

Acorn Curricular Letter

Autumn 1 2022 – Reach for the stars!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to wish you and the children a very warm welcome to Acorn class. I am Karen Barclay and am extremely excited to be teaching your child over the next academic year. I will be teaching the children every morning with a focus Literacy, Phonics, Spelling and Maths and Mrs Fenton will teach every afternoon covering Guided reading, Science, PE and the full range of foundation subjects. Alongside us during the week will be joined by Mrs Harrison who this term will teach ICT. This half term we will be based in the hall as we have building work underway in our classroom. The children have really enjoyed this new adventure and have access to all of the areas which would normally be available.

This curriculum newsletter will tell you all about the units and areas of learning being covered in this first half term. All the children will be learning the same topics but will cover the specific year group expectations for Year R 1, 2 ,3 Our first topic is called 'Reach for the stars!' and many of our lessons will relate to this.

As with the start of all our topics, we discuss it with the children to find out what they already know and what they want to find out. This will form the basis of our weekly planning so that we can try to plan from the children's interests. If you have anything that you think may be of interest to our topic, then please let us know.

Reading books should be sent into school each day children will be given the opportunity to change these daily, as long as Covid restrictions allow. We aim to read with children several times a week individually (this will be with a member of staff) and we do encourage children to read at home regularly.

We will continue to provide children with a piece of fruit, free of charge, each day. Toast is still available daily at 20p. If you would prefer your child to bring his/her own snack to school, please keep in mind that we are a healthy school and it should be a piece of fruit or veg.

Children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle to school each day, **filled with water**. I have noticed some children have juice and school policy is water in line with Change for Life initiatives.

Lunches must come in either a carrier bag that can be binned daily or a small lunch bag/box that can be cleaned easily.

All PE kit and school uniform must be **labelled**, so if lost, they can be easily returned to you.

Thank you once again for your continued support. The relationship between school, parent and child has never been more crucial and by continuing to work together, we can ensure that every child in the whole school, will have an exciting, enjoyable and memorable half term. If you need any support, assistance or guidance please do send me a Class Dojo message.

Many thanks,

Karen Barclay

Class teacher

Days to Remember

Monday

New spellings issued
(on Seesaw)

Year 2 Covid Catch Up
After School

Tuesday

PE

Arts and Crafts After
School

Wednesday

Mrs Harrison teaching
pm

Thursday

Performing Arts After
School

Friday

Spelling and Times
Table test (Y2-6)
PE
Rugby after school
club

TOPIC

Our topic driver this half term is, 'Reach for the stars!' driven by our History lessons, focusing on what makes someone amazing. We will be investigating significant people from both the past and present: discussing how democracy, mutual respect and diversity has shaped our lives today.

In Science, we will be answering the question 'Why is Mae Jameson so amazing?' This unit focuses on how to perform simple experiments using the equipment safely and how to identify and classify our results.

In Art the children will be making their own 'Reach for the stars' t-shirt using different joining techniques, focussing on textiles.

Please take some time to talk to your children about the topics, read books and stories, watch programmes and think of some questions they can explore in class.

MATHS

All children should continue to practise their times tables on Timestable Rockstars and the weekly times table for the test every Friday.

Children should continue to practise their number work on Numbots.

Year 1 will begin the half term completing a unit on **Place Value** – Sort and count objects, Count objects from a group of 10, Represent objects, Represent numbers to 10, Count forwards and backwards, Count one more/one less, One to one correspondence, Compare objects, Introduce $<$, $>$ and $=$, Compare numbers, Order objects, Ordinal numbers and The number line.

They will complete the half term with a unit on **Addition and Subtraction** - Parts and wholes Part-whole model, Addition symbol, Fact families - addition facts, Find number bonds for numbers within 10, Systematic methods for number bonds within 10, Number bonds to 10 Compare number bonds, Addition - adding together, Addition - adding more, Addition - using bonds and Finding a part.

Year 2 will begin with a unit on **Place Value** – Recap Counting forwards and backwards within 20

Recap Tens and ones within 20, Recap Counting forwards and backwards within 50 (Numbers to 50), Recap Tens and ones within 50, Recap Compare numbers within 50, Count objects to 100 and read and write numbers in numerals and words, Numbers to 100 in numerals and words,

Represent numbers to 100, Tens and ones with a part-whole model, Tens and ones using addition, Use a place value chart, Compare/order objects and numbers, Recap Count in 2s, 5s and 10s and Count in 3s.

They will complete the half term with a unit on **Addition and Subtraction** - Fact families - addition and subtraction bonds to 20, Compare number sentences, Know your bonds, Related facts, Bonds to 100 (tens), Add and subtract 1s, 10 more and 10 less, Add and subtract 10s, Recap Add by making 10 and Add a 2-digit and 1-digit number - crossing ten.

