



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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## **Sparrows Class Newsletter – Summer 2024**

Dear Parents,

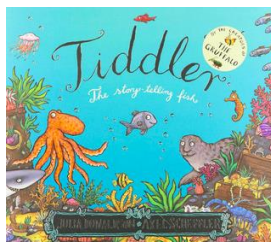
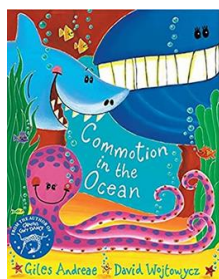
Welcome back to school and the summer term.

**Our Big Question for the first half of the term for reception children is: Under the sea- what lives here? For Year 1 children their enquiry question is linked to our history topic the Great Fire of London- can fire ever be seen as a good thing?**

**Our Big Question for the second half of the term for Reception children will be: Plants and minibeasts- How does your garden grow? For Year 1 their big enquiry question will link to their geography learning of hot and cold places with “would you rather be too hot or too cold?”**

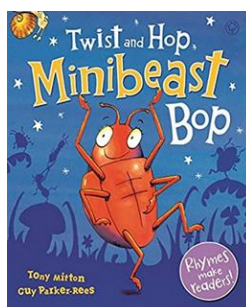
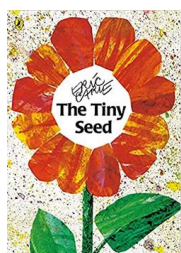
### **Literacy**

Some of the key texts we will look at in the first half of the term related to our theme of under the sea include *Commotion in the Ocean* by Giles Andreae, and *Tiddler* by Julia Donaldson.



Year 1's will be using these to create their own riddle poem – “What am I” about an underwater creature and recount Tiddler's adventures in the story in the form of a diary.

After half term we will be using texts that support our learning in science including *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle and *Twist and Hop Minibeast Bop* by Tony Mitton.



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We will use these as a stimulus for writing informative fact files about minibeasts and instructions for growing plants.

## Phonics, Spelling and Reading

Reception children will be focussing on decoding longer words in their phonic sessions as well as exploring compound words and words ending in *ed*, *est*, and *ing*. 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 be reviewing the Phase 5 sounds in preparation for the phonic screening test which will take place in June. As part of this they will be continuing to decode alien words which are made from the sounds they have been learning over the last 2 terms.

## Maths

In maths Reception children will be developing their understanding of how different numbers are made up. They will partition five, six and ten objects into two groups in order to find all the pairs of numbers with totals of 5, 6 and 10. They will also further explore the concepts of doubling and halving and begin to count in 2's, 5's and 10's. Our shape focus will be distinguishing between solid (3D) shapes and flat (2D) shapes, exploring the properties of 2D shapes, looking at their sides (straight or curved), the number of corners and whether they are symmetrical. They will then explore the properties of 3D shapes, looking at whether they slide or roll or can do both. Over the term they will also revise and consolidate coins and days of the week.

Over the term Year 1 children will use number facts to add and subtract 1-digit numbers to/from 2-digit numbers; add pairs of 1-digit numbers with totals above 10; sort out additions into those you 'just know' and those you need to work out and add three small numbers, spotting pairs to 10 and doubles; add and subtract 10 to and from 2-digit numbers. They will continue to work on number and place value, find half of all numbers to 10 and then to 20; identify even numbers and begin to learn halves. Their shape focus will be to recognise halves and quarters of shapes and begin to know  $2/2=1$ ,  $4/4=1$  and  $2/4=1/2$ . They will be consolidating money by naming and knowing the value of coins 1p-£2 and £5 and £10 notes; solving repeated addition problems using coins and making equivalent amounts using coins. They will also tell the time to the half hour and quarter hour on analogue clocks and begin to read these times on digital clocks.

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

For Religious Education, the key concept for Reception children for the first half of term will be Water (Precious). They will talk about what they think of the preciousness of water, talk about whether water is always precious in different situations to different people and identify how Christians use water in a way that shows it is precious. After half term they will explore the concept of transition and looking forward. In RE sessions they will be sharing their own experience of *looking forward*, begin to identify how *looking forward* relates to everyone, begin to recognise the story of the Prodigal Son which *looks forward* in the context of Christianity and reflect on *looking forward* and why it is important to many Christians.

