

Puffins Curriculum Overview

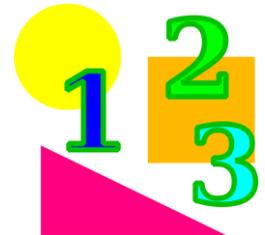
Hello and welcome to our first curriculum newsletter of 2022/23. The children have all settled well over the past week and have been enjoying a range of activities inside and outside the classroom.

We have a busy and exciting term lined up for the children. Our topic this half term is 'All About Me'. Initially we will be spending time getting to know each other. We will be talking about our families and pets and looking at how our bodies work, including how we use our senses. We will also be exploring how to stay fit and healthy, including ways to exercise, healthy food and personal hygiene, including oral health.



In English we will be focussing on traditional tales and songs and rhymes. The children will be able to develop their language and communication skills through role-play, small world play, circle time and Phonics activities. We will also provide lots of practise at developing fine motor skills through cutting and pencil control activities, together with hand writing practise for the Year Ones.

In Maths we will be covering lots of different skills including oral counting, counting and sorting objects and learning numbers to 10 and beyond. We will also be looking at patterns, recognising and describing 2D shapes and using positional language. Year One will be working on comparing and ordering numbers and place value.



In P.E. we will be working on fundamental movement skills; developing agility, balance and co-ordination through a range of fun multi-skills sessions with coach Harry Sheader. Later on this half term, the children will also benefit from fun tri-golf sessions with golf coach Ivan Oliver.

In R.E. we will be exploring what makes us special and unique, looking at other people who are special to us and learning about naming ceremonies. We will also be developing our understanding of the Christian values of generosity and thankfulness. Towards half term we will be learning about Harvest and how this links to our Christian values.

Next week our Reception children will bring home a storybook to share with a grown-up. We teach the children to read using Phonics and I will be holding a parent's meeting later this half term to explain this further. As the children develop their reading skills we will be sending home the sounds/letters they have learned, together with simple words to practise. The children will then begin to work from a reading scheme in school and will be bringing these books home when they are ready. Our Year One children will continue to bring home a reading book, word wall and sounds sheet to practise. We have invested in a new scheme of reading books, linked to our Phonics programme. We will be reading with the children each week, both individually and through shared and guided reading, so please can the children bring their reading packs and books to school each day. It is also very important for the children to practise their reading regularly at home, as this improves their fluency. It is also really helpful if you can fill in your child's reading record when they have read at home.



We encourage children to bring a bottle of drinking water to school each day, which they can keep in the classroom and access as needed. It is useful to name your child's bottle to avoid confusion. We are keen for the children to drink regularly, and having their own water bottle in school encourages this. The children are also able to purchase a drink of fruit juice or milk shake at morning playtime for 35p if they wish and it is useful if they have a small named purse to keep their money in. They can then keep this safely in their drawer. All the children get a piece of fruit every afternoon.

All children in Reception and Key Stage One are entitled to have a school dinner each day free of charge. Mrs Hansen, our school cook, takes great pride in the healthy meals she cooks for the children. Whilst you are able to send a pack up for your child if you wish, we would encourage you to take advantage of our free school dinners. We are very flexible and only need to know on the day if your child would like a school dinner.



There will not be any formal parent's evenings until after half term, but if you would like to speak to us at any time we are always available before and after school should you have any questions or concerns. You can also message me anytime on Class Dojo.

We are very much looking forward to having a wonderful and enjoyable year in Puffins class.

Mrs Dinsdale, Mrs Goacher, Miss Cousins and Mrs Sutton