

Newdigate Infant CofE school curriculum information for parents - Autumn term

English

We start this half-term by writing labels and captions around the classroom before using 'Funnybones' to help us to label our body and retell a story. We will be exploring picture books based on the authors Janet and Allan Ahlberg, including 'Peepo!' We shall be exploring the texts in a range of ways including art, drama, independent writing, and role play. We will also be using the 'Time Travel' theme to look at poetry and nursery rhymes. Later in the term, we will be writing our own fiction and non-fiction work based in Space, including learning about Neil Armstrong and retelling 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. Throughout our English work we will be looking at new vocabulary as well as grammar, punctuation and spellings for the Year 1 curriculum.

Computing

This term, we will be focusing on using technology to present our work. Using a cross-curricular approach with English, we will be learning to add text and images to our stories on the computer, and exploring how to edit our text and images, as well as learning to save, retrieve and print our finished work.

P.E

This term we are lucky to have Premier Sports returning to run sessions across the school. This half term the focus is on Gym and Dance skills. In addition to this, we continue to run regular, short physical breaks through our 'Jump Start Johnny' interactive dancing, challenges, chill outs and mindfulness sessions. When possible, we go outside to have physical rest breaks and we also take part in meditation and yoga sessions. Premier Sports also run a weekly lunchtime 'All children active' session.

Creative Curriculum

As part of our Creative Curriculum, 'Time Travel', we are looking forward to inviting Grandparents in, to talk about an artefact or photograph so that we can learn about the past. We will also be thinking about what advancements and changes might happen in the future. As part of the History curriculum, we will focus on the life of a significant individual from the past - Neil Armstrong. It is also part of the History curriculum to focus on 'changes within living memory'.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will be consolidating our knowledge of numbers within 10; sorting, counting, reading and writing the numbers in numerals and words. We will then go on to counting one more and one less. Later in the term we will be using practical resources to compare groups, and learn about language and symbols used to compare groups (eg. equal, more/greater, less/fewer). Next, we will begin our work on addition and subtraction within 10 and learning our number bonds to 10. We will also be starting to solve problems using concrete objects and pictorial representations. Towards the end of the term we will be working with numbers to 20. We will also be looking at 2-d and 3-d shapes, including sorting and naming shapes and creating our own patterns.

Science

In Science this term, we will be starting by exploring the human body. Children will have the opportunity to label parts of the body and take part in different sense investigations, including smell pots and listening stations. After the half term, we will be using our Time Travel theme to Investigate 'materials' and their properties, including Space vehicles. This includes creating and testing our own lunar lander and parachute landing. Throughout the year we shall continue to investigate the weather and seasons.

Year 1 Curriculum letter Autumn 2018 'Time Travel'



MOLEs (Making Outdoor Learning Exciting sessions)

Our MOLEs learning will begin with the children working in the pond area in small and large groups to explore the pond habitats and the environment in and around the pond. We will then take our MOLE sessions onto the forest area on the school field where the children will be accessing a 'Forest School' approach to their learning. Learning transferable skills and getting to know and love their environment. This term, as well as play-based child-led learning, we will focus on the changing seasons and how this affects the environment, and how different animals native to Britain, prepare for the colder weather.



Creative Curriculum

We link as much of our learning as possible to our topic and the children are offered opportunities to explore their own ideas within this. The children will be taking part in a '**Stunning Start**' where they will be creating a full-size time machine and as part of our '**Marvellous Middle**' we will be listening to Grandparents talking about one of their exciting memories from the past with an artefact or picture. For the '**Fantastic Finale**' we plan to create a time capsule to be opened by future Newdigate children!

R.E/PSHCE

In R.E this term our two units will be; 'Who is God?' and 'What is the Bible about?' In the lead up to Christmas, we will focus on the birth of Jesus.

Our value this term is '**Love**', followed by '**Peace**' after half term. Please try to find the time to discuss these values with your child. This year we will be commemorating WW1 centenary and are planning a special remembrance service as a reminder of the importance of peace in our lives; <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/ww1-centenary/> In PSHE, we will be focusing on the theme '**Going for Gold**'; helping the children to set themselves achievable simple goals and feel a sense of pride when they reach them. They also learn to deal with the feelings of disappointment if they are not able to achieve them.

General Information

HOMEWORK

Children have reading homework every night. Please refer to your child's homework book for more information on the 'reading challenge'.

Homework comprises of Phonics, English and Maths activities and there will often be a Topic related learning.

Homework will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the **following Thursday** for marking. If homework is handed in late, we cannot guarantee it will be marked that week due to ongoing after school commitments. However, we will endeavour to mark it the following week, if it is handed in on time.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

There will a Parents Evening during the Autumn Term – this will be an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled in to their new class and also to discuss your child's progress. However, if for any reason you wish to discuss your child before this, you are welcome to 'pop in' for a chat or will possibly be asked to make an appointment if further discussion is needed. **We politely ask that you wait for all of the children in class to be dismissed at the end of the day, before you request a chat.**

P.E KIT

Your child should have P.E kit in school. This comprises of a white P.E top, shorts, trainers, white socks where necessary and some jogging bottoms for colder weather. We do try to get the children outside as much as possible so appropriate clothing is vital. Their P.E kit stays in school until the end of the half term and we will give it to your child to take home for washing over the half term break.

TOYS

Toys from home are not allowed into school. They can cause a distraction to the children's learning and some children get upset that they don't have their toys in school with them as others do. If there is a special circumstance, we do occasionally allow a child to bring in a soft toy from home for a short time. This needs to be discussed first. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.