

# Opal and Topaz Curriculum Newsletter - Spring Term 2022

21.01.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new spring term. We hope you enjoyed a fun-filled break and celebrations over the Christmas holidays. Please find below a summary of Year 1's main learning areas for this term.

# **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. We are really impressed with how quickly the children have settled and grown in confidence and independence so far this year.

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 brings a water bottle everyday too.

# <u>P.E.</u>

The Year 1 children will continue to have P.E. on Wednesdays. Please make sure you send your child into school in their P.E. kit on this day and earrings are removed. P.E. kit is a white t-shirt, navy or black shorts or joggers and trainers.

## Reading

Your children should all have reading books. Make sure you read little and often, and most importantly keep it fun! Bring your books back on Thursdays to change for new ones, once your child has had the whole week to really master the book and enjoy their success. You can post a video on Tapestry to show their work.

#### **Numbots**

The Year 1's are still expected to complete 15 minutes of Numbots each week. Please speak to a member of the team if you'd like a reminder of your child's login details.

# Ways we keep you informed

There will be fortnightly curriculum newsletters in which we shall keep you updated and informed about your child's learning, ways you can help them and any extra details you will need, such as changes to timetables, notifications, etc. Your child's tapestry account will give you an insight into their day and what they have been learning, it's a great way to share and celebrate their successes. If you have any questions please speak to a member of the team.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead and thank you in advance for your continued support.

Miss Holloway and Mrs Willison

# <u>Curriculum Topics – Spring Term 2022</u>









#### **Topic**

The theme for this term is 'Houses and Homes'. Within this we learn about our homes and their similarities and differences and our local environment. They will explore the history of homes and look closely at maps through geography. We will begin to learn about habitats and different animal's homes as we move into the season of Spring.

# **Communication and Language**

The children will continue to extend their vocabulary, learning the names for different houses, features and rooms and ways to describe these, creating noun phrases. They will develop their ability to express their ideas, thoughts and opinions clearly, as well as listening carefully to others.

# **Physical Development**

The children will continue to take part in weekly P.E. lessons; focusing on moving different ways. In our outside area they will continue to develop their ball skills.



## **Mathematics**

This term the children will develop their number fact knowledge, especially number bonds within 10. They will begin to see the links between addition and subtraction. As they work with numbers up to 100 they will use a variety of resources to support them, such as 100-squares, numberlines, numicon and bead strings. They will record their findings through small focussed group work and begin to explain how they have found their answers and know they are right. They will also continue practising counting in 2's, 5's and 10's.





#### Literacy

The children will continue with their phonics, focussing on segmenting and blending, as well as learning the phase 5 sounds. They will be reading sentences with more detail and length with a greater fluency and pace. They will continue to work in small focused group. They will develop their writing, increasingly writing detailed sentences including conjunctions and adjectives. They will share a variety of texts and rhymes during carpet times and write invitations, letters, lists, story maps, poems, instructions and information texts during shared writing times, before writing these independently.



# Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will develop their ability to communicate in small groups, sharing ideas and methods, particularly focussing on doing this independently. They will talk to others about their needs, describing and explaining them. The children will continue to learn how to talk about their emotions and communicate them effectively to those around them, especially using them to solve any conflicts or problems effectively and in a thoughtful manner.



The children will discuss celebrations traditions as they learn about Chinese New Year and Easter, they will look at the similarities and differences between these and things they celebrate. The children will observe the environment around us, focussing on homes then reading and creating maps. The children will closely observe the school environment, taking part in Winhills Rangers and learning about recycling, they will also do the great birdwatch and begin to look for signs of spring. The children will also learn about conducting experiments, ensuring they are fair, making predictions and drawing conclusions. They will initially explore this through a materials aspect as they test how materials are blown, how waterproof they are.

# **Expressive Arts and Design**

The children will create 3D houses using a variety of materials, experimenting with different joins and joining materials. They will create art independently using their ideas and inspiration from artists such as Kandinsky and Van Gogh to plan and then create a variety of paintings and wall art. They will take part in singing sessions and use some musical instruments to add rhythm to their songs. The children will have access to small world play and role play such as construction sites and construction materials.