



Downside Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Karen Hooker

April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 1 children,

I hope you had a good break; welcome back to another busy term.

Our topic work for the first half of the term will be Gardener's World and for the second half of the term it will be Wild Africa.

In our science lessons, we will be learning about plants and investigating growing conditions. We will also be investigating the properties of materials and this will link to our work in art. We will also be finding out about animals from Africa and going to Woburn Safari Park to see some of these in real life.

This term in Literacy, the children are going to write their own stories based on the Percy the Park Keeper books. We will be working on developing their imagination and extending their vocabulary to make their stories more interesting. Linked to our science topic on plants, we will be writing instructions for growing plants and learning about explanation texts. We will also be looking at a range of poems.

In maths, we will be extending the children's understanding of addition and subtraction and partitioning numbers into 10s and 1s. We will be counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, recalling doubles and working with money and sharing objects equally. The children will be describing the features of 2D and 3D shapes, as well as using standard units to measure and compare length, weight and capacity. We will also be solving problems using measures and continuing to develop the children's concept of time.

In our music lessons, we will be making and controlling long and short sounds by using both our voices and percussion instruments.

Our PE lessons are going to be outside games and athletics skills. The children will require a PE kit suitable for outside activities and comfortable trainers. Please check your child's shoes on a regular basis as their feet grow so quickly.



Our PHSE theme is Relationships. We will be thinking about the important people in our lives and what makes us proud or jealous. Linked to this, in RE we will be reading and acting out stories from the Bible to help us talk about jealousy.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the year 1 phonics test in June. All our children need to take part in this test and we would appreciate their attendance during this time.

Thank you for supporting us with the work you are doing at home. Reading daily with your child, talking about the work they are doing at school and at home and encouraging them to make the most of the homework tasks makes a huge difference to their learning and enjoyment of school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs G. Manning

Year 1 Leader