Downside Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Karen Hooker

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Dear Parents and Carers of year 1 children,

Welcome back to a new school year. I am pleased to say that the children have settled nicely into their new classes and are getting used to the routines and expectations of learning in Key Stage One. We are looking forward to a happy and productive year and hope that the following information will help you and your children have the best start to Year 1.

Literacy:

In literacy this half term, we will be focusing on simple stories and recounts. We will teach the children to read key words and to extend their knowledge of phonics so that they can read and spell increasingly complex words. We will also focus on basic sentence structure e.g. using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1	**Grammar:** -structure a simple sentence -revise capital letters -revise use of full stops
Week 2	**The Train Ride:** -write sentences using capital letters -use phonics knowledge to spell unknown words -write sentences where unknown words are spelt phonetically
Week 3	**Captions, lists and labels:** **Book: The Five senses** -understand how and when to use labels and captions
Week 4	**Captions, lists and labels:** **Book: The Five senses** -understand how and when to use labels and captions
Week 5	**Worrysaurus:** -write sentences about feelings
Week 6	**Worrysaurus:** -write accurate sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops
Week 7	**Poetry:** -read, learn and understand a poem
Week 8	**Nativity Story:** -use drama to act out a familiar story

Maths:

In numeracy, we are focusing on the numbers 0 – 10. We will teach the children to recognise numbers and how to represent them in concrete and abstract forms. We will also explore 2D shapes and their properties.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1	**Number:** -form numbers correctly to 10 -count on and back to 10
Week 2	**Number:** -count objects and represent the quantity of objects as numbers -count a given number of objects and separate them from a larger group
Week 3	**Number:** -represent numbers using objects -count on from any number up to 10
Week 4	**Number:** -recognise one more and one less than a number -count backwards within 10
Week 5	**Number:** -compare groups using vocabulary such as one more, one less, more, fewer, greater than, less than
Week 6	**Number:** -match numbers to groups of objects and order them
Week 7	**Shape:** -recognise 2D shapes
Week 8	**Shape:** -recognise 3D shapes

Science:

In science, we will be learning about materials around us. The children will learn the difference between an object and the material from which it is made. They will also learn the names and properties of a range of common materials. Using their experiences at home and in the classroom, the children will begin to explain how the properties of a material make it suitable for a given purpose.

History:

Our history topic this half term is called 'All About Me'. The children will learn about their family tree, compare toys from the past with modern toys and learn how technology has changed during the last few years.

RE:

In RE this half term, we will be focusing on Christianity. The children will learn a Christian's perception of God based on the parable of 'The Lost Son'.

Computing:

In our Computing lessons, the children will use chrome-books and tablets to explore technology around us and understand how it is used.

PE:

In PE, the children will develop the skills of agility, balance and coordination through taking part in athletics. They will also learn how to run around during team games whilst developing spatial awareness.

Music:

In Music, the children will learn how to describe what they are listening to, based on beat, tempo, dynamics and rhythm. They will also learn how to clap and sing in time to the beat.

PSHE:

In PSHE, the children will learn about mindfulness and mental health. They will explore positive behaviours for learning and begin to understand how to regulate their emotions.

Art:

Art lessons will focus on the concept of mechanisms. The children will create sliders and levers. They will then use these to create their own moving picture.

Homework and Reading:

Weekly homework will consist of a Literacy and a Numeracy task. Homework will be sent out on a Wednesday and will be expected back at school on a Monday. This will allow the children ample time to ask for help if needed.

Alongside their homework, the children will receive reading and library books that will be changed regularly at school. Please support your child by reading with them daily and recording this in their home reading journal.

I hope this information will help you to provide support for your child at home. Your support is greatly valued as this helps your child to make the most of every learning opportunity. Should you have any queries, please email on yr1@downside-primary.co.uk and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R. Awadh

Year 1 Leader