



Year 1 Autumn Term 1 2023



Dear Parents,

We hope you and your children have had an enjoyable summer holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Our topic this half term is called 'Once upon a town'. We will be learning about the school and our local area. We have planned a local area walk to look at different buildings in our locality. We are starting the topic with the book 'There's a snake in our school' and later this term we have arranged a visit from some snakes and other animals to support our non-fiction writing. We will also be contrasting town and country through the story 'The town mouse and the country mouse'.

In science we are exploring body parts and our senses. We will be making links between body parts and sense organs. Some visitors from Guide Dogs for the Blind are coming in to help us understand what it is like to be without our sight.

We will be celebrating 'Black History Month' in October by finding out about a different person each week who has made an impact in the world, these are linked to sport, an artist, a mathematician and an actress.

In RE this half term we are going to be introducing 6 main religions. We will look at each religion and learn about their special books, symbols and places of worship. Later in the year we will be looking at some of these in more detail.

Our Art focus for this half term is colour mixing and filling a space using a consistent thickness of paint with links to an artist called Esther Manlangu. We will also discuss and create work inspired by a local graffiti artist Nathan Parker.

Ideas to support your child's enjoyment and learning of this exciting topic.

- Can you help your child draw a map of your route to school?
- Help them to learn their address off by heart.
- Go for a walk around Nuneaton town centre.
- Can you find any Nathan Parker street art?
- Go for a walk in the countryside and talk about how it is different from the town.
- Remember to encourage your child to use their senses.
- When walking around look out for numbers and words on signs etc.

There are a number of areas in which we would appreciate your help. If possible:

- **Don't forget to NAME ALL ITEMS of clothing/equipment** - as this is essential to help us sort out missing cardigans etc.
- Name any bags, lunchboxes and water/drinks bottles.
- Water bottles should have a 'sports top' not a screw on top.
- Don't allow your child to wear jewellery other than studs for safety reasons.

- Please ensure your child has a named PE kit in school that is in a draw string bag **not** a rucksack as we have limited storage space.

Finally, if you have any problems that you wish to talk over with your child's teacher, please feel free to speak to them at the end of the school day, once the children have been dismissed from the classroom. The end of the school day gives us more time for discussion rather than in the morning. We are, of course, available first thing to deal with any urgent queries or problems.

We hope your child settles into Year 1 quickly and enjoys the learning that we have planned.

Thank you in advance for all your support.

Kind regards.
Year 1 team.