



**Dallington CEP
The Street
Dallington
East Sussex
TN21 9NH**

Woods Corner Class



**Spring 2024
Years 1 and 2**

Dear Parents/Guardian (s),

Happy New Year!

This is my favourite term as it is often the term where the children's learning accelerates, they use the foundation learning in the Autumn term and apply it with confidence.

Our topic this term is 'Blue Planet'.

This is a whole school topic which is History based. We will be learning about The Titanic; the people who built it, the people on board, what made the Titanic so special and lesson's learnt as a result of the tragedy.

Our Science topic is on habitats, including micro-habitats and local environment food chains.

In Geography we will be looking at Titanic's journey to develop our understanding of continents, countries and comparing Northern Ireland with New York.

Show and Tell will continue on a Friday as it seems to be a highlight of the week! Please can you ensure it will fit in their book bag as they will keep it safely in there until it is their turn to show.

We are fortunate to have a PE specialist, Niki, to take the class for gymnastics on a Thursday afternoon. The children thoroughly enjoy these lessons.

For two days a week Miss Harrison will be working with groups of children to build their confidence and progress particularly in reading and writing. You may have spotted the excellent tree phonics display that she made.

If there should be anything that is a concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am always available, as are any staff member of Woods Corner.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Mrs Allcorn, Miss Harrison, Mrs Lane, Mrs Smith and Miss Burroughs;
the Woods Corner team.

English

English is a key focus in Woods Corner this term. Alongside their reading book at home, they will have: Guided Reading four times a week, reading in phonic sessions and daily reading of passages during literacy.

In writing, the children will be reinforcing spelling in a variety of ways: spelling games and during handwriting practise. Handwriting and letter formation continue to be a focus so will be reinforced daily.

As well as daily Literacy lessons where the children will be composing noun phrases, using adjectives, adverbs and similes, there will be lots of opportunities for topic writing. For example, recording a Science investigation or writing about the events of the Titanic.

Everyday there will be a class story which has become a time the class cherish. The children are encouraged to predict what might happen, discuss the characters, and the author's intention, and ask questions about the meaning of new vocabulary.

The children are enjoying our Twinkl phonics scheme which has a wealth of games to enhance learning and lots of opportunities to use their understanding. With Mrs Harrison, some children are having intensive phonics support to build their confidence with writing independently using their phonic knowledge. It is always lovely to see any writing your child does at home and for them to share it with the class, possibly inspiring others to do the same.

Mathematics

The children will begin by looking at the number system focusing on addition and subtraction within 100. We will focus on number bonds to 10 and 20 and their relationship with larger numbers, alongside key number facts to secure the children's understanding. We will link their learning as much as possible to using money and giving them real life scenarios that require problem solving to develop a depth of understanding.

We will practise reading and writing number words to twenty. The children will use part, part, whole to help them see relationships within numbers and use a range of apparatus to demonstrate their understanding.

To help your child's understanding of number it is beneficial to practice and learn key number facts.

Year 1 will be learning number bonds to 10 and 20, and key number facts for year 1.

Year 2 will be securing their understanding of the relationship of numbers, through problem solving and reasoning activities.

Science

This term we will focus on naming and describing a variety of common animals and plants in their habitats. They will find out how animals obtain their food from plants to create simple food chains. As well as identifying the difference between things that are dead, living and never been alive. We will be looking at the different weather in the four seasons and keeping a weekly weather diary.

History

In History we will be learning about the significant, nationally and globally, invention of the Titanic and how the tragic events have been recorded and influenced modern shipping. Through photographs, footage and reconstructions we will be able to get a real sense of what the Titanic meant to many people and the significance of such a boat at that time. There will be links in Geography, Design Technology and Art.

Art/ D.T.

The children will be exploring the work of Pablo Picasso, being inspired by some of his famous paintings to create their own in the style of his work.

We will be linking our learning about animals to create our own masterpieces. Art is one of the few curriculum areas where children can fully express themselves and it is a joy to see their interpretations.

PE

PE will continue to be on a Thursday.

The class will be taught gymnastics by Niki, our PE specialist. They will learn how to use the gymnastic equipment safely and perform simple routines using the apparatus.

Music

We are lucky to have our school's music specialist, Mrs Dipple to take the class for music on a Friday. We use a music scheme that embeds music appreciation of a range of different music genres, how to keep a steady beat, learning songs by heart and adding musical instruments to the songs learnt.

Computing

During this term the children will be again focusing on Internet Safety including how they seek out adult help if they feel unsafe whilst online at any point. They will also work on "Using technology purposefully" by using the computers to help develop their competence using the computing equipment independently. Over the time the children will begin to use word processing to design their own piece of writing, they will develop skills in editing this to how they want it to look, this will give them a sense of achievement.

PSHE

We will have weekly RSHE lessons using the scheme RSE Solutions on the theme 'My Beliefs.' The children will have the opportunity to explore how they are special and should not feel under any pressure to be any different than they are.

Our Circle Time sessions will encourage them to express their opinions, feel heard and valued. We will discuss topics that are relevant for the class and encourage good listening skills, empathy towards others and self expression.

RE

This term we will be learning about the parables of Jesus and what is the good news Jesus brings. Mrs Dipple will lead this learning on a Friday.

Show and Tell

It would be wonderful if you could encourage your child to bring in something that is loosely based on the theme of the Titanic, animal habitats, Picasso, Northern Ireland or New York. However, I know how much the children enjoy bringing in something that they really love which isn't necessarily linked to our topic and that is fine too.

It is important that they gain confidence with talking to the class and develop their skills on talking clearly and with expression to keep the attention of their audience.

In the past, it has helped some children to rehearse what they are want to say about their item at home, to give them confidence when they speak in front of the class.

Reading Books

Our aim is to encourage a love of books and reading for enjoyment and information. Therefore **we would encourage all parents to read with their child for 10 minutes each day.**

Please write a comment in your child's reading record each time they've read at home. Once your child has finished their reading book (Y2) or read it twice (Y1), please can you encourage them to choose another book of the same colour level. Perhaps a gentle reminder when they come into school at the beginning of the day, as this is a great time to change books.