Year 3 will begin with a unit on **Place Value** – Recap Counting forwards and backwards.

Recap Tens and ones, Recap Counting forwards and backwards. Recap Tens and ones within 1000, Recap Compare numbers within 50, Count objects to 1000 and read and write numbers in numerals and words, Numbers to 1000 in numerals and words,

Represent numbers to 1000, Tens and ones with a part-whole model, Tens and ones using addition, Use a place value chart including 100's, Compare/order objects and numbers.

They will complete the half term with a unit on **Addition and Subtraction** - Fact families - addition and subtraction bonds to 20, Compare number sentences, Know your bonds, Related facts, Bonds to 100 (tens), Add and subtract 1s, 10 more and 10 less, Add and subtract 10s, Recap Add by making 10 and Add a 2-digit and 1-digit number - crossing ten. Multiplying and dividing by 3, 4 and 8.

LITERACY

Writing

In English, we will begin with a unit based upon 'How I can tell my family about different amazing people'. We will look at a variety of texts covering the last century, discussing how these people influenced others lives. We will then focus on the features of a non-chronological report and create our own by studying Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks. Our grammar focus will be on joining words and clauses using 'and'. We will be constructing sentences for co-ordination using or, and, but. We will be investigating how gramatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement and question. We will focus on demarcating sentences using question marks. We will then embark on writing an 'out of this world' story for Pingawings. The children will read a variety of stories with a fantasy setting, modeling and innovating 'Aliens love underpants' and 'Whatever next!' They will record their final innovated story and send this as a gift to the nursery for the children to enjoy. Grammar focus will be on using the prefix un- for words without any change to the spelling of the root word and to say and hold in memory whilst writing, simple sentences that make sense.

We will continue to look at year group appropriate spelling patterns and rules (year 1 will be driven by the phonetical sound of that week) and I will upload the weekly spelling patterns on Seesaw, using the 'Spelling Shed' resources.

Reading

The children in Year 2/3 will take part in Guided Reading each week. During this time, they will complete a range of reading activities responding to reading and reading for enjoyment. In Guided Reading, children have the same text as their group which they read independently and to the adult. We then discuss the text and work on a reading objective – VIPERS (Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Summary).

As well as Guided Reading sessions, the children have opportunity to read their home reader to an adult. Every child has been given a school reading book, which continues the whole school system for colour bands.

Please encourage your children to write the books they have read into their reading record, so that they can be proud of their reading achievements and even achieve one of the reading challenge certificates!

Children should continue to read aloud to an adult as much as possible. They should focus on reading for meaning – predicting what will happen in the story and why and also thinking about the character's feelings. Naturally, the focus changes and you are no longer working on building up fluency and expression but looking at prediction, deduction and inference. Questions such as 'What do you think . . . will do next?' 'What could happen here?' 'Why is . . . behaving like that?' will help children to develop their higher order reading skills.

Please could you continue to sign and comment in the reading journal – it really helps! Please make sure your child has their reading journal in school every day.

Homework

Homework will continue to be sent out half termly - each half term you will receive a home learning menu. As explained on the menu, you must complete the maths, reading and writing activities but can choose any two options from the other choices from across the curriculum. The homework menu will allow you to be creative and imaginative in what you decide to produce. The hand in date for the activities this half term will be:

Monday, 17th October

Many parents ask if they can help with activities and projects such as this and the answer is most definitely a resounding 'yes'! There is nothing more motivating for a child than an interested adult. The Homework menu has been sent home.

Acorn Autumn 1 – 35 days

Reach for the Stars! - Science/History Driver

English	Maths White Rose Maths			Science	History
<u>How can I tell my family about different amazing people?</u> Non-chronological reports Significant people <u>Can I write an out of this world story for Pingawings?</u> Stories with fantasy settings <u>Who am I?</u> Riddles- Who am I?	Reception Just like me! – Matching, sorting, comparing and patterns It’s me 1,2,3	Year 1 Place Value within 10 Addition and Subtraction within 10	Year 2/3 Place Value within 100 and 1000 Addition and Subtraction (within 100 and 100 inc. money)	<u>Why is Mae Jameson so amazing?</u> Topic: Scientists and inventors	<u>What makes someone amazing?</u> Topic: Describe significant people from the past. (Black history month)
Art/DT	RE Discovery RE	Music		PSHE Coram Life Education	Computing
<u>Can my t-shirt reach for the stars?</u> Topic: Textiles Design own t-shirt	<u>Does God want Christians to look after the world?</u> Topic: God/Creation Religion: Christianity	Lancashire Music Service		<u>Who can help me?</u> Topic: Me and my relationships	<u>How do I keep myself safe online?</u> Topic: Online Safety Purple Mash 1.1 and 2.2
		PE (Chorley SSP)			
		<u>Who is the most important person in a team?</u> Topic: Invasion Games - Hockey			