



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Sparrows Class Newsletter

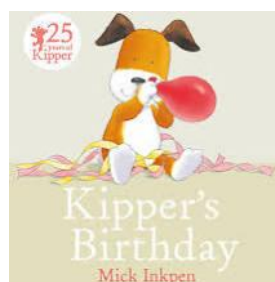
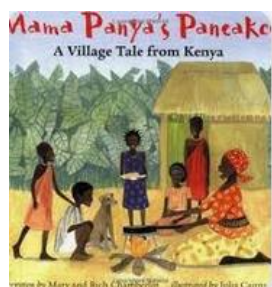
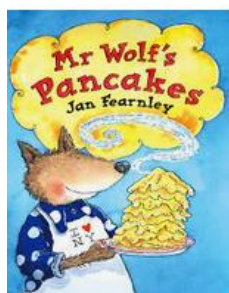
Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed making some lovely festive memories.

Our Big Question for the first half of the term for reception children is: **“How do we celebrate special events and occasions?”** Year 1 will be exploring **“Can toys stand the test of time?”**

Our Big Question for the second half of the term for Reception children will be: **“Where does our food come from and “Does change always make a positive difference?”** for Year 1.

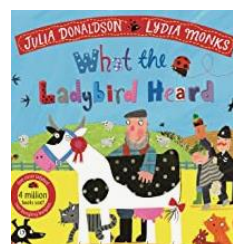
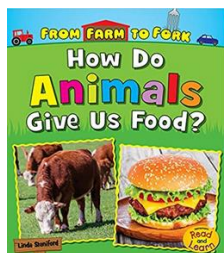
Literacy

Some of the key texts we will look at in the first half of the term related to our theme of “celebrations” will be “Mr Wolf’s pancakes”, “Mama Panya’s Pancakes” and “Kipper’s birthday”



Year 1 will be using these to explore different styles of writing- including letters and invitations. We will also be writing from our own experiences of birthday celebrations.

After half term we will be exploring the theme “from farm to fork” and using the non- fiction book “how do animals give us food?” to help us find out more about where some of our food comes from. We will also be using The Little Red Hen to explore writing instructions for making bread and “What the Ladybird heard” to act out a familiar story.



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Phonics, Spelling and Reading

Reception children will be moving onto Phase 3 sounds this term and will be learning to apply these in their reading. They will also be learning a new set of tricky words- ones that cannot be sounded out and which they need to be able to read on sight. Year 1 will continue to progress throughout phase 5 phonics. They are learning alternative graphemes (ways of writing and reading) familiar phonemes (sounds). The children will also continue to practice automatically reading common exception words. Over the term we aim to increase the children's fluency, expression and comprehension as the children apply their phonics to their reading

Maths

In maths Reception children will be developing their understanding of number and place value. They will focus on subitising numbers to six and the conservation of number by estimating numbers of objects and images and beginning to understand that teen numbers are 10 plus some more. They will also extend and build on their understanding of pattern looking at symmetrical patterns. Children will begin to partition sets of ten objects and learn the number pairs to 10. They will be using objects to count and match to number sentences, beginning to use the language 'add', 'more than' and 'equals'. Children will also use practical activities and objects to double; they will read doubling stories and will be introduced to halving by role playing a teddy bears picnic where everything is shared in half. Over the term children will also explore the concept of measurement and explore lengths, heights and weights, learning to compare each of these, using direct comparison. They will compare items of the same size but different weight using balances and then measure these using uniform non-standard units such as conkers or pebbles. Children will familiarise themselves with coins and our money. They will begin to learn the value of coins and to compare and order them according to value and play with money in a shop / bank / post office context.

Over the term Year 1 children will embed their understanding of 2-digit numbers and place value, including finding 1 more / less. They will be building on their understanding of number facts and using them to solve simple word problems, explore addition by putting the larger number first and counting on. They will also extend this skill to include counting in 2s, 5s, 10s and identifying patterns in the number system. Year 1 children will recognise odd and even numbers; find half, quarter and three quarters of shapes and begin to know that two halves and four quarters are a whole and that two quarters is a half. In the second half of the term they will focus on units of time and telling the time to the nearest half hour, and on developing understanding of how long a minute, hour, day, week, etc. are. They will also focus on place value in 2-digit numbers and then in relation to money, using different values of coins in problem solving activities.

Understanding the World (EYFS) / RE (Year 1)

For Religious Education, the key concept for Reception children will be "Special" in the first half term. The children will find out what the word special means and explore special clothing. They will identify why different situations may have different special clothes and talk about the importance of wearing special clothes. They will explore how Christian and Jewish people use special clothes at religious events.

Year 1 children will focus on the concept of "authority" and identify and talk about the meaning of authority. They will talk about their own responses to authority figures and identify simple examples of ways in which people with authority affect their own lives. They will recognise the events in Jesus life which demonstrate His authority and talk about the importance of Jesus' authority to Christians in simple terms.

After half term our key concept will be "Salvation." Reception children will explore the question "Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?" and Year 1 will explore "Why does Easter matter to Christians?"

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Past and Present (EYFS) / History (Year 1)

During the first half of term our history focus will be around toys. Reception children will explore what toys did we play with when we were a baby? What are our favourite toys now and how have things changed over time? For this please could the children bring in photograph of a toy they played with as a baby and one of a favourite toy now so we could make comparisons. Also if they are able to bring in a baby toy for us to explore that would also be much appreciated.

