

What is your superpower?

To the Rescue!

Apple Class - Spring Term 2024



Dear Families,

Thank you for your kind words, lovely cards and generous gifts at the end of last term. We hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and we wish you all a happy and healthy 2024!

Here is an outline of our learning for the Spring Term. Our main focus is "To the Rescue!". We will be thinking about superheroes- not just the traditional kind but also those in our wider community. If any parents or family members would like to come in and speak to the class about their jobs or careers, we would love to have you!

**Monday and Friday**- we will be changing reading books on these days so please ensure books are in book bags.

**Friday**- we will be issuing new Apple Class library books so please return them if you would like a new one. The box will be in our outside area so that you can choose one with your child.

Our class assembly will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Our woodland activities visit will be Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Please ensure PE kits are in school at all times. Our PE days will be **Monday** and **Wednesday** but there are occasions where we may need to swap our days around. Please ensure all uniform and PE kit is labelled with your child's name as this will help us to get the children changed more quickly and allow us to return any lost clothing! The children will need warm clothes for PE this term as some of our sessions will be outside.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to message us on Seesaw or speak to a member of the team after school if you have any concerns or questions. We are always happy to help!

Kind Regards

Mrs Champion, Mrs Burton, Mrs Glassford and Mrs Urganci

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSHE and RSE)

We will continue to play lots of circle time games so that all of the children can become more confident with speaking in a larger group. We will also be using the NSPCC 'Pantosaurus' materials to help the children understand that their bodies belong to them and to encourage them to talk to a trusted adult if they are ever worried about anything. Here is the link if you would like to look at the materials we will be using: [Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC](#)

The Year 1 children will also be talking about internet safety, basic first aid and economic well being (different ways in which people have money and the importance of saving).

## Mathematics

Reception will continue to count, order, read and write numbers to at least 10. We have looked at numbers 1-5 in depth and we will be focusing on numbers 6-10 and comparing numbers. We will look at representing the number in different ways (e.g. counters, Numicon, on five/tens frames etc) and also the composition of each number (e.g. for 5, we could say 4 and 1, 3 and 2, 5 and 0 etc). Reception will also explore measuring through capacity and mass.

Year 1 will continue to develop their place value knowledge of numbers to 20 and beyond. They will continue to improve their addition and subtraction skills by learning to count on and to find small differences. They will develop their measuring skills through learning about weight, capacity and measuring height and length. We will also be developing their mental maths skills by learning number facts such as doubles, number bonds and other addition facts.

## Understanding the World

**Science:** We will be naming and describing materials and their properties as well as continuing our learning about seasonal change (weather patterns in Winter and Spring)

**History:** Year 1 will be learning about the story of Rosa Parks, why she is a significant person and how it has impacted on life today. Reception will be talking about events in their own lives and changes they see in photos and stories.

**Geography:** We will be developing our knowledge of hot and cold places around the world and developing our map skills by looking at maps of the world. Year 1 will also be naming the continents and oceans.

**Computing:** Year 1 will develop their design skills and create text and images, as well as learning about e-safety in relation to giving out personal information. Reception will also learn about e-safety.

**RE:** We will be finding out about Palm Sunday and Easter and learning about Jesus as a Friend.

## English

We will be reading superhero stories and books about the work of Rosa Parks and Greta Thunberg. We will also explore non-fiction books in relation to people who help us in the community e.g. fire service, medical staff and police. We will also be reading and talking about poetry.

Reception will continue their Drawing Club sessions to help develop drawing and fine motor skills as well as provide opportunities to demonstrate and build upon their phonic knowledge and writing skills.

We will use key texts such the 'Oi Frog' series to teach the concept of rhyming words. There will be opportunities in Phonics sessions and in play to use their knowledge of letters and sounds to write simple labels and lists.

During English lessons, the Year 1 children will write sentences and short pieces of text with increasing independence, spelling a greater number of words correctly and using fingers spaces accurately without the need for reminders. We will be writing to entertain and to inform.

We will continue to use the Song of Sounds phonics programme to learn different letter sounds every week as well as high frequency 'tricky' words.

Reception will continue with Song 1 and we will revisit the individual sounds such as d, m, t before moving on to the digraphs (2 letters that represent one sound) such as sh, th, ai.

Year 1 will continue to work through Song 2.

### Reading at home:

Reading books will be changed twice a week. This will give the children the opportunity to read a book at least twice before changing it for a new one. This is really important for building up fluency and word recognition skills. It will also develop their comprehension skills as they will have a greater understanding of the text once they have read it twice. Listening to their favourite stories being read aloud will also support comprehension skills. The more stories children hear, the greater understanding they have of how texts work and the more vocabulary they learn. Please read with your child as often as possible- even 5 minutes a day can increase their confidence and fluency.

### Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be using junk modelling to produce models of their choice and can access the painting area on a daily basis.

They will be able to immerse themselves in a variety of role-play situations linked to our new learning and we will create these role play areas with the children, using their ideas as a starting point.

**Art:** Year 1 will be developing their drawing skills. They will create self portraits and use this learning to create a portrait of Greta Thunberg.

**DT:** Year 1 will be creating capes as part of our work on superheroes and materials.

**Music:** Mrs Burton will be using Music Express to develop the children's singing skills and knowledge of playing musical instruments.

### Physical Development (PE)

We will be exploring dance and gymnastics in the hall and multi-skills during our sessions with Mr Lowes.

In class we will be developing the children's gross motor skills by using the trim trail, bikes and scooters and by using the equipment to create our own obstacle courses. We will also be following the programme 'Squiggle while you Wiggle' to encourage the children to create large movements when mark making.

We will develop the children's fine motor control by using play dough, small construction and utensils such as tweezers to help strengthen finger muscles in preparation for holding a pencil. Our daily morning activities will also include scissor skills, tracing and letter formation.

Y1 will be following handwriting patterns, improving letter formation and will use cursive letter formation when they are ready.