



Dallington Church of England Primary School Spring Brochure



Dallington Class
YR/1 2021-22

Dear Parents/Guardian (s),

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas.

The whole school topic for this term is *Happy planet, happy us*. We will be focusing on *The Polar Regions; Snow and Ice* for Term 3 and *Rainforests* in Term 4. This topic will make the children more aware of current environmental issues and how we can all make small changes to keep our planet 'Happy and Healthy.'

Snow and Ice is a wonderful topic for this time of year in school, affording lots of opportunity for us all to explore frost, ice and maybe even snow! We will learn about the location of the Polar Regions, discover which animals can survive in such extreme weather conditions, our role play area will be transformed into a polar veterinary surgery.



This term, we are going to build an igloo! Please can I ask that you and other family members collect 2 litre milk bottles, so we can transform our outside area into an arctic landscape. We will need a fair few!

In Dallington Class, we always welcome extra support in the classroom. If you feel you can contribute your time, resources, or helping hands we would be very grateful. We would love for some adult helpers to come in and read with the children.

Our classroom is rooted in the premise of partnership between parent, teacher and child. Please do come to me with any concerns or questions you may have, however big or small.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Nguyen and the Dallington team

Literacy:

The children will have the opportunity to hear lots of lovely stories in our daily story sessions, which will help develop the good listening skills that are needed for success in all areas of school life. It will also help to establish an understanding of sentence and story structure and to enrich vocabulary. In line with our topic, we will be reading *Geronimo*, *Cuddly Dudley*, *Elmer in the snow*, *Big bear*, *little bear* and *One Winter's night*.

The children will focus on retrieving rich vocabulary found in quality children's books to support their widening vocabulary as they begin to use adjectives in a variety of genres. We will be writing fact files, labelling animal adaptations and even writing a letter to the Prime Minister!

In phonics, we will begin by learning phase 3 graphemes and diagraphs. We will model segmenting and blending of words during our class inputs and use phonic books to reinforce the learning of each day's sound. Each Friday, the week's new sounds will be put in the children's book bags for you to practise with them at home.

Reading: There will be an emphasis this term on early reading in school and at home. This term all children will be given reading books. We ask that when you have heard your child read, you log it on Tapestry. We will create a reading record on tapestry, under the *memo* heading. Children will be heard read at least twice a week and will be asked comprehension questions about the text. Books will be changed twice a week and will complement the phonics taught that week in class.

We are hoping to visit the school library once a week, during which time the children will have the opportunity to bring home up to two books. Many children choose books that they would like for their bedtime story.

Maths:

The emphasis this term will be on adding 1 more and 1 less, subitising and number fluency. EYFS will be going in to more depth of numbers 6 – 10 and discover the composition of each number.

Year 1 children will focus on number bonds within 10, the relationship between numbers (e.g. If I know $1 + 1 = 2$, then I know $10 + 10 = 20$). We will be using lots of different media/apparatus to support practical counting and grouping.

We will be encouraging the children to spot numbers and patterns in their environment to help them identify and understand their everyday use. We would be grateful if you could do the same when the children are at home with you, at the supermarket, or going about your day-to-day lives. This will support with their mathematical fluency and seeing the purpose of Maths.

Understanding the World:

The children will be taking part in many topic-related activities that will help develop their understanding of the world. These will include:

- Looking at a globe to discover where the Arctic and Antarctic are located.
- Drawing and writing about animals who inhabit the Polar Regions. We will learn about how they are adapted to live in such a cold climate.
- Exploring how complex a snowflake's design is and create our own.
- Discuss global warming and how it is causing damage to the Polar Regions.
- Find out about who lives in the Arctic and Antarctic and compare similarities and differences between our way of living and theirs.

The children will be given lots of opportunities to initiate their own learning, selecting from class resources. They will also complete a range of computing programs that will support their phonics, maths, music and art learning and will use a range of technology, including cameras and voice recorders.

All our activities will encourage the children to be imaginative and to explore and use different media and materials. Planned activities include: creating our own igloo using recycled plastic milk bottles; sketching arctic animals, painting the Aurora Borealis and creating snowflakes with our controlled fine motor skills.

We will be encouraging the children to be imaginative in their play and learning. They will also express their ideas through dance and music and through role play opportunity in our Home Corner.

Physical Development: We will be helping the children develop good control and coordination in large and small movements. They will be learning to explore ways of moving, to travel with control, to share space safely and to work with partners in dance and other PE sessions. Our focus, this term will be balance. We will learn how to balance on a line, in a stance, on one foot and using different parts of our bodies.

We will continue to develop our knowledge around the importance of exercise on our bodies and how to maintain a healthy diet.

RE:

In RE we will be reading stories from the bible such as the creation story and questioning why some books are really special.

Music: In music we will learn lots of songs. Some of these will support our phonics and number learning. Others will be seasonal (Chinese New Year) or will relate to our topic. We will play simple percussion instruments and learn their names and how they make a sound.

RSHE: We will focus on 'Asking for help' and 'My beliefs (YR 1)

Our circle time games will help the children understand the importance of listening to each other, asking questions and taking turns.

Outdoor Learning: We plan to be outside as much as possible, so please do ensure your child has a coat and a named pair of wellington boots in school every day. We will enjoy some winter walks around the school grounds and observe the frost and snow (hopefully!). We will search for animal footprints in the frozen mud and snow, explore icy puddles and frost covered leaves and make frozen bird feeders.

We are grateful to the volunteers who come in to take groups of children gardening, as the children thoroughly enjoy these sessions. If you would like to get involved with this, please do let us know.

Homework:

This term reading books will be coming home. Please do try to hear your child read every day – it really does make such a difference to their progress – but if they are too tired or not in the mood, do not force it. Instead, please take the opportunity to read to them and/or to spend a few minutes revising their phonics sounds.

We will continue to send home flash cards of the phonics they have learnt that week in school and will begin to send home red tricky words.