



## Year 1 Hedgehogs Newsletter –Spring 2

### **Welcome**

Welcome back. I hope everyone has had a lovely half term break. We're now half way through the school year, which has flown by so fast! This half term is short, but busy so here's a taste of what we're up to.

### **Phonics and Reading**

**Phonics**

Following the Little Wandle Phonics scheme the children will be continuing with Phase 5 and we will be 'growing the code' more. This means spending lessons exploring one sound and all the many ways it can be written. We will also be reading lots of tricky words.

In guided reading sessions, we continue to develop the children's skills in reading independently and practising blending in their heads as well as focusing on comprehension. Reading books will continue to be collected in on Tuesdays and returned for reading at home on Thursdays.

We will read a story to the children every day and they can change their library books once per week.

Recommended reads for year 1: [Best Books for Year 1: Recommended Booklist for Ages 5-6 \(booksfortopics.com\)](http://booksfortopics.com)

### **Writing**

This term we will complete two book-based writing units and a film unit. We will be starting with the book 'Storm Whale' by Benji Davies, who also wrote Grandad's Island that we explored last half term. We will be developing our language and vocabulary skills before writing a short story.



Then we will be using the short film 'Once in a lifetime' to explore 'what am I?' riddles and poems. Finally we will use the book 'Dogs Don't Do Ballet' to develop the children's abilities to write for longer and produce a more in depth piece of writing.

### **Maths**

Our first unit is on place value to 50. We will cover lots of the place value skills we have already learned but apply them to working with larger numbers. This includes using a number line, one more and one less, estimating, and partitioning numbers into tens and ones.



Our next unit is about length and we will learn how to compare items by their length and how to measure using non-standard and standard units.

Our final unit is on measure and volume and we will be talking about weighing objects and learning how to measure the volume of a container.

### **Science**

The science theme is animals. We will be learning about animal features and how animals can be grouped into mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. We will also be talking about pets and we will be asking the children to send in photographs of any pets that



they have at home. We are also taking the children to visit Johnson's of Old Hurst Reptile House and Zoo. There they will have the opportunity to have a tour with a keeper and have a classroom handling session to learn about whether animals are herbivores, carnivores or omnivores. You can view the zoo's website here: <https://www.johnsonsofoldhurst.co.uk/>

### **Computing**

In computing we will be learning coding. They will learn how to give simple instructions to create a code and how to run it to make something happen. We are aiming to have a computing day to explore this.



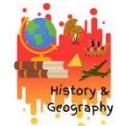
### **Art**

In art we are going to learn about sculptures by using paper to create 3D models. We will explore different ways of manipulating paper at first, including making tubes, and then we will create a 'tree of life' over two lessons.



### **History**

In History we will be learning about toys and looking at how they have changed or stayed the same in the last 100 years. We have lots of toys for the children to explore in the classroom.



### **Music**

Our music focus this term is on listening and appraising different pieces of music across a range of genres and styles. Each week we will also develop our skills of rhythm and pulse.



### **PE**

PE days are **Tuesday and Thursday**. We will be continuing with our dance unit and building on the skills the children have learned on moving to the beat, counting a pulse in the music, and following a short routine. We will also be learning how to throw with accuracy towards a target and playing target games in our second lesson.



Children should come to school in their school PE kit on these days - black joggers/leggings and black hoody/sweatshirt or school jumper.

### **PSHE**

This term in PSHE we have two topics. Our first is about computer safety and how to stay safe online. We will also be completing a relationships unit about friendship.



### **RE**

In RE, we will be continuing our unit on 'Places in Christianity' and exploring the different types of churches that there are both in Corby and throughout the UK. We will also learn about some key events that take place in churches.



### **Enrichment**

Our main enrichment is our trip to the zoo. This will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. We will be out of school all day but within school hours. All children will need a packed lunch. More information on this trip will follow in a letter.

We will be organising a visitor to come into school to talk to the children about the toys they played with when they were younger. This will give the children an opportunity to ask questions as part of developing their history skills.

We are also looking at booking JamCoding to support the children with their coding day. We will keep you posted on this.

There will also be some fun activities planned for both World Book Day and Red Nose Day, which we are all looking forward to.



### Homework Project



We will continue to send home the phonics booklets with the weekly breakdown of learning, the maths booklets for each unit, and the guided reading books each week. Please record the children's reading each week so that they can earn Dojo points for home learning. The children should also continue to practice their handwriting using the Kinetic Letters booklets sent home in Autumn 2.

We will also be asking the children to send in photographs of their favourite toys and their pets, if they have any. Keep an eye on Class Dojo for when we would like these.



### Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



### Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude.



### Class information

**Class Teacher:** Mrs Burnham

[jburnham@corbyprimaryacademy.org](mailto:jburnham@corbyprimaryacademy.org)

**Supported by:** Mrs Reeves and Miss Cameron

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

### Dates for the diary!



#### Spring 2

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Parents evening 3.30pm – 6pm

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March- Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm



## CORBY PRIMARY ACADEMY

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day – tbc

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Year 1 trip to the zoo

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – school closes for Easter

