

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term is always a very busy and exciting time of year. Here are some of the things we will be learning about ...

English

We will continue to follow the Read write Inc scheme in phonics. The children will be learning lots of new special friends depending on the group they are in and applying these in their reading and writing. We will be looking at poetry by Shirley Hughes and discovering new vocabulary, including misty, raw, nippy. Our main focus for writing this half term will be to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.

Maths

In Maths we will continue learning about addition and subtraction using numbers to 10. The children will be reasoning about number and problem solving, working out the missing number when using the part, part whole models and bar models. We will be using the language of first, then and now. For example, **first** there were 4 frogs on a lily pad, **then** 2 more hopped on, **now** there are 6 frogs. We will use the computers to collect data and create pictograms.

History

Through our history lessons we will be learning about a number of significant people and events. These include Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder plot, Remembrance Day and The Great Fire of London. We will be learning to recall facts from these historical events and finding out about the lives of the people who were a part of them.

The children will be using a range of vocabulary linked to these events including soldier, remembrance, significant, time line, plot, parliament, past.



Art

In Art we will be finding out about the famous Artist 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh' and learning how to draw an abstract rose. We will learn a variety of shading techniques so we can colour in our roses. We will use what we know of his style and our shading practise to create our own poppies linked to our learning about Remembrance Day.



Computing

In computing we will be learning about algorithms and using this knowledge to program Beebots. The children will need to understand that an algorithm is a clear set of instructions to make the Beebot move in the way they want it too. They will use symbols to represent instructions, creating their own program. We will learn how to fix our errors when programming and know that it is called debugging.



Music

As we approach Christmas we will be practising our winter performance '**The Snowman at Sunset**'. The children are very excited and we have already started to learn the songs. We will be using our performance to learn about the performing element of the music curriculum. We will also be learning to listen and respond to pieces of music. The children will have opportunities to learn about music composition and will begin to use vocabulary such as rhythm, beat, percussion, tempo, dynamics and pulse.





R.E

Our R.E focus will be on the Christmas story and how the giving and receiving of gifts is important. The children will be learning that Christians believe Jesus was a gift and that we celebrate Christmas because he was born on that day.

Design and Technology

For our Design and Technology project we will be creating Christmas cards using a slider or lever mechanism. The children will explore different sliders and levers, carrying out their own research before designing their own card which incorporates one of these. The children will then use their design to make their cards before evaluating them.

Key dates

As the half term draws to a close:

14th December at we will perform '**The Snowman at Sunset**'

8th December we will enjoy a **Christmas Dinner** prepared by our super cook and team

15th December we will have a fun **Christmas party**, where the children can wear their own clothes, we will also get a **special visitor** on that day.

Friday 17th December it will be **Christmas Jumper day**. We will also have a **Carol service at 2pm** at one of the local churches.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continued support with the children's learning and events we have in school.

Kind regards

The Year 1 Team