



# Owl Class

## Curriculum Letter



13<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to Owl Class! We hope that you all had a restful summer and that you are looking forward to the exciting year ahead. We have been so impressed with how well all the children have resettled into school life and how quickly they have adjusted to the routines of Key Stage 1.

### English

Literacy this half term will link to our topic 'The Great Fire of London'. They will be investigating the life of Samuel Pepys and his diary, detailing the fateful events of the fire. The children will research and act out events, before writing their own diary.

After that, we will begin to look at shape poetry. We will think about adjectives and how to describe fire. We will then write our own shape poems.

The children will continue to revise and extend their knowledge of spellings and sounds.

Year 1 will be revising the phase 2 digraphs h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss, and the phase 3 sounds ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er.

Year 2 will be moving toward the phase 4 and 5 sounds. There will be particular focus on the split digraphs e.g. a\_e as in make.

### Maths

In maths, we are learning to extend our knowledge in the areas of:

Place value and counting on and back with numbers up to 20 for year 1 and up to and beyond 100 for year 2.

Addition and subtraction

Counting in 2's, 5's and 10's

Addition and Subtraction with money

An important aspect of mathematics is to apply this knowledge to problem solving and investigations. This means that a component of mathematics taught must be to reason, question, reflect and discuss strategies in order to answer questions.

### Topic

Topic encompasses geography, history, art and design technology. This term our topic is The Great Fire of London. We will be investigating the tragic story using the Diary of Samuel Pepys. The children will use maps to locate London and spend time comparing Modern day life to Stuart times in 1666. After that, we will build our own Tudor houses and hold a special Great Fire Day.

In the second half term we will turn our focus to Christmas and The Nativity Story. We will look at how Christmas is celebrated in different parts of the world and discuss the origins of our own Christmas traditions. The children will have the opportunity to design and make their own decorations and bake a variety of Christmas treats. We will end the topic by holding our very own Owl Class Christmas Market.

## Science

This term we are looking at our own amazing bodies and how they work. We will begin by identifying the main parts of our body before taking a closer look at our senses. Children will learn about the five senses and how they work together to help us understand the world around us. We will also look at how animals, including humans, grow and change as they get older.

## R.E.

In this half term we will be investigating the big question: Is everybody special? Within this unit we will read and discuss the parables 'The Lost Coin' and 'The Lost Sheep'. Children will think about relationships and how they make us feel about ourselves. We will think about what made Jesus so special. The children will also learn about the importance of giving thanks at Harvest time and will be involved in delivering gifts to the local community.

After half term, the focus will be on the true meaning of Christmas and the Nativity story. It is always a very exciting time!

## Computing

What is an algorithm? This term we are putting on our technology hats and beginning to think about this big question. We will begin by looking at the meaning of this technical term, before looking at how to sequence instructions and make our Beebots and Probots move in a specific direction.

## Art

In Art, our work will reflect our topic, The Great Fire of London. We will look at a range of paintings from the era, exploring the media used and textures created. We will then make our own images using silhouette, marbling inks and pastels.

## PE/Games

PE will be on a **Wednesday** morning. Please make sure that your child brings in a full PE kit for this day.

## Other Information:

Mrs. Stockdale teaches on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Mrs. Downie teaches on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

## Homework

**Reading, spelling and mathematics continue to be the focus of our homework in Owl Class**

Reading books will continue to be changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Please continue to record in your child's yellow book every time you read with them.

New spellings will be given out every **Monday**. We encourage the children to practise their spellings every day using the look, cover, write, say and spell method. We would also like them to practise using the words in a sentence.

We would like to invite you to a curriculum meeting on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September** at 9.10am when you can ask any questions you may have.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a convenient time to meet.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mrs. Stockdale and Mrs. Downie