

Autumn First Half Term

Newsletter

Class 1



Dear Parents,

First of all, a warm welcome to Class 1. I hope that you had a lovely summer holiday. I am really looking forward to the year ahead as I have been delighted with how well the children have settled back into a new life at The Croft. We are delighted to welcome all the children back to school and they seem as eager as we are to get going this term! This newsletter will tell you what the children will be learning this half term in Class 1. I hope you find it informative and helpful.

Recovery Curriculum

Over the next 7 weeks, we are welcoming the children back through a book based curriculum. As teachers, we have chosen 3 main books to use as a stimulus for the rest of the curriculum. This is our recovery curriculum for the children that is targeted at the basic skills that the children need to have in order to make the necessary progress in Year 1. We will be continually working with the children to cover the gaps that they make have so that these can be taught and also moving the children through the initial Year 1 objectives.

Literacy

The books that we have chosen to use are Kites by Simon Mole, After the Fall by Dan Santat and The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas. In reading, the children will be learning to ask questions based on the text, read and understand simple words and sentences and use vocabulary influenced by these books. In writing, the children will be writing simple labels and captions and begin to suggest their own ideas for writing. We will be writing sentences as a class and moving onto individual sentences focusing on using their phonic knowledge to attempt spelling more independently. I will also be working with the children on their handwriting, ensuring that they have the correct pencil control and that they are forming the letters of the alphabet correctly. In phonics, we will be assessing the children to find out what phase of sounds they are on, but will also be recapping the phase 2 and 3 sounds started in Reception. This will ensure that children have a secure knowledge of reading and using these sounds both when sounding out words and when segmenting words for spelling.

Numeracy

Throughout this half term, the children will be practicing their numbers to 20 and will begin to learn numbers beyond. We will also focus on writing these numbers, ensuring that numbers are formed correctly. They will be practicing counting forwards and backwards and will begin to understand addition and subtraction. They will also be solving problems using objects and pictures and will be exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. To help at home, you could practice counting forwards and backwards with your child.

Science

During this term, we will be linking the Science activities to the texts that we are reading. The children will be learning how to compare and contrast different materials and suggesting their own ideas on their suitability for a job. The children will also be learning how to record what they find out from whole class experiments and offering their own ideas on how we could find things out. The children will also be learning about 'The Body.' In this topic, the children will begin to recognise the parts of the body and they will also begin to explore the five senses.

PE

The children will take part in PE once a week on a Monday. On occasion, the children will have a second PE session on a Wednesday. I will inform you of these times the week before their extra session. The children will need to come to school in their PE kit due to new government guidance. Please let me know if your child is unable to take part in PE either by telling me in the morning or emailing me. Please could you ensure that all the children's clothes and pumps have their name in. The children will also need to be able to take their own earrings out if they have them pierced or not wear earrings on a Monday and Wednesday.

Reading and Homework

You will have now received a letter indicating when your child's reading day is in school. Please use the reading record to let me know how your child is reading at home. Again, if you have any queries or concerns about your child's reading, please write it in their reading diary or send me an email and we can work together on this.

Each Friday the children will be given a piece of Literacy or Numeracy homework. Please support the children to complete this at home. If there are any problems with the homework, please do not hesitate to contact me. Over this half term, I will also be assessing the children's spelling ability and will begin to send spellings home for the children to learn. I will include ideas on learning these at home and more information when we are ready to start this.

Reminder

It is very important that the children drink plenty of water during the day. Therefore, I ask for the children to bring a fresh bottle of water in. Sometimes, we can have little spills, therefore the children cannot have squash or fizzy drinks in the classroom. Please could you also make sure that your child's water bottle is stored away from their reading book on the way to school as this can result in water damaged books.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the current climate, the best way to contact me is via email. My email is staff15@croft.staffs.sch.uk but you can also contact me before and after school on the school phone.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Sarah Richards