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Headteacher - Miss Amanda Rogers

## JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome back after a very wet and windy Christmas and New Year. The children have returned full of excitement and ready to get back into the swing of learning and school routines.

Attached are our Curriculum Newsletters which explain what the children are learning in each subject area. Hopefully this will help when you ask your child/ren what they are doing in school!



Significant dates until Easter are featured at the end of the newsletter, please be aware of INSET days and early closing on the last day of term.

| Height & Weight | Age   |
|-----------------|-------|
| Reception       | 4-5   |
| Y1              | 5-6   |
| Y2              | 6-7   |
| Y3              | 7-8   |
| Y4              | 8-9   |
| Y5              | 9-10  |
| Y6              | 10-11 |
| Y7              | 11-12 |
| Y8              | 12-13 |
| Y9              | 13-14 |
| Y10             | 14-15 |
| Y11             | 15-16 |
| Y12             | 16-17 |

This term the school nurses will be coming to measure the height and weight of the children in Reception and Year 6. If you **DO NOT WISH YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE** please let the school office know by email and we will inform the nursing team.

| Attendance | Label             |
|------------|-------------------|
| 90%        | Good              |
| 80%        | Needs Improvement |
| 70%        | Concern           |
| 60%        | Very Concern      |
| 50%        | Very Poor         |

Our attendance fell below 90% last term which is very unusual. Whilst we understand about illnesses, we are sharing our Attendance Policy (attached) with you again and a hard copy your child's attendance record which will be sent out today. Miss Rogers will be speaking with parents of children with low attendance and for those who have persistent absenteeism a parenting contract will be offered.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### JANUARY

11<sup>TH</sup> BUTTERFLIES SWIMMING  
18<sup>TH</sup> BUTTERFLIES SWIMMING  
25<sup>TH</sup> BUTTERFLIES SWIMMING

### FEBRUARY

1<sup>ST</sup> BUTTERFLIES SWIMMING  
2<sup>ND</sup> BUTTERFLIES YOUNG VOICES  
7<sup>TH</sup> PARENTS EVENING 3.30-5.30PM  
8<sup>TH</sup> PARENTS EVENING 4.30-6.30PM  
RECEPTION & YEAR 6 HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS  
9<sup>TH</sup> CAKE BAKE SALE FOR THE AIR AMBULANCE (ORGANISED BY THE SCHOOL COUNCIL)  
19<sup>TH</sup> INSET DAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> TERM STARTS  
28<sup>TH</sup> Y5&6 ATHLETICS AT LANGTREE 11.30AM-2PM  
29<sup>TH</sup> WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP TO SCIENCE OXFORD, OXFORD

### MARCH

28<sup>TH</sup> END OF TERM FINISH 1PM

### APRIL

15<sup>TH</sup> TERM STARTS

**Science:** Children will explore different materials and their properties and sort them into groups before writing songs based on their properties! They will consider what it would be like if the tables were made of jelly or the chairs were chocolate! Then recreate the story of the three little pigs and predict what will happen to their houses and why.

**English:** Children will be exploring Fairy and Traditional Tale. They will use these stories as a basis for writing their own traditional tales. Children will also complete daily phonics, spelling and guided reading sessions to develop their knowledge and skills in these areas.

**Maths:** Year 1: Children will start by looking at recognising and counting coins. They will explore the place value of numbers to 20 and then to 50. They have opportunities to develop their addition and subtraction skills with numbers to 20 and then 50 as well. They will also explore Length, height, mass and volume. Year 2: Children will explore money, recognise coins and notes, and look at ways of making amounts in different ways, and using money to solve calculations. We will be working on developing children's multiplication and division skills. They will also be working on measures - Length, height, mass, capacity & temperature.

**RE:** Children will find out about the Torah, the Bible and the Qur'an before exploring why they are important for Jews, Christians and Muslims. They will learn about the key features of the books, why they are important and explore some of the stories and teachings included in them.

**History:** In this topic children will find out about three of the most famous queens that each ruled this country for a very long time. One lived nearly 500 years ago and one died very recently, children will see how life has changed a lot over the centuries. The first of our queens, Elizabeth I, who never married or had children, was the most powerful and since then control over the country passed much more to parliament. Each queen had a very different personality but they were all popular and did their best for their people. Queen Elizabeth I fought off an invasion, Queen Victoria saw Britain become the most powerful country in the world and Queen Elizabeth II managed to hold the country together at a time of major change in which Britain became less important in the world.

