

Curriculum subjects

Welcome to a new year of learning. We have a very engaging topic and are really beginning to make some great progress in our learning. This term we will be keeping our expectations high and seeing how far we can stretch ourselves. If you have any comments or questions about your child's learning, please get in touch.

Phonics and Spelling

We enter a phase of consolidating our understanding of the grapheme and phoneme correspondences we have learnt so far. We will look at the 'families' of graphemes that represent the same sound, and begin to identify which spellings of each phoneme are most common, helping the children to develop strategies for spelling at the point of writing. We will also be placing more focus on the accurate spelling of the high frequency words used on a day to day basis in our writing.

Reading

Please continue to listen to your child read for 15 minutes daily and log this in their reading record at least 3 times a week. It makes a very visible difference to their progress when they enjoy this support at home, so thank you for making the effort. We are continuing with our weekly cycle of comprehension-based group reading work, together with giving the children opportunities to build and consolidate their reading skills through Lexia.

Writing

We will be applying our developing writing skills in different genres this half term, including writing instructions and simple information texts. As they sustain their writing for longer, we will be learning how to make sure we use punctuation to show where one sentence ends and another begins. We have started to learn how to join our letters together, and will continue to focus on achieving an effective pencil grip which allows clear, fluent and consistent letter formation.

Maths

The focus this half term will be on addition and subtraction within 20, calculating accurately and consistently, and also reasoning out puzzles and solving problems. The mental skills of counting on and back accurately become critical as the size of the numbers we work with increase, especially counting on from ten and above. We will also be working to build our speed of recall of number facts which will support our addition and subtraction calculations.

Religious Education

We will be exploring the idea of Jesus as a friend, posing the question whether it was always easy for Jesus to show friendship.

Computing

We continue to help the children understand how to stay safe when using information technology. We will also be looking at how computing and the use of algorithms helps different day to day activities to take place.

Topic (includes Science, Geography and D&T skills)

Our topic this term of "Food, glorious food" allows us to integrate a number of areas of learning. We start with a specific focus on chocolate. We will be exploring the geographical aspects of how it is produced and also using it as the basis for devising and running scientific investigations, making predictions and observing carefully what we see happen. Finally we will be considering the design and construction of its packaging, in order to create our own packaging solutions.

Forest school

Mrs Brophy will lead the class in forest school sessions on Thursday afternoons. Children will need wellies and a weather appropriate coat. There will be a focus on team work. The sessions will also support and enrich the children's learning in Maths, Literacy, and PSHE.

PE

This half term we will be focusing on movements to music. We will learn a range of movements and balances to a range of musical styles. In small groups, the children will devise a sequence of movements to music.

SEAL/PSHE

The focus this half term is on friendship. We will be supported by our learning in RE. We will look at ways we can help each other and be a good friend and co-learner.

Other Information

Home Learning

We will continue to use our home learning to help consolidate what we are learning in Phonics, English and Maths. Reading continues as a vital component of our home learning, both becoming fluent in decoding words and also developing our ability to think about the meaning of what we are reading.

Core Learning Values

We are learning to think about the skills we need to be independent, work together, be a critical and creative thinker and be reflective in our learning.

PE

Your child will need a named kit and suitable footwear. We will be going outside for some sessions so your child will need named outdoor footwear and tracksuit bottoms/leggings. PE takes place on Mondays.

Dates for your diary:

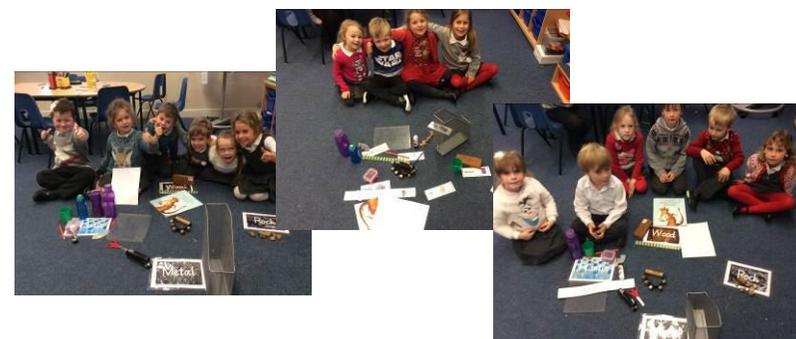
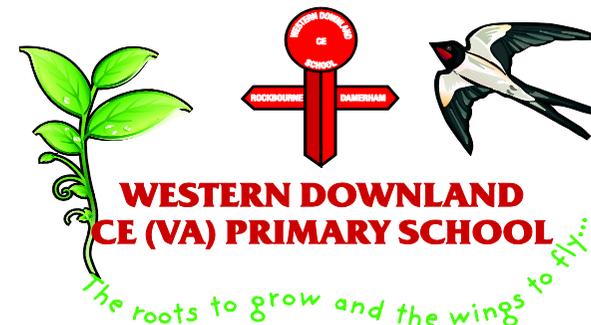
17th January – Nursery Opening Meeting, 6pm

5th February – NSPCC Safer Internet Workshop for parents 2-3pm

6th February- Safer Internet Day

9th February – last day of term

20th & 22nd February – Parent Consultations



Year One Willow Class

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 1 Term 2018

**Mr Richard Thackray
Mrs. Sam Kirkcaldy**

“Food, glorious food”