



Thailand Class

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Notes for Parents

Summer 2022

Welcome back everyone! It is so lovely to see the children again after the Easter break, and I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday, making special memories. Mrs Ansell, our class TA, and I have been so impressed with the wonderful progress the children are making and what a lovely, kind and caring class they all are! Well done, Thailand class. Below are some of the themes and units of work that we will be covering this half-term.

Overall Themes

This half-term our Topic is 'Dinosaur Planet' and we will be linking our English learning to this theme alongside other curriculum areas.

Phonics

We will continue to increase the children's phonological awareness and phonics knowledge through varied, multi-sensory activities that support their reading, spelling and writing skills. In Phonics, your child will continually re-visit, learn, practise and apply their learning according to our new, bespoke Phonics scheme. To inspire your child's love of words, the reading experiences will be many and varied; we will share a range of stage-appropriate fiction and non-fiction texts to delve further into our theme and beyond. Chosen texts will develop the children's awareness of the different reasons for writing and we will talk regularly to reflect on an author's imagination and intent and explore this for ourselves when we write. Also, we shall act! We shall delve deeply into many, many texts to extend your child's vocabulary and show them just what is possible through the written word.

- **Reading Records:** I would love for you and your child to read and enjoy books together every day! I appreciate it won't always happen...but please try to make that your goal. **The reading scheme books are a fundamental stepping-stone to secure your child's confidence as a reader.** Reading scheme books and reading records will travel between school and home in named, plastic wallets. I ask that you write in your child's reading record **at least three times a week** and I, or Mrs Ansell, will make comments once a week. Just a gentle reminder that in our new reading scheme, each book **must** be read 3 times before changing.
- **Spellings:** Children will be given new spellings every Monday to learn and the list will come to you via Google Classroom. Your child will have the opportunity to recall their learnt spellings at some point during the week.

English

In English, we will be using a range of texts to delve further into our theme. We will explore **Where The Wild Things Are** by Maurice Sendak in greater depth to support our narrative story writing and non-chronological report writing.

As ever, in English, we will develop our reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. In Guided Reading sessions, children will continue to read texts that teach them inference, deduction, reading strategies, vocabulary and the content of fiction and non-fiction books. It will be based at their level and will encourage progress within their reading.

Mathematics

Children will continue to learn new mathematical concepts by using physical equipment (manipulatives) and pictorial representations in order to embed and apply new mathematical language and abstract constructs to solve mathematical challenges. Your child will learn the key principles of number (to 100), measurement,

multiplication and division, fractions, geometry, money and time.

***Please continue to use My Maths and Numbots at home to develop fluency.**

Science

This term, children will explore dinosaurs this will follow on from the previous term's learning. Pupils will explore classifying dinosaurs, using terms such as reptile, bird, carnivore, omnivore and herbivore; they will use knowledge of these areas previously learnt and build upon their understanding. This term, children will also engage in investigation and observation that will enhance their depth of learning. We will be thinking about dinosaur teeth and dinosaur poo!

PE

There are two PE sessions each week, and this term we will be focusing on dance and athletics. Your child will need a drawstring bag with a named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. As the weather is now beginning to become warmer, please can I ask that children have appropriate outdoor clothing - shorts and t-shirts are acceptable, but please do include any tracksuits, trousers and jackets if you wish. The PE kit should be in school every day, then taken home on Fridays to be washed and ready for the following Monday. Please also ensure that your child's footwear fits and each item of clothing is named - we currently have a box of unnamed/unclaimed clothing in our classroom. There will be another opportunity for parents to look in the box before items move to Lost Property.

Class Worship & Religious Education

Our days always contain interactive Class Worship, a prayer or elements of learning taken from the new statutory curriculum subject: Relationships & Health Education curriculum (previously named PSCHÉ). Our Christian Values for this term are faith, trust and truthfulness. Occasionally, class worship is led by Father Paul, Vicky Smith or by Mr. Holloway. In RE this half term, pupils will be exploring the meaning of 'Gospel' and learning about how Jesus' gospel is 'good news' to those following him.

Art

This term, pupils will create close observational drawings of a dinosaur eye. They will extend their piece by converting their ideas onto a 3D clay model. They will develop a wide range of art and design techniques using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

Computing

We will continue to use Purple Mash as a comprehensive educational learning tool; your child will be using it to learn how to use direction keys, create an animated story book and how to code. The principles of online safety will be integral throughout.

RHE

Relationship and Health Education will continue to be a compulsory part of the curriculum. This term, Year 1 pupils will be considering Emotional Health & Well-being. They will explore the full range of feelings and consider the various ways to manage them.

History

In our history sessions, we will be thinking about the chronology of events that we are aware of and where dinosaurs fit into that! We will also learn about Mary Anning and her input into our current knowledge of dinosaurs.

Geography

We will be extending the children's understanding of places around the world by reviewing and embedding the knowledge of the seven continents and learning about Pangaea. All pupils will have the opportunity to plot the whereabouts of dino-discoveries onto a world map.

Music

Pupils will explore the genre of pop music by composing their own pop song...dinosaur-related, of course! Body percussion and other percussion instruments will be made use of but the focus is on performance!

Homework

A homework grid will be available via Google Classroom. We ask that your child completes one activity or a piece of work each week. Depending on the task, we ask that you upload completed work onto Google Classroom.

Important dates for Thailand class:

- Year 1 Phonics Meeting - Wednesday 4th May 2022
 - Year 1 Phonics Screening - Monday 6th June 2022
 - Class Photographs - Thursday 9th June 2022
 - Whole School Photograph - Monday 13th June 2022
 - KS1 Sports Day - Tuesday 14th June 2022
 - Last day of Extra-Curricular Clubs - Friday 8th July 2022
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- **Reading logs** - Please note you can also access books remotely via the online website MyOn.
 - **Homework** - A new homework grid will be placed onto the class pages of Google Classrooms. It is school policy that EVERY pupil should be attempting to submit homework. We suggest any form of homework to be beneficial in cementing your child's learning and is great at building the relationship between parent and child. Thirty minutes is more than enough for a KS1 child and you may wish to split this in to two 15 minute blocks. The homework grid is designed to give your child the choice as to what they would prefer to tackle. Please do NOT bring homework into school but submit it via Google Classrooms. If there is something special you would like to share with the class, please email the school office or the class email address so that we may share it electronically.
 - **Weekly spellings** - There are lots of fantastic apps which can help with this - Spelling Shed and Spelling Bee are recommended. I have also placed 'Bloom's Taxonomy' spelling sheet onto Google Classrooms which gives you lots of fun ideas on how to learn your spellings. There are lots of play-type activities that the children could do - writing outside with chalks, washing up liquid bottles for writing, writing in sand, magnetic letters or making letters from coloured pens or bits of outdoor materials.
 - **Times tables** - Please ensure your child is practising their times tables at home each week. It is important that the children build on the EYFS experience of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The school has signed up to a website called Times Tables Rockstars for which you should all have your individual login IDs and passwords. Please note that this website is designed to automatically move your child on once they have shown their recall time and accuracy are in line with recommendation. Any games for times tables would be beneficial, so please make sure you are practising. There are YouTube songs to help that you could have playing as well.
 - **Google Classrooms, My Maths, Accelerated Reader, MyOn and Purple Mash are also other websites the children can access to help with their learning.**

NOTICES - Just a reminder: Please remember we are a nut-free school so please do not pack nuts or foods containing nuts in the children's lunch boxes.

I look forward to the term ahead! Please get in touch if you have any problems or concerns on thailand@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Kind Regards,
Miss Rees