## Once Upon A Magic: Fairy & Traditional Tales Spring 1 Key Stage One

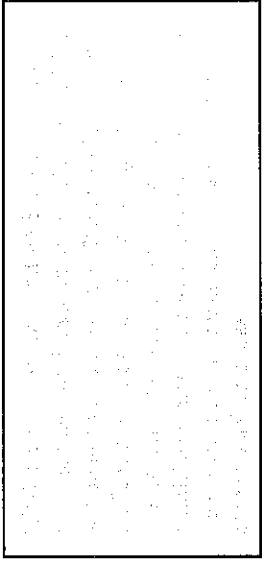
Children will be given spellings to practise at home. They will also be given a phonics based reading book, to help develop fluency it will be read at least 3 times before being changed. Children will be expected to complete the before/after reading activities in the phonics based books. On seesaw further activities to support children's phonics and maths skills will be updated weekly, children will also be given a book to record their activities in, children's spellings will also be posted onto seesaw and sent home in these books.

**Computing:** This unit develops children's understanding of instructions in sequences and the use of logical reasoning to predict outcomes. Children will use given commands in different orders to investigate how the order affects the outcome. They will also learn about design in programming. They will develop artwork and test it for use in a program. They will design algorithms and then test those algorithms as programs and debug them.

**Art:** Children will think about their favourite colours and the colours that are all around them every day, before looking at how colours are used in art. They will learn about primary colours, secondary colours, colour mixing, and light and shade, as well as look at the artwork of artists who use colours in interesting ways, namely Kandinsky and Mondrian. Children will also explore block printing, and how colour can be used to create block printing patterns.

**Music:** Through fairy tales, children are introduced to the concept of timbre; learning that different sounds can represent characters and key moments in a story. They explore clapping along to the syllables of words and phrases before creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairy tale.

**PSHE:** This unit encourages children to think about where money comes from and how it can be used. Children will discuss the idea of spending and saving their money and begin to understand why it is important to keep belongings, including money, safe. They will also learn about the different things on offer when they go shopping and how we need to identify the difference between the things we want and the things we need.



### Personal, Social, Emotional Education

This term we will be focusing on money and how people earn money. We will be exploring different jobs in the community and think about what children would like to do when they grew up. Children will also be thinking about their positive attributes and set goals for the future.

### Fine Motor Skills

Children will be working on their fine motor skills and will be using a pencil grip and forming both letters and words using their letters clearly. Children will also be using their skills when using scissors and glue. In PE sessions we will be looking at some of the balance and coordination skills and also working on our ball skills. Children need to bring in a pair of comfortable shoes on Mondays and Fridays.

### Communication & Language

Children will listen and discuss stories to build their familiarity and understanding of stories and their features. Children will describe events in details. They will practise connecting one idea to another using a range of connectives. Children will articulate ideas and thoughts in well formed sentences.

### Literacy

Children will listen and discuss a range of Traditional and Fairy Tales. They will also take part in daily phonics sessions to develop their phonic skills, and letter/sound recognition. Children will also practise writing their names and forming letters. They will also practise their phonic skills for reading and read simple words and later captions/sentences. They will also be introduced to common exception words and will start to practise their recognition and spelling of these.

# Once Upon a Magic (Fairy Tales & Traditional Tales) Spring 1 EYFS: Reception

### Phonics

Children will focus on the following sounds this term:

j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Children will practise the following common exception words:

to, the, no, go, so, I, he, she, we, me, be, was, you, my, they, here, all, are

Children will bring home individualised flash cards for the sounds and words they are practising in school.

### Mathematics

Children will also be introduced to 0. They will practise comparing numbers to 5 as well as exploring the composition of 4 & 5. Children will explore and compare mass and capacity. They will explore the numbers 6, 7, & 8. Children will be introduced to addition and strategies for this. They will also explore length and height.

### Understanding the World

Children will talk about themselves and people familiar to them. They will explore different materials and their properties. Children will start to draw information from maps. They will explore some similarities and differences between religious and cultural communities with a focus on religious books. They will also be exploring the past linked to stories about queens.

