

Parkstone Primary School

Key Stage 1 Newsletter Autumn Term 2016



Dear Parents/Carers,

This Autumn term our topic is 'Fire, Fire fetch the engine!'



As readers and writers, we will be exploring and comparing stories written about London and The Great Fire of London compared with familiar settings. We intend to build on our understanding of poetry, writing lists, captions and sets of instructions, developing our reading and writing skills through the use of phonics and beginning to recall non-fiction and fictional information for writing. **We will expect children to do at least 3 reads at home and will need them to practise spellings for weekly tests please. They will also receive 'Learn-its' linked with their times tables.**



In maths we will be continuing to develop our mathematical skills through the White Rose Hub and the National Curriculum using the four rules of number and covering outer numeracy through cross curricular topics. We will have 'Learn Its' each week to practise at home and have a weekly 'Beat That' test when we will try to beat our own score. Problem solving is also going to be a huge focus in our maths, encouraging the children to work together and solve these exciting challenges.



As scientists and explorers, we will be learning about 'Everyday materials'. We will be teaching the children to be able to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. Identifying and naming a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock. We will also be describing the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials and we then need to compare them and their uses.



In ICT we will be logging on and covering units specified by the National Curriculum. We now use laptops and note pads at Parkstone, so we will ensure that all the children are familiar with this equipment.



In art we will be completing colour mixing projects. We will look at the work of famous artists such as Piet Mondrian. It is our intention to create displays showing The Great Fire of London outside our classroom.



In Design, the children will be designing, building and evaluation structures. We intend to discuss the structure of The Three Little Pigs houses, linked with the wooden houses built in London in 1666, before the Great Fire of London.



In music we will be developing singing, accurately following the melody and clap rhythms and identify the beat of a tune. The children will have an opportunity to play tuned and un-tuned instruments.



As athletes, we will continue to develop our skills in gymnastics, games and dance. We aim to develop the co-ordination of physical movements, and raise awareness that regular exercise has a positive effect on our bodies. Coach Craig will work alongside our teachers to upskill and support our physical education curriculum.



In geography the children will be continuing to develop geographical skills and learn facts about countries, oceans and continents. We will have a focus on London this term.



HISTORY In history the children will be investigating how firefighting has changed over time and developing enquiry skills using secondary sources. A visit to or from the Fire Brigade in town is to be arranged for all KS1 children. Details to follow.

The children will have the opportunity to learn many exciting and interesting new things, and as ever, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks in advance for your support,

The KS1 Team, Mrs Gill, Miss King, Mrs Waudby & Miss Draper-Martin