



## Wrens Newsletter Spring Term 2018

Our topic this term is '**Up**'. We will be learning about a variety of natural and manmade things that move through the air but will not be venturing into space! Please find further details about each subject below.

<p><b>English</b></p> 	<p>We will be reading lots of stories based on our topic theme 'Up', using them as the context for our learning as well as having a go at writing our own stories. We will look at poems and learn some to recite by heart. We will learn some technical vocabulary that is linked to our topic. We will continue to revisit and revise the graphemes we have already learnt, and practise these to help us with reading and spelling. We are now moving on to look at how the same grapheme might have different sounds in different words( e.g. ea in 'head' and in 'hear'). We are learning to read and spell tricky words and the high frequency words which Year 1 are expected to know. This may involve some practice at home, so please keep an eye on the website. We will be working on letter and number formation and remembering to use finger spaces, full stops and capital letters. As part of National Handwriting Day, will be looking at letters from other languages. In addition to reading at home through our structured scheme, we will be exploring a wide range of texts both in class and in small groups during guided reading sessions.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> 	<p>Maths lessons take place every day and we also have regular, 'short and snappy' mental maths sessions. We will also have an 'on-going' Maths investigation where children will have an opportunity to develop the language needed to discuss and explain mathematical concepts This term, we will focus on addition and subtraction within 20, place value within 50 and on recognising multiples of 2,5 and 10. We will focus heavily on 'fluency' -using and applying the number skills children have learnt in a variety of contexts. This will involve a lot of counting from different start numbers and developing children's understanding of place value so that they can order numbers. Measuring height, length, weight and volume is also covered this term and we will be using these opportunities to connect number to everyday situations.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<p>Some of our Science work this term will link closely to our topic 'Up'. The children will have a go at testing some simple equipment they make, such as parachutes, spinners and kites. They will make observations, record their findings and link measuring activities closely to our Maths work. We will also be observing changes in the natural world around us .to</p>
<p><b>Computing</b></p> 	<p>We'll be learning this term about the huge variety of technology available to us, both at school and at home; linked in with this is of course internet safety.</p>
<p><b>Geography &amp; History</b></p> 	<p>We will look at basic geographical features on maps so that we can identify key features such as mountains and oceans. Aerial views will also link to our topic work as we will be thinking about what we might see if we are flying and looking down. We will enjoy some historical stories and will try to place significant events in order on a timeline. We will learn a little about pioneers of flight such as the Wright brothers and Amelia Earhart.</p>

<p><b>Art &amp; DT</b></p> 	<p>In Art we will be looking closely at landscape pictures. We will be making some observational drawing based on the natural world around us. We will also be experimenting with different materials to make collages. We will have the opportunity to colour mix paints to make secondary colours and to use different techniques to create particular effects.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>The children will take part in a weekly 'Singing Assembly' in addition to learning songs in the classroom. Class music sessions will involve learning about different notes (pitch, duration and rhythm). We will be using instruments to create sound 'pictures' and thinking about the effect music has on the listener.</p>
<p><b>PSHE</b></p> 	<p>Our Golden Rules are very important to us both in the classroom and around school and are referred to regularly. PSHE lessons will focus on 'My Emotions'; children will learn about a whole range of emotions and what may contribute to them feeling such a way. We will be looking at managing risk and staying safe. There will be plenty of role play opportunities so that children have the chance to experience scenarios in a safe context.</p>
<p><b>Physical Education</b></p> 	<p>In their indoor PE lessons this term, the children will be working on their dance and movement skills, often working in pairs and small groups to create sequences based on a piece of music. In outdoor PE, they'll be enjoying games and multi-skills activities, vital for physical learning and awareness at this age. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school with them on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday.</p>
<p><b>Religious Education</b></p> 	<p>This half term's focus is on people in Christianity. Later on this term we will be learning about the Christian celebration of Easter and before that, Lent. We will be exploring why these celebrations are special to Christians and the different ways in which they are celebrated in different parts of the world.</p>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> 	<p>Details for 'Home learning' are on the website. Please ensure that your child is well equipped for school – water bottle (every day) and waterproof are essential. It is useful for children to keep a pair of wellies at school (there is a welly rack outside our cloakroom). PE kit must consist of suitable indoor and outdoor clothing; sturdy, well-fitting trainers (<b>not</b> plimsolls) are a must. Our PE days this term are Mondays and Fridays, as well as t</p> <p>We start our learning after the first morning bell (which goes at 8.40am) – at this time children are often involved in groups and it's also a great time to consolidate learning and practise skills.</p>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Mrs Anne Wilkinson*