



# Year 1 Spring 2 Newsletter



Our topic is "Do dragons exist?"

**Fantastic start:** We will be going on a dragon hunt but what might we find?

## English



In English, we will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction texts as a class. Focused fiction texts include "The egg", "Puff the magic dragon" and "There's no such thing as a dragon." We will also be looking at a selection of non-fiction books about reptiles.

When reading and writing, children will continue to be encouraged to break down unfamiliar words using phonic strategies and to discuss what they have read and/or written.

When writing, children will be encouraged to use Talk for Writing methods to support their learning and re-read and check their work to ensure capital letters, finger spaces and full stops are used.

Children will take part in daily phonic sessions as well as having daily English lessons.

## Geography



In geography, we will continue to develop our map skills by creating imaginary and real-life maps. We will be incorporating the use of map symbols, keys and compass directions to orientate maps.

## History

In history, we will consider mythical dragons. We will be looking at the legend of Loch Ness.



## Computing

Children will continue to learn about how to use a computer and the internet safely. The importance of passwords and online safety will be focused upon also.



## Maths

Children will be looking at how to estimate and measure length, height, weight and volume.

They will also begin to investigate multiplication as repeated addition using concrete and pictorial resources to support their learning.



## Science

During Science, the children will be using prior knowledge and their life experiences to discuss seasonal change. They will discuss what happens during the seasons and at what times of the year they occur.

## Design Technology



The children will be investigating healthy food groups and identifying different fruit and vegetables. They will also make dragon models and pictures using real fruit and vegetables.

## Music

In music, we will be using tuned and untuned instruments to accompany a piece of music. We will be singing a range of songs of different styles and tempo.

## PE

In PE this term, we will be doing skipping, yoga and athletics. Athletics will be taught each Monday afternoon by Premier Education.



## Art and Design Technology



In art, we will develop a wide range of art and design techniques using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. Children will draw and paint pictures of dragons, take rubbings using different surfaces and practice overlapping techniques in order to make a collage.

## RE

*The principal aim of RE is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.*



Children will continue to study Islam for this term. They will give examples of how stories about the Prophet Muhammad show what Muslims believe about him. They will give examples of how Muslims use stories about the Prophet to guide their beliefs and actions (e.g. care for creation, fast in Ramadan). At the end of the unit, children will be able to give examples of how Muslims put their beliefs about prayer and about Allah into action (e.g. by daily prayer, by using *subhah* beads).

## HOMWORK:

**Reading:** Please try to read with your child daily. We cannot emphasise enough the benefits of children reading, appreciating and developing love for books. Likewise reading can be in many forms such as magazines, comics or even words on the karaoke.

**Spelling:** We will be introducing a new spelling scheme in school called Spelling Shed and children will be able to use this at home. Further details about this to follow.

Our **PE days** are:

Monday afternoon & Thursday morning

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school on appropriate days. Children will need outdoor plimsols, or preferably trainers, as school shoes are **not** acceptable for PE lessons. Please ensure that earrings are out and long hair is tied back also.

## Fantastic Finish:

At the end of this topic we will answer our question as to whether dragons really exist and celebrate the topic by watching the film, "How to train your dragon." We will be giving out permission slips nearer the time as this is a PG rated film.

### Dates for your diary:

**5<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day  
**w/c: 9<sup>th</sup> March:** Science week  
**20<sup>th</sup> March:** Comic relief  
(more details to follow)