St Giles CE Primary School

Curriculum Information: Class 1 – Spring 2 – 2023 – Dangerous Dinosaurs/Puddles and Rainbows

A Message from the Class 1 Team

We hope that you have all had a good half term break. This next term is another busy one. Our topic for this half term is '**Dangerous Dinosaurs** alongside a mini topic **'Puddles and Rainbows'.** This newsletter will explain the learning for each subject area this half term. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or queries.

We will continue to use **ClassDojo** to communicate messages and **Tapestry** to share learning. Please feel free to add any activities to **Tapestry** that you and your child have been doing at home that you think it would be beneficial for us to be aware of, such as riding their bike, going on a walk, swimming etc.

Reading and Phonics

Reading Practise sessions take place three times a week so please continue to send your child's book bag, reading record book and reading books to school **each day**. We encourage you to read each day with your child, encouraging them to recognise phonemes (letter sounds) that they have learnt and to 'blend to read' the words and to read by sight. Each week they will bring home their reading practice book and a reading for pleasure book, which they have chosen. Please record the reading you have done in the reading record book and any comments about how they have read to help us build up a picture of their overall reading.

Phonics: We are now learning Phase 3. We won't learn any more phonemes, but we are using phonic knowledge to blend and read longer words and increase their sight vocabulary (ability to read a word without blending the sounds). We will continue to learn new tricky words.

PE

PE lessons take place every **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Children should come to school in PE uniform on these days. Just a reminder that earrings must be removed for PE.

Clothing

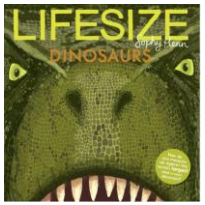
If you haven't already sent a pair of wellies or outdoor shoes for your child, it would be really appreciated as the field can get very muddy and we do like to do outdoor activities. Please also send your child with a coat everyday as the weather is so changeable.

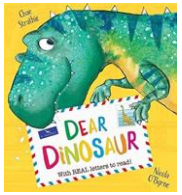


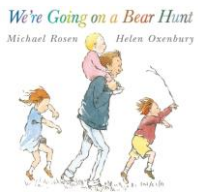
In Literacy:

We will use a range of stories linked to our Topics.













The first one, The Barnabas project, is being used by the whole school for World Book Day (2nd March). Each Class will use the story to plan their Literacy learning from. In Class 1 we are using it throughout the first week. Through all these books we will encourage children to talk about what is happening using full sentences and develop their language and vocabulary. They will be given regular opportunities to write sentences and phrases, remembering to use a capital letter at the start, leave spaces between words and to use a full stop correctly. They will write fact-based sentences (learning and remembering facts about dinosaurs). They will also have daily practise writing for a purpose: letters, lists, labels, and captions.

They will innovate the familiar story 'We're going on a bear hunt' and create their own class story.

Our focus poem will be '**The worm that wouldn't wiggle'** by Steve Atwell.

The focus in **Phonics** will be:

revisiting the Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs learnt this term

Learning to read words with double letters and then words containing 2 digraphs,

Reading longer words and words ending in 'ing'.

Reading and writing words ending with 's' and 'es'.

	**In Maths:** At the start of the term children will build on their knowledge of number bonds to 10, focussing on subtraction number bonds. The children will work with part-whole models to 'break apart' 10 and identify the different bonds created. They will be introduced to the 'finding a missing part' structure of subtraction from 10. This unit gives children the opportunity to see the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction. We will then move to exploring patterns. Understanding pattern is one of the main foundations of all mathematics learning. The children will be encouraged to recognise, extend, create and explain simple repeating patterns. They will consider patterns not just in pictures but in their everyday environment and using sounds, words and actions. At the start of each maths session, we will concentrate on key maths skills: counting (forwards and backwards), subitising (fast recognition of quantities), 1 more, 1 less, finding the total, finding how many are left, working out the missing number, and writing numerals.
  	**In Understanding the World:** Through our topic **'Dangerous Dinosaurs'** the children will learn key facts about dinosaurs and create a simple timeline in the classroom. We will use the key language: then/before/now next/after today/yesterday/tomorrow Through our topic **'Puddles and Rainbows'** we will observe changes that are happening in the environment (signs of Spring). We will learn what plants and animals need to survive and then plant and care for seeds, recording their growth. We will name and label the key parts of a plant: roots, stem, leaf, flower. They will learn about features of our local environment, using a picture map to locate the school and features such as the road and houses.
	**Art:** In Art the children will continue explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. They will investigate different textures and take rubbings using crayons. They will learn to draw a dinosaur and then collage a skeleton shape using art straws. They will revisit colour mixing and create paintings in the style of Mark Rothko. Linking with Maths, we will investigate patterns in art and create paintings in the style of Kandinsky.
	**RE** We follow the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and this term we will be 'Which places are special and why?' This enables children to explore a range of special places and find out about some buildings that are special for religious believers. At the end of term, the children will learn about the festival of Easter.
	**PSHE** Our theme for this term is 'Exploring emotions' and our key word is **forgive**. In this theme, the children will explore the names of different emotions, what might make us feel this way and how it might look. We will explore sadness and think of ways in which to help someone who feels sad. We will be reading 'The Colour' monster and associating colours with different emotions and talking about how to cope with our feelings if they become 'too big' and overwhelming (jealously or anger). We will express our ideas through painting, writing and discussions.
	**PE and Physical development** PE will take place on a **Tuesday (Fundamentals)** and a **Friday (Balance ability)**. Please can children come to school **wearing their PE uniform on both these days.** **Fundamental skills** will include balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and travelling. Children will develop their gross motor skills through a range of activities. They will learn how to stay safe using space, working independently and with a partner.

	Balance ability: Children will learn to travel on a set course on their balance bike, picking up speed with increased confidence. They will learn to travel slowly around a set course, navigating with increasing control. **Fine motor control:** They will continue to develop their fine motor control so that they use a 'tripod grip' for the majority of the time regardless of the brush, crayon or pencil which they use. They will be able to roll a worm/snake using playdough and use tweezers skilfully to pick up beads.