



*"Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised, because my eyes have seen the salvation, which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people." (Luke 2:22-32).*

### **Welcome to Year 1!**

**Your child's teacher will be Miss Ratcliffe.**

**We have lots of wonderful things to look forward to during SPRING ONE.**

### **RE**

Our unit in RE is titled 'Galilee to Jerusalem'. We will learn about the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and how the Feast is known as Candlemas. We will learn about the Finding of Jesus in the Temple and how Jesus announced His Mission, reflecting on why this Good News is important for Christians today. We will learn how Jesus chose His Disciples and learn stories of different people Jesus encountered, and how these people recognised Jesus was special. We will reflect on how Jesus is a 'light' for people and we will consider how we can shine our own lights for our families and communities.

### **MATHS**

Our area of focus in Maths will be Place Value within 20. We will be deepening our understanding of the numbers from 11 to 20. We will be calculating one more and one less, comparing and ordering numbers to 20. We will then move onto addition and subtraction within 20, including adding by counting on, adding by using number bonds and adding using doubles and near doubles. We will be subtracting within 20 using number bonds, counting back and finding the difference. The children will also take part in Number Sense sessions each week, which are designed to strengthen children's fluency and ability to subitise (say 'how many' without counting).

### **ENGLISH**

During this half-term, we will continue to explore the 'Curious Quests' approach to reading comprehension and writing. This approach follows 'Professor Klunk's Great Big Story Dream Machine', who sets 'quests' for us each week based on the Year 1 writing objectives. Our main focuses will be to sequence sentences to form short narratives, use some adjectives, begin to use tense accurately, use 'and' to link clauses and demonstrate use of capital letters and full stops correctly. We will also be developing our handwriting and spelling words with previously taught phonemes. We will use a new piece of children's literature each week, including poetry, fictional texts and non-fiction texts, as a hook to learn new skills and achieve each quest!

## PHONICS

In Phonics for this half term, we will begin with revising previously learnt graphemes from Autumn Term, including split-digraphs. We will then move on to learning alternative pronunciations for our previously learnt graphemes. We will also be reading and spelling phase 5 tricky words, including: water, want, who, whole, where, any, many, two, school, work, thought and different.

## SCIENCE

In Science this Spring term, we will be learning about Plants, answering the question, 'What plants do we know?' We will begin by identifying parts of a plant and exploring which garden plants and wild plants we know. We will also be comparing fruit and vegetables which grow on trees. Throughout this term, we will be observing how plants are changing in our school environment and will be planting our own seeds and observing how the seed changes over time.

## GEOGRAPHY

In Geography we will be learning about the United Kingdom, answering the question, "What is it like in the UK?" We will be learning about the countries England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, including their capital cities, and where the UK is located on a world map. We will be learning about London and its landmarks, as well as developing our understanding of journey lines. We will conclude the unit by comparing Brasilia to London.

## Art

In Art, we will be drawing spirals. We will be exploring how we can control the lines we make by being aware of how we hold a drawing tool, how much pressure we apply, and how fast or slow we move. During this unit, we will also learn about and be inspired by a range of artists.

## P.E.

This half term the children will learn jumping skills and gymnastics skills. In our jumping skills lessons, we will develop our ability to jump from 1 foot or 2 feet and land on 1 foot or 2 feet, going forwards, sideways and backwards, while negotiating height and space, and in a routine. In our gymnastics skills lessons, we will be travelling in different ways and at different speeds, performing controlled balances, jumps and rolls.

**PE days for Year 1 children are Monday and Thursday.** Please ensure your child arrives to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

## COMPUTING

Children will be introduced to early programming concepts. Through using the Bee-Bots, we will explore using commands and then use our knowledge to predict the outcome of

programs. We will then consider the early stages of program design through the introduction of algorithms.

## PSHE

This half term we will be reflecting on emotional well-being. Through meeting different characters, they will help children will to understand and articulate their own changing feelings and how other's feelings might differ from theirs. Children will learn how they can manage their feelings and the difference between actions and feelings, as well as discussing the consequences of actions.

## MUSIC

Our unit of Music is titled 'Get on Board'. We will be learning to sing with a steady pulse and playing untuned and tuned percussion instruments with an awareness of pulse and tempo. We will also be describing sounds we can hear, using musical vocabulary pitch and dynamics, and recognising changes in sounds. We will use pictures to represent sounds and create and perform a simple ostinato.

## FOREST SCHOOL

Year 1 will take part in forest school sessions on **Wednesdays for the second half of Spring 1** – the dates of forest school sessions will be communicated to parents. We will be developing our ability to assess risks, work as a team, build problem-solving skills and deepen our appreciation for nature and all living things.

## HOMEWORK

In Key Stage One, homework will be in the form of **daily reading practise**. This is the most beneficial way to support your child's education at this stage. **It is important children reread a book before it is changed as this encourages fluency and pace which is an integral part of the reading process, as well as asking your child questions about what they have read.**

Year 1 children will bring their Learning Log home which will include activities related to the phonics learning taught that week as well as the Maths Shed activity. Please use the page in the Learning Log to practise the phonics in any way that supports or suits your child – repetition, doodling, writing sentences etc. Maths homework will be available on the Maths Shed platform. Please find your child's login on the inside of their Learning Log.

Your child's learning log (book) will be sent home on a Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday.

Year 1 class email: [year1@stannes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:year1@stannes.cheshire.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Ratcliffe