

Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This newsletter is to give you an overview of what your child will be learning through engagement and enquiry over this half term.

Year 1

Welcome back!

It has been so lovely to welcome you back to school for the start of your Year 1 journey. We have been working with the Reception team to support the children's transition into the Year 1 learning environment. They embraced the new learning challenges within our continuous provision and showed enthusiasm for both guided and independent learning in small groups. Well done Year 1, what a fantastic start to the academic year.

Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge

Our Learning Challenge Question has been 'What can you remember?'. This unit has a history focus and revolves around the theme of childhood. We have been learning about everyday life and families today and have compared them with childhood in the 1950s. We will have a special focus on old toys and games. We invited children's relatives who have experienced life in the 1950s to come to school on Wednesday 27th September to share memories and artefacts with the children. We will also be looking at a key historical event from the 1950s - the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Year 1 will be re-enacting the event!

English and Maths

English: This half term we have been comparing fiction and non-fiction texts by looking at the different features of each type of text. We have read 'Lost In The Toy Museum' by David Lucas and compared it to "Info Buzz: Toys" by Izzy Howell. We looked specifically at labels, lists, and captions in non-fiction texts. We enjoyed creating our own non-fiction booklet about toys from the past using labels, lists, and captions. During our writing we focussed on our must-haves; finger spaces, letter formation, capital letters and full stops.

Maths: In maths, we have been focusing on number and place value which included ordering and comparing numbers, as well as consolidating counting skills from Reception. We will soon begin to look at adding and subtracting numbers within 10. We will then look at different ways of representing ten and were introduced to the part-whole model.

The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge: 'What can you remember?'

History Skills and Knowledge:

- Stories, pictures and role play are used to help people learn about the past, understand key events and empathise with historical figures.
- Significant historical events include those that cause great change for large numbers of people.
- Describe an aspect of everyday life within or beyond living memory.

- Changes within living memory have happened over the last 100 years and include advances in technology, exploration, workplaces, houses and jobs, leisure, family and social structures.
- Express an opinion about a historical source.
- Identifying similarities and differences helps us to make comparisons between life now and in the past.
- Sequencing words, such as first, next, finally, then and after that, can be used to order information chronologically.
- Historical artefacts are objects that were made and used in the past. The shape and material of the object can give clues about when and how it was made and used.
- Everyday objects, such as baby bottles, clothing, toys and books, can tell us about childhood in the past.
- Use common words and phrases relating to the passing of time to communicate ideas and observations (here, now, then, yesterday, last week, last year, years ago and a long time ago).

Geography Skills and Knowledge:

- Describe how a place or geographical feature has changed over time.

PSHE Skills and Knowledge:

- Identify the stages that people go through as they grow older and recognise that their responsibilities, needs and lifestyles change over time.
- People grow from being babies to toddlers, then children, adolescents, adults and elderly people. As people grow older, they have more responsibilities, such as having a job, buying a house, looking after children and elderly parents.

Other subjects within the wider curriculum

Music: This half term we will be focusing on recognising high and low pitched notes and moving to music in different ways following a steady beat. We will then use a range of musical instruments to keep the beat. After listening to various music types we will discuss how the music makes us feel and give our opinions about if we enjoy it or not.

PE: Wednesday PE will be taught by Yvonne Tolland who will be teaching the children dance. Thursday PE will be focusing on body movement, travelling and dance. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own. In addition can we please request full PE kits are available on these days as missing kit can lead to children being unable to physically participate in the lesson. Finally, children will get changed for PE in class. To support children, we kindly ask parents to foster children's independence when getting changed at home.

Art: We will be focusing on colour mixing, colour theory and collage.

PSHE and Circle time: Our PSHE focus will be 'building relationships', focusing on a range of activities that will help enable children to develop new friendships.

French: In French the children will be learning about the country of France itself. They will be having fun learning how to greet people in France and introduce themselves. Counting in French, learning our age and birthday will also be a focus.

Useful Information

Reading: Please try to read with your child daily. Children will be bringing home two books as part of their homework. One book is their reading book and is matched to your child's phonics level. Please encourage your child to re-read their reading book, and question them to ensure they have fully understood it. These will be changed every Friday, so please ensure the book is returned on Friday. Reading records will be online. The second book is a 'Reading for Pleasure' book which your child has chosen themselves. Please share it with your child and enjoy reading for pleasure.

PE: PE lessons will be taught on Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure you have your indoor and

outdoor PE kit in school all week and ensure earrings are removed.

Coats: As the weather starts to become colder can you please bring a coat in every day.

Water Bottles: Can water bottles (containing water only) please be brought to school daily.

Useful websites- for both children and parents

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - Phonics games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> - Number bond game

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/ks1> - KS1 book suggestions

E-safety: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> - Stay safe online