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**Year 1 children** will explore the concept of special food during the first half of the term. They will describe foods that are *special* to them and how different foods are important to different people. They will talk about why some foods are *special* and describe simply what Christians think about when they share their *special* food (*bread and wine*). They will also learn about special foods in Christianity and Hinduism and find out about why bread and wine is important for Christians and Prashad is important for Hindus.

After half term year 1 children will be exploring the concept of special in relation to books. They will think about books that are special to them and what makes them special. They will then find out about the special book for Christians and the special book for Jewish people.

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

Our history focus this term will be significant events. Reception children will explore this in relation to their own lives and their memories of their first year at school.

Year 1 children will explore a significant national event beyond living memory by finding out about the Great Fire of London. They will learn about key historical characters such as Thomas Farynor the baker, King Charles II, Mr Bludworth the Mayor and Samuel Pepys. They will discuss reasons the fire spread and find out about plans to remodel the city following the fire which included building the new St Paul's Cathedral

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

Our science focus for the first half of term will be continuing our learning around the 4 seasons. We will explore the characteristics of the different seasons and find out about how animals and plants have adapted ways of surviving the changing seasons including hibernating and migrating. We will also find out about evergreen and deciduous trees.

After half term our science focus will be plants. We will explore the question where do plants come from and look at different seeds and bulbs. We will then find out about plant survival, what plants need in order to survive and how they get what they need. This will be brought to life through a trip to Hilliers Arboretum with Doves class in the second half of the term. Further details will be sent out about this in a separate letter.

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

After half term our geography focus will be hot and cold climates. Reception children will look at how these environments are similar and different. Year 1 children will use maps, globes and atlases to locate hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and North and South Poles. They will name and locate the world's 7 continents and 5 oceans, use simple compass directions and directional language to describe the location and features on a map and compare two contrasting cities (London and Cairo)

### **Global Citizenship**

Doves and Sparrows class will be joining together on an exciting Global Neighbours project this term. Through this they will learn about the impact that the importation of food has on the environment and how this equates to global climate injustice. They will learn about food miles and what different journeys food take to arrive on our plates. They will then explore ways that we can make our food more sustainable to help tackle climate injustice by organising the building of vegetable patches and herb gardens on the school grounds. The children will grow their own

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vegetables and herbs and act as a courageous advocate for climate injustice by promoting others to use sustainable food sources.

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

Our artist study this term will be Seurat. We will be using his work to look at pointillism and create our own pointillism paintings of plants and minibeasts found in our environment.

Our DT focus this term links with our learning around the great fire of London and 1666 London Homes. Reception children will use construction to build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable. Year 1 children will make a junk model London home from 1666. They will explore and evaluate joining techniques to design, create and then evaluate a functional 1666 London home

### **Physical development**

We will continue to have 2 PE sessions a week. 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 bat and ball skills and explore running, jumping and throwing through athletics. In dance we will create an under the sea themed dance.

### **Computing**

Throughout the term Reception children will explore programming through giving instructions to operate beebots. They will also use digital painting to develop their fine motor skills and use a simple programme to create a pictogram.

Year 1 children will be creating media through digital painting and digital writing. They will explore how to change font size and colour in word as well as use the keys on the keyboard to type and edit.

### **Music**

In our music sessions we will be extending our range of familiar songs and rhymes and reflecting, rewinding and replaying as we practice songs that we will perform to each other and another class.

### **PSHE**

Over the first half term our PSHE focus will be on who helps keep us safe. After half term we will learn about different jobs people do.

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## **French**

This term we will continue singing songs in French and learn simple French greetings.

## **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. Ebooks 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.

## **Celebration of learning**

We have our class celebration of learning coming up this term on the 6<sup>th</sup> June. Details about this will be sent out in due course.

As we are now in the final term of this academic year we are supporting the children to become more independent. To help with this we would appreciate it if you encourage your child to come into school from the top gate on their own and organise their own belongings in the morning- putting their lunchbox on the trolley on their own and getting out their communication books etc. Please can any notes such as changes in collection be written in their red home school communication books.

We are very much looking forward to a new term of learning opportunities and would like to thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Michelle Cooke and Miss Chloe Chandler

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