

**Dear Class 1 Parents,**

This Autumn term, we will be exploring our cross curricular topic, *CommuniCLAYtion and Language*. This has been designed with the interests and the *Personal, Social and Emotional* needs of the children in mind. We will continue to learn, in greater depth, about clay and its uses, following our Nursery project last summer with Jon the Potter from Eastnor Pottery. We have been busy brainstorming lots of questions we want to ask Jon when he comes to visit us in school and we have made a list of some of the things we already know about clay. We will be taking a trip to Eastnor Pottery and Eastnor Castle during this half term.



Black=National Curriculum Areas

Blue=Early Years Development Matters

**English/Communication and Language/Literacy** - We will be following the *Read, Write, Inc* Programme for phonics. Year 1 and Reception will be taught separately. Reception will cover set 1 speed sounds and 'Fred can't red' words. Year 1 will be learning set 2 and 3 speed sounds, high frequency words and using a *Talk for Writing* approach with stories and poems linked to their interests. Our shared reading sessions will include traditional tales, fantasy, poems and non-fiction books.

**Mathematics/Mathematics** - We will be following the Hamilton planning. Year 1 and Reception will be taught separately. Reception will be counting, recognising numerals, ordering, learning about 2D/3D shapes and position, patterns, addition and subtraction, length, money and time. Year 1 will be practising; counting and sequences, mental addition, money and time, measures and shapes, addition and subtraction, sequences and shapes, doubling and halving and time, shape and data.

**Science/Understanding the World** - We will be looking at the properties of clay and experimenting with other everyday materials. During our Forest Schools sessions, we will be looking at seasonal changes.

**RE/Understanding the World** - We will be reading stories which are special to us and asking why? Activities will be planned with expressive arts and design approach. This term we will cover Harvest, Diwali and Christmas.

**PE/Physical Development** - We will be using the real PE curriculum, an approach which helps ALL children to develop physical literacy, emotional and thinking skills to achieve in PE, sport and life. The ultimate goal being children feeling valued, included, challenged and supported, whatever their ability.

**Art/Design and Technology/Expressive Arts and Design** - We will be visiting Jon the Potter, a local craftsman, in his studio and working with him on our own sculptures. We will also be learning about other local craft-makers and designers.

**Music/Expressive Arts and Design** - We will be learning lots of new songs in time for the Harvest Festival. We will also be learning an African song, listening to music from around the world and using our large variety of instruments to experiment how sounds on tuned and untuned instruments can be changed.

**History/Understanding the World** - Our visit to Eastnor Castle will help us to develop an awareness of the past and discover any significant historical events, people and places in our own locality.

**Geography/Understanding the World** - We will be looking at the human and physical geography of a place of interest in our local area and comparing it with a small area in a contrasting non-European country. During Registration in the mornings and afternoons we will be travelling around the world, learning how to say *hello* and *goodbye* in the language of the country we are visiting and finding out on our map where they are, and what their flag looks like. We have started with Wales!

**Computing/Understanding the World** - We will be learning how to use simple age-appropriate computer programmes and how to use technology for purpose, understanding what algorithms are and how to use technology safely and respectfully.

**PSHE/Personal, Social, Emotional Development** - We will be getting to know each other through games, songs and our clay project and learning how to care for ourselves, our pets, other people and our environment.

Class 1 homework will be set weekly and will consist of Maths and English. Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be returned by the following Wednesday. Please read with your child every night (it doesn't have to be their school book) and record this in their green exercise book, which must be brought to school every day. We will aim to read with each child twice a week. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated and if you can spare any time to hear readers in school, please do let us know as any extra support has a positive impact.

If you have any questions at all, pop them on Tapestry and we will do our best to answer them. We will keep you up to date and support/guide learning at home, through Tapestry, to ensure consistency, so please do log in on a daily basis and tap the *like* icon to show you have read the Home Liaison entries. We are looking forward to working with you and your children this term.

**Karen Robb, Sarah Crane and Kerry Mole.**

