, the English activities will include: poetry, labelling and writing about the seasons and the natural world. All pupils will be using their senses to inspire their writing, reciting poems about the body and learning how to make a label. In the second half of the autumn term, they will be learning facts about animals, using labels, lists, and captions in their toys topic, and reciting familiar winter poems. All classes will re-tell stories with puppets and have the opportunity to take part in different role-play areas. The pupils will take part in daily phonics sessions. This will include hearing and recognising initial and end sounds of simple CVC and CCVC words through playing a variety of games. They will be learning about short and long vowel sounds as well as practising blending and segmenting words for reading and spelling. The pupils will be learning handwriting patterns, developing pencil control and letter formation.



Each child will read individually with Year 1 staff and begin guided reading sessions with their peers.



We cannot stress enough how important it is for your child to read regularly at home in these early stages of their reading development. Please share your comments about their reading in the red record book.

We also use an online reading scheme called Bug Club. This is another opportunity to enjoy reading a book together or listening to an audio book online. There are short games and activities within each book. You will find your child's login details on the inside of the front cover of the red reading record. If you used Bug Club in reception, please note the new password.

## Mathematics

In mathematics, the pupils will be exploring place value with numbers up to ten. They will begin to use addition and subtraction for calculations within ten and they will explore 2D and 3D shapes.

The children will take part in daily fluency sessions with 'Fluency Bee' and you can support your child to develop their mathematical fluency by logging on to NumBots.



## Science

All classes will learn about the five senses and will take part in a variety of activities to explore each one. They will be learning about the human body and developing scientific vocabulary by drawing and labelling body parts such as head, arms, legs, neck, elbows etc. The pupils will begin to learn about the differences in seasons with the focus this term on autumnal changes. They will plant a range of spring bulbs in the school grounds and use the woodland area to support their learning. After



half-term, the pupils will be learning about animals and grouping them according to different criteria.

## Humanities

In geography, we will be exploring the natural environment and walking around the school grounds to look at natural features.

After half-term, the pupils will begin their history topic on 'Old and New Toys'. They will be learning about the life of Queen Victoria.

In RE the pupils will experience the natural world and they will learn about religious festivals, including Harvest and Hanukkah.

## Computing

The pupils will begin to understand the importance of e-Safety. They will discuss who is a trusted adult and learn how to log in safely to Purple Mash. They will build an avatar and learn how to search and find resources. In the second half of the term, pupils will learn that an algorithm is a precise step by step set of instructions. They will follow and create simple instructions on the computer.



## Creative

Art and craft activities in the first half term will include tissue paper faces, art straw skeletons, natural art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and fruit faces in the style of the artist Arcimboldo. In the second half term, the pupils will be making replicas of old toys and painting animals.



In design and technology, the pupils will be given the opportunity to design and make a fruit kebab.

In music the pupils will explore pulse, rhythm and pitch and play a variety of percussion instruments. They will also be listening to music and exploring composition and improvisation. They will learn the songs 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow' and 'One Potato, Two Potato' during our work on Harvest. As part of the school's singing strategy, the children will learn a range of traditional Christmas carols and be invited to perform them to their families.

## Physical Education

Mr. Pullin and Mr. Fenwick will work with the class teachers to deliver PE lessons. On Tuesdays, the pupils will take part in team building lessons in the first half term and then yoga sessions in the second half. On a Wednesday morning, the pupils will have fitness sessions and in the second half of the term, fundamental skill lessons.



## Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

As a school, we follow the Jigsaw scheme of work. Through group discussions, the pupils will be encouraged to take turns and listen to each other, talk about their feelings and the feelings of others, to share and care about each other and build positive relationships with peers and adults in the school.

Our topics this term will be 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.

## Homework

Homework is set on a fortnightly basis and will be sent home on a Friday. The homework will have a selection of activities for your child to choose from and enjoy as well as some spellings to practise. Please return the homework book on the second Wednesday, ready for marking.

### Reminders

- Please ensure your child brings in their reading book in their book bag each day.
- Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly named.
- PE kit to be worn to school on a Tuesday and Wednesday for Year 1.
- Please make sure your child brings in a labelled water bottle.



Holidays should only be taken during school holidays and **not** during term time. Mrs. Mendel will only authorise a holiday if exceptional circumstances apply.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful and informative for your child's learning this term. If you wish to ask any questions, please feel welcome to speak to the Year 1 staff at the end of the day. Please be sure, however, to inform staff of important information at the start of the day, especially any changes related to the collection of your child.

**Thank you for your support.**

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

**Mrs. Furr, Mrs. Long and Mrs. Fulton Teaching Assistants**

**Mrs. Hayhurst – PPG Champion**

**Mrs. Scantlebury Support Staff**

**Mr. Fenwick – Sports Apprentice**

