



## **Opal and Topaz Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2021**

10/09/2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year 2021 – 2022. The children have settled in incredibly well and truly been a credit to all of you. We can't wait to see what the next year brings and are looking forward to sharing it all with you.

### **Notices**

**Please be reminded that school begins at 8:55 and ends at 3:15. We do however welcome you in from 8:45 in the morning.**

Thank you to everyone who has provided a pair of wellies for their child and spare clothes in case of accidents. Please make sure your child also has a water bottle every day.

### **P.E.**

The children will have P.E. on Wednesday. They can come to school in their P.E. kit on these days and earrings are removed. **P.E. kit is a white t-shirt, navy or black shorts or joggers and trainers.**

### **Reading**

We will be sending reading books home in due course. When you receive your reading book we ask that you practice a little and often and keep it fun! We will change the books once a week to give your child the chance to really master the book and revel in their successes. You can even post videos on Tapestry.

We will also be giving the children the opportunity to choose a book from our library. These are books to be shared and enjoyed over the week.

### **Your Tapestry accounts**

Please update us with any changes to your e-mail addresses. We will share many of your child's successes on Tapestry in the form of photos and videos and we urge you to do the same. The children quickly take ownership of their journals and enthusiastically take photos of their challenges for you to see.

## Opal and Topaz Curriculum Topics – Autumn Term 2020



### Topic

Our themes for the term are...

- Superpowers
- Castles
- Diwali
- The human body
- Where is Barnaby Bear?
- Peace at last



### Communication and Language

The children will expand their vocabulary and learn how to communicate in the correct tenses. They will learn to share ideas, thoughts and opinions with one another clearly and calmly. The children will learn how to ask questions in order to further develop their understanding or knowledge of a subject.



### Physical Development

The children will take part in weekly P.E. lessons; year 1 will join Mr Franco each week. They will develop their coordination, balance, gross and fine motor skills. The large construction, bats and balls, skipping ropes and scooters are always available. The children will be taught how to grip and control smaller tools such as pencils and paintbrushes to refine their mark making.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will learn how to communicate in small groups, sharing ideas and methods; as well solve problems with each other. They will learn how to select specific tools for a task they have been set and talk to others about their needs. They will take part in circle times - celebrating similarities and differences and sharing their likes and dislikes. The children will learn how to talk about their emotions and communicate them effectively to those around them.



### Understanding the World

The children will discuss celebrations and traditions important to them. They will specifically learn about Diwali and Harvest. The children will bug hunt, bird watch and look for signs of winter and autumn. The children will investigate materials and sort them according to their properties. They will conduct investigations to find answers and learn how to make predictions by applying their knowledge. They will learn the names and jobs of different body parts and ways in which to stay healthy and safe.



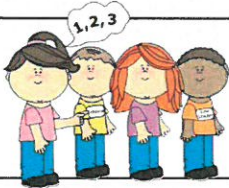
### Literacy

The children will be learning to identify, segment and blend sounds in phonics as well as learning to read some tricky words on sight. They will learn to read and write through small focused group work and constant access to games and activities. They will share a variety of texts and rhymes during carpet times and write speech bubbles, lists, labels, invitations and poems during shared writing times. Year 1 will develop their understanding of different types of sentences and increase their stamina for writing tasks. They will learn to punctuate simple sentences accurately.



### Expressive Arts and Design

The children will explore colour mixing and the use of line. They will be looking at the work of the artists Paul Klee, Kandinsky and Bridget Wright. They will take part in singing sessions and explore musical instruments - learning about rhythm, volume, pitch and beat. The children will make objects with moving parts. Year one will learn the name and function of different mechanisms and apply this knowledge to their projects.



### Mathematics

This term the children will develop their counting skills; making sure they are accurate up to 20 and then beyond. They will order quantities and numerals on number lines, varying their starting place. The children will use numicon as well as a variety of tools to help them visualise number. They will begin to record the numbers in writing and explore the concepts of more, less, addition and subtraction. They will learn the names of 2D and 3D shapes and group them according to their properties.