Children will be given sound and word cards and it is beneficial if these can be practised at home as well as in school. Once children are secure in some sounds and words they will also be given a phonics based reading book to help develop fluency it will be read at least 3 times before being changed. Children will be expected to complete the before/after reading activities in the phonics-based books. On seesaw further activities to support children's phonics and maths skills will be updated each week. Children will be given a blank book to complete these activities in but can be completed in other ways if this is easier. You can also use seesaw to send messages, ask questions directly to me, messages are only seen by myself, when uploading children's work/photos/videos etc, they will not be seen by any one else unless approved by me. You will not see other children's activities unless your child was involved. If you have any questions, concerns, etc you can also email me at [misswadsworth@south-stoke.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:misswadsworth@south-stoke.oxon.sch.uk)

### Expressive Arts & Design

Children will explore art works from a range of artists. Children will also explore colour and how colour can be used to represent feelings. They will listen to a range of music from a variety of genres, they will explore timbre. They will also explore a range of instruments.

# Topic: Once upon a magic

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>English</b><br/>This term in English we are going to be looking at the stories of King Arthur. We will be exploring the idea of quest stories before writing our own knight's quest narrative. We will also be exploring some magical poetry this term using 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright as our stimulus for poetry writing.<br/><b>Reading records are to come into school every day along with their reading book. Children are encouraged to read at home each day.</b><br/><b>Year 6 will be receiving a piece of English related homework each Friday.</b></p> | <p><b>Maths</b><br/>We will all be focused on developing our knowledge and skill slinked with length, area and perimeter. Year 5/6 will also look at calculating volume. We will then all move on to start our learning linked to fractions which will continue after the half term holiday.<br/><b>Times Table Rockstars log ins have been sent home. This will be the focus for the children's homework again this term.</b><br/><b>Year 6 will receive an additional piece of maths homework each Friday.</b></p> | <p><b>Science</b><br/>This term the children will be starting their exploration of electricity. They will look at appliances and how to stay safe around electricity. They will construct simple circuits and identify which circuits will or will not work. They will conduct investigations into conductors and insulators.</p>   |
| <p><b>Art</b><br/>This term the children will be exploring the art of illusion. They will be looking at creating perspective using vanishing points and horizon lines. They will relate this to specific painters who used this to create realistic interior paintings. They will also look at foreshortening in art and finish by creating their own optical art using line and colour effects.</p>  | <p><b>PSHE</b><br/>This term the children will be focusing on respect. They will be working on recognising respectful behaviours and the importance of self-respect. They will consider how to be polite to all people no matter their gender, race or faith.</p>  | <p><b>RE</b><br/>This term the children will be looking at sacred texts and why they are important in religions. They will be exploring the various texts of the amin religions and considering the beliefs that are expressed in these. They will also look at how these texts may be interpreted.</p>   |
| <p><b>History</b><br/>This term the children will be looking at the Anglo Saxons and their migration across Britain. They will continue to develop their understanding of using evidence and will be focusing on the concept of bias. They will be focusing their work on the study of Sutton Hoo but will be exploring the religion, Culture and society of the time. They will develop their chronological understanding also.</p>  | <p><b>Music</b><br/>This term we will be focusing on getting ready for Young Voices. We will be using the songs to develop our singing abilities as well as learning the dance movements. WE will also look at the graphic scores for the music and develop our understanding of musical notation.<br/><b>Reminder that Young Voices is on Friday 2nd February. Parents who ordered tickets should have received these via an email link.</b></p>  | <p><b>PE</b><br/>This term we are focusing on Dodgeball. Children will develop their throwing and catching skills. They will build on their attack and defence tactics. Towards the end of the unit they will work on their understanding of the rules and apply these in a tournament. In addition, we will be going swimming on Thursday mornings.<br/><b>Full PE kits need to be worn on Mondays and Fridays. No earnings please.</b><br/><b>Swimming kits every Thursday.</b></p> |
| <p><b>Computing</b><br/>Stop motion animation is our focus this term. Learners will use a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation using tablets. Next, they will apply those skills to create a story-based animation. This unit will conclude with learners adding other types of media to their animation, such as music and text.</p>   |  |   |