Year 1 children's historical enquiry will be led by the question **"How are my toys different to Grandma's?"** The children will be sorting toys into old and new and sequencing a range of toys from past times to develop chronological vocabulary. They will examine similarities and differences between toys from now and the past and hypothesising about why some toys have continued to be popular for generations. They will find out about toys their parents and grandparents enjoyed playing with and look at how these have changed over time. They will explore reasons for the changes which have occurred to toys, for example the development of new materials and technologies and the increasing awareness of safety issues.

The Natural World (EYFS) / Science (Year 1)

Our science focus for the first half of term for Reception children will be materials and the concepts of melting and freezing. The children will find out how water can be a solid and change to ice when it is cold and that ice can then melt when it gets warm and change back to water.

After half term alongside our "from farm to fork" focus reception children will learn about healthy eating and how we need a range of different foods to keep us healthy. We will find out about how fruit and vegetables are good for us as they contain vitamins and that some foods need to be eaten in moderation.

The key concept for Year 1 children will be "pushes and pulls". The children will explore that objects can move in various ways such as roll, slide and bounce. They will investigate that the pushing or pulling of an object can affect its motion and that pushing or pulling can do three things - slow down, speed up or change the direction of an object. They will also explore how the larger the push/pull the bigger the effect on motion.

After half term Year 1 children will be exploring the concept of the seasons, what characteristics relate to each of the four seasons and how animals and plants have adapted ways of surviving the changing seasons.

The Natural World (EYFS) / Geography (Year 1)

After half term our geography focus will be the effect of weather on farming. To develop the children's understanding of this if anyone with knowledge of farming would be able to come and talk to the children we would very much appreciate it. Please let us know if you would be able to come and share your knowledge and expertise with us.

We will find out what are the key features of a farm? When do farmers plant and harvest their crops and how do the seasons affect crop growth?

Year 1 children will learn about the concept of the weather and seasons. They will identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK and collect data about the weather using measuring equipment. They will explore how seasons and the weather affects us in Preston Candover, as well as identify weather characteristics of the four nations of the UK and become a weather reporter using the Green Screen.

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Expressive Arts and Design (EYFS) / Art/DT (Year 1)

In the first half term we will explore our art focus through the appreciation of the work of Modrian. We will use a range of materials creatively to design and make a Mondrian inspired collage. After half term we will explore sculpture and create farm animals using clay.

After half term our focus will be DT where we will be focussing on food technology. Reception children will prepare fruit and vegetables in order to make a Fairtrade themed kebab and Year 1 will design and make a smoothie using fruit/ vegetables.

Physical development

We will continue to have two PE sessions a week for dance/ gym and games. Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit into school on Monday morning. They will then bring it home at the end of the week for washing. They need a pair of trainers as part of their kit as we also use them for the Golden Mile which we will do throughout the week as well as in PE sessions. This term in games we will be developing our throwing and catching skills and travelling and passing a ball. In gym we will be exploring jumping and rolling and in dance we will create marching dances and enjoy trying out line dancing.

Computing

Throughout the term Reception children will explore programming through giving instructions to operate a remote control car. Year 1 children will understand what algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices and understand that programs execute by following precise and instructions. They will develop their understanding of programming by creating a sequence of commands to move a robot to a specific place.

Music

In our music sessions we will be extending our range of familiar songs and rhymes and develop our understanding of finding the pulse in different pieces of music.

PSHE

Over the first half term our PSHE focus will be on Health and Wellbeing. We will explore what being healthy means and who helps help us to stay healthy (e.g. parent, dentist, doctor). We will talk about that how medicines (including vaccinations and immunisations) can help people stay healthy and that some people need to take medicines every day to stay healthy.

After half term we will learn about the concept of money and what we can do with money. We will explore how money comes in different forms and how money is obtained (e.g. earned, won, borrowed, presents). We will talk about how people make choices about what to do with money, including spending and saving and the difference between needs and wants.

French

Last half term Reception children enjoyed learning the rhyme "Frere Jacques." This term they will be learning to count to 10 in French and will listen to some stories read in French.

Year 1 children will be practicing their vocabulary about colours which they learnt last half term. They will then build upon this by learning vocabulary related to the weather which they will consolidate through practicing using a simple sentence to answer questions.

Fairtrade Fortnight

During the term we will be learning more about Fairtrade through "Fairtrade fortnight." If you have any products at home that have the Fairtrade symbol on it would be really helpful if your child could bring in the packaging with the label on as we will be looking at which countries the products come

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from. It would also be good if you are shopping with them to see how many different products they can spot the Fairtrade symbol on.

Home Learning

Each week the phonic words that we focus on in our class sessions and word sheets for the book your child is reading in our reading sessions will be sent home for both Reception and Year 1 children. Please can you practice these with your child as well as read through their assigned E-book. E-books will be assigned every Friday.

Year 1 children will continue to have spelling and homework set weekly - one week this will be an English based task and the next a maths one - these will be put in their home learning book. Homework will be given put in these books on a Friday and they are due in the following Thursday.

We are very much looking forward to a new term of learning opportunities and would like to thank you for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact us via the home school communication book for any notes which we need to be aware of. You can also contact us via the admin email account admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Michelle Cooke and Miss Chloe Chandler
Sparrows Class Teachers

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