

# Year 1 Topaz Summer term Newsletter

Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely Easter break and the children are rested and ready to learn! We have an exciting and busy term ahead with lots of different subjects and new topics to look forward to. This newsletter will provide you with a few reminders and an insight into some of the learning happening in our classroom this term.

## Our Class Motto

At Knollmead, we have a big focus on resilience and always trying our best even when we find it hard. We have come up with a class motto of "I can't do it yet but I will keep practising." This reminds children that some things are hard but with practice they will be successful.

## Maths

In maths this half term the children will be learning to multiply and divide using objects and simple fractions such as a half and a quarter. Recalling number bond facts to 20 and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s will be a particular focus this half term and the children are eager to earn their 144 club badges. Any extra practice of these at home will be greatly beneficial to their fluency in maths.

Next half term the children will be learning to tell the time, use money and consolidate all they have learnt this year.

## Literacy and Phonics

We will be working on the book 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne and having a go at retelling and changing the story to create our own version. We will also be writing, reading, performing and writing our own poems about animals. We will continue to practise our spelling rules, including using the suffixes -ing and -ed in our writing. I will continue to send home the list of tricky words we are focusing on each week so you can practise reading and spelling them with your child. The more they practise and exposure they get, the more secure they will become.

**The week of the 10th June Year 1 will be completing the phonics screening check. This is a national statutory screening for all Year 1 children. Any support at home (including reading) will greatly benefit and support your child into the run up of this. A letter with more information will be sent home nearer the time.**

## Science

In science this half term the children will be looking at animals and be able to categorise into the different classes of the animal kingdom. Next half term we will focus on plants and hopefully have a go at planting our own seeds.

## Cornerstones and Art

Our topic this half term is 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' where we will be researching, designing, making and evaluating some animal habitats using recycled materials. We will be looking at the artist Andy Warhol and creating some pop art portraits and images of animals using different patterns and colours.

## **PSHE and RE**

This term in PSHE children will be focusing on relationships and how to be a good friend. In RE we will be looking at Christianity and who Christians believe made the world.

## **PE and Swimming**

Year 1 will have swimming on a Monday afternoon. For this your child will need a swimming costume/trunks, a swimming hat, goggles and a towel. Please ensure this kit is brought to school each Monday so your child can partake.

We have our PE lesson on a Friday. Please make sure that your child has a named PE kit for these days. This includes a coloured t-shirt for their house group, shorts and trousers, trainers or plimsolls. This term we will be practicing our skills ready for sports day.

## **Homework**

Every other week a topic based piece of homework will be set which the children can choose from the topic homework grid. More information for this will be noted on the sheet. In the alternate weeks, Mathematics homework will be set and their logins for these can be found in the back of their diaries. It would be very beneficial to their learning if you could practice these with them at home.

## **Contact books**

The children will continue to bring home contact books each day. These will contain information about their reading books and the reading they have done in school. They will be signed each week in school which would be appreciated if you could do the same.

## **Reading books**

Reading books will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for children to read at home. It is highly recommended that you read with your child frequently throughout the week to support your child's fluency in reading and also help with their phonics. Please indicate when your child has read so we can change the books quickly. Please feel free to let us know how they are getting on at home with their reading and if there are any words or sounds they are finding particularly difficult so we can support further in school.

## **Library**

On a Tuesday children will have an opportunity to choose a book from the library to take home. These need to be returned by each Tuesday in order to check out a new book.

I look forward to an exciting term!

Miss Richards