

Year 1 Newsletter

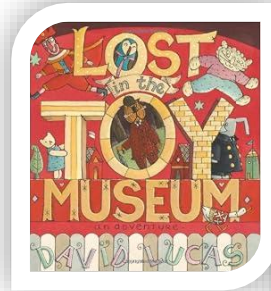
Autumn 1

Welcome back

We hope you all enjoyed your summer holidays and spent time relaxing with family and friends. We are excited about being back in school and looking forward to our first half term.

Learning

Our first topic will be **Toys**. We'll explore a variety of toys throughout history, discussing what we mean by "old" and "new," and discovering how toys have changed over time. In **Science**, we'll investigate everyday materials and their properties, carrying out experiments to test whether different materials float or sink. This links with our work in **D.T.**, where we'll think creatively about how to upcycle materials that cannot be recycled. In **R.E.**, our focus will be on belonging — we'll reflect on the different groups we are part of, including religious groups, and what it means to be a member of a community



English

In English, our first focus text will be *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. Using this familiar and engaging story, children will develop their foundational writing skills through oral storytelling, sentence construction and dictated sentences. This is an important part of early literacy development as it helps children apply their phonics knowledge, strengthen spelling and handwriting skills, practise sentence punctuation, and build confidence in writing independently. We will then move on to our Toys topic, where our key text will be *Lost in the Toy Museum* by David Lucas. Alongside this, we will also explore a traditional tale as part of our whole-school project, *Take One Text*.

The children will continue with their phonics learning following our Little Wandle scheme, which will include a recap of the Phase 2-4 sounds during this half term. This will also include reading practice sessions, where children will read with adults three times a week to build fluency, develop prosody and answer comprehension questions.

Maths

In Maths we will begin by grouping up to 10 objects in different ways. We will then work on place value within 10. After this we will begin looking at adding and subtracting numbers up to 10 in different ways and work at greater depth to explain our thinking and prove our theories. We will also work on our number bonds to 10.

Home Learning

We believe that reading at home plays a vital role in supporting your child's learning at school. We recommend that children read aloud to an adult every evening for around ten minutes. Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school each day. This allows them to access a wide range of books and enables teachers to give feedback and suggest further reading to support their progress. In addition, weekly spellings will be sent home to complement the Little Wandle phonics programme. To help your child practise, encourage them to read each word, cover it, write it down, and then check for accuracy.

The children have settled into their first week and we thank you for supporting us during this transition into Year 1.

Many thanks,

Miss Barrett and Miss Johnson-Clarke