



Dragons



CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER YEAR 1: SPRING TERM 1ST HALF

This newsletter is designed to give parents and carers a taste of the coming topic for Year 1. We have detailed below the main themes that we hope to cover, although there may be changes to respond to the children's ideas and interests. Some subjects will have a greater share of time depending on the topic but we ensure that there is a balance over the year. We hope you find this newsletter useful!

STIMULUS: Toy dragons, dragon stories, dragon art and Chinese new Year

Annual Events: Class assemblies begin; Grandparents' Morning

LITERACY:

In nonfiction, we will be writing instructional texts on the theme of How to Train a Dragon and stories about George and the Dragon too. We will also listen to dragon poetry and make up our own poems.

MATHEMATICS:

We will be using lots of play and exploration around the theme of size and shape. Mathematics teaching follows the National Curriculum programme.

SCIENCE:

The key skills are developing knowledge about Light and Dark. Discovery Dog science resources will be used to support this unit and to find out about reflective materials.

MUSIC:

We will be focusing on the skill of Pitch, learning topic related songs and experiencing music from China.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

We follow the Essex agreed syllabus for RE. The theme is 'Special People'. Year 1 study Sikhism and Hinduism as their link religions and they will find out

about the multicultural festival of Chinese New Year.

PSHE:

We are following a unit of work based around learning about 'Growth'. Elements of staying healthy are routinely covered in PE and in some Science units too.

ART:

In Painting they will explore printing with found objects, make simple repeating patterns and investigate dragon scale patterns. In Drawing they will look at illustrators of books and in Sculpture they will make Art Solutions inspired dragons.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY:

Children will study mechanisms and learn how to use different techniques to make Dragon Traps. They will also explore further joining techniques and make dragon masks.

PE:

Gymnastics, and using a variety of apparatus, is the main unit and we follow the Essex PE scheme for this.

HISTORY:

Children will study beyond living memory and find out all about the

age of the Vikings! This will link to the children's knowledge of the fictional film How to Train Your Dragon.

COMPUTING:

Computer skills are taught separately and we are focusing on operating systems as a unit of work. Key ICT skills are taught as part of cross curricular work and keyboard skills will be a focus this half term.

N.B. In some subjects we will be following schemes of work which are not directly linked to the topic as mentioned above. In addition, reading, spelling, handwriting, grammar and mathematics follow separate schemes.

Please help at home with daily reading, Word Wizard activities, using your Letters and Sounds card and Maths Mat. Don't forget there are also 'Espresso' and 'Oxford Owl' websites too!