

Engaines Primary School and Nursery

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas break. We would like to inform you what will be happening in year 1 and 2 this term.

The topics for this term are ‘The Great Fire of London’ and ‘Florence Nightingale’ and much of our work will be based on these topics. We will link these topics to other areas of the curriculum such as Design Technology, Computing and Art.

In Literacy, we will be looking at many types of text and will include work on stories, recounts, fact files, letter writing and poetry. We will share texts with the pupils, learn the texts through mapping and gestures, rewrite the texts and create our own adaptations of the texts. GPS is an essential element of Literacy and regular sessions of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling will take place. The children will be working on The Letters and Sounds Programme for learning or The Engaines Spelling Rules Programme. Early morning activities in Reading and Spelling will take place every morning so that the children become familiar with the sight words and common exception words from The National Curriculum.

The Accelerated Reading Programme will continue this year for our Year Two pupils. The children will be reassessed and reading books will be handed out based on their test scores. After each book has been read, reread and questions have been discussed with parents an online comprehension quiz will be completed at school and then the children will choose a new book. When the children have scored three scores of 100% in a row then new books at a higher level will be issued. Please remember to date and sign the reading record whenever you hear your child read or when you share a bed time story with them.

Our Year One children will be able to access books from our colour coded collections of books and will need to read their book at home before it can be changed for a new one. Please be aware that the children will choose their own books and we do try to encourage them to look inside the book to see if it is one they would like to read. Occasionally your child will choose to pick a book they have had before. This provides a good opportunity for book review and question time. Year One children will have two occasions a week when they can change their reading books. Book changing usually takes place on Mondays and Thursdays. If your child has read their book numerous times and it is not a book changing day, then read with them a book or comic from home. Remember if your child is not in the mood to read to you then take the opportunity to read them a bed time story and note this down in their reading record.

We will do our very best to ensure that your child has book sharing time with a school member of staff or a reading helper. The children will be awarded a sticker on their reading chart if they read at home three times in a week. They will receive two stickers if they read five times in a week. Once their chart has been completed a small reward will be given out.

In Numeracy we shall continue to work on the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as well as fractions, data handling and problem solving. We would hope that the children work on number bonds and times tables as part of their homework. In addition to our daily Numeracy sessions we will also have two short mini maths sessions (Arithmetic and a Maths Meeting). Different levels of challenge will be set accordingly.

Our topic for our Science this term focuses on Materials, Plants and Seasonal Changes.

The children will learn French as their Modern Foreign Language and we will learn simple songs and phases. This term we shall learn the French names for the seasons, months of the year and plants.

In Art we will be looking at artwork depicting the Great Fire of London and creating a range of pieces of art.

In Design Technology we will design and make models of Tudor homes. We are hoping to invite parents and carers in to assist the children in their model making.

Our homework in Key Stage One is topic based. A new homework sheet will be sent home for this term and the children can bring their homework in on the week beginning 11th February.

‘Dojo’ rewards will continue to be given out for good behaviour and fantastic work. When a class earns 1000 dojos they receive an extra 15 minutes golden time. When an individual child receives 100 dojos a reward is chosen from the class rewards box. We will continue to also hand out stickers to acknowledge good behaviour and wonderful work.

We look forward to a fun filled term.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Elmer, Mrs Nunn & Mr Lehain.