



### **Welcome back from the Y1/2 Team**

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for the challenges of the New Year! We have an exciting Spring Term planned with our topic BUILD IT UP! This is split into mini topics over the term – *Magic Materials, My House and Home, Build it up!, The Great Fire of London, The Three Little Houses and Trapped in the Tower*. Each block will cover all areas of the curriculum with lots of opportunities for practical hands-on activities, outdoor learning and investigations. We are planning trips around Ivybridge in the first half term and our class assemblies are in the second half of term.

### **Literacy**

We will be teaching literacy in blocked units of work which will include a grammar focus. We will be writing letters, stories based on traditional tales and non-chronological reports, using labels and captions. We will use non-fiction texts about houses, homes and other buildings eg *The Three Little Pigs, The Three Little Wolves, Rapunzel* and other traditional tales as stimuli. Reading will be taught through guided reading and phonics sessions, developing the children's range of decoding and comprehension skills. Phonics Bug books are available for your child to read online at home – please see their logging on details in their journals.

### **Mathematics**

Maths areas include number, calculation, shape and data handling. We will make maths come to life by using information collected about our homes, real life problems and concrete experiences. We will help children gain skills to solve problems in their heads as well as beginning to record their maths thinking using jottings and then more formal workings. Teaching will be differentiated to ensure the lessons challenge and support all children. Children will have opportunities to work alone and in groups. The year 2 children will particularly be tackling multiplication and division, fractions, position and direction.

### **Science**

In the first half term we will learn about materials. The children will be naming, investigating and finding the properties of different materials, asking questions, making predictions and working scientifically. In the second half term we will learn about the best materials for the job and how we can change materials.

### **Computing**

In computing lessons we will learn to use technology safely and effectively. The use of Ipads and programmes such as 2animate, 2paint, 2publish and Draw will link with our work on buildings in our literacy, maths, art, DT and other topic work. We will be using technology such as the beebots in our work on journeys, position and direction.

### **Physical Education**

This term our outdoor PE will involve developing our bouncing/throwing/catching skills and our ball and racket skills introduced last term. It will take place on a Tuesday afternoon for Hedgehogs and Thursday afternoon for the Bats. Our indoor PE on Fridays will be gymnastics, and we will develop body shapes, strength and balances on apparatus and making simple routines to music. PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE CHILDREN'S PE KITS ARE IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY AS TIMETABLES ARE FLEXIBLE.

### **Other Curriculum**

**Geography** – We will be finding out about the countries of the UK, the continents of the world and capital cities. We will also learn terms such as street, road, motorway, railway, bridge, river, shops, industry and identify geographical features in Ivybridge. We will look at maps and draw our own simple maps. We will consider how to keep our town clean and tidy.

**History** – We will be learning about the old and new features of Ivybridge, especially old/new houses and schools, which will involve a visit to The Erme Primary School.

**Art/ DT** – We will be looking at the work of different artists who have painted houses, and consider what these exteriors / interiors tell us about the way people lived. We will make observational drawings of houses near school. We will investigate cutting and joining with a variety of materials, including clay, to make 3D models of houses, special buildings and towers.

**RE** – Our topics will include Celebrations as part of our journey through life, Symbols, Special places and spring festivals. As part of our topic on buildings we will also look at the churches in Ivybridge.

**Homework - Your child will receive 3 sets of homework – maths/topic, spelling and reading.**

Maths/topic Homework - set on Thursday and collected in the following Tuesday. This gives the teachers enough time to mark the children's books, before returning them with new homework.

Spelling Homework – spellings are tested on Tuesdays and new words are set. The new words are taught in class but must be learnt at home too! We return the test sheet to you so you know how your child has done.

Reading Homework - please ensure you hear your child read regularly from a range of sources which could include their school reading book, books from home, the internet, comics, brochures etc. Please comment regularly in your child's Planners.

**Film Consent**

To enhance the children's learning, we occasionally find it useful to show clips / entire films on DVD. Occasionally these are not rated U, although any material used is viewed by staff first and checked for suitability. We ask that if you have any queries, or do not wish your child to see these materials, that you let us know. If we hear nothing, we will assume that this is acceptable.

**Finally**

If you would like to help in your child's class generally and / or have special skills to offer such as cooking – please let us know! Your help will be welcomed and appreciated. Please keep in touch with us or ask any questions by making notes in your planners. We also love to hear about your child's achievements at home - remember to use your WOW certificates and ask for more when you run out!

**Dates**

<p>TOPICS</p> <p>4.1.17 Term starts - Growth Mindset reminder 'Challenging myself and doing my best.'</p> <p>9.1.17 My House and my Home/Magic Materials (2 weeks)</p> <p>16.1.17 Build it up! (3 weeks)</p> <p>6.2.17 The Great Fire of London (2 weeks)</p> <p>27.2.17 The Three Little Houses (2 weeks)</p> <p>13.3.17 Trapped in a Tower (3 weeks)</p>	<p>IMPORTANT EVENTS FOR YEAR 1/2</p> <p>9.1.17 Walk around Ivybridge – old and new houses/bridges/schools</p> <p>9.2.17 Open Day</p> <p>13.2.17 Half Term</p> <p>20.2.17 Non-pupil Day</p> <p>27.2.17 Book Week</p> <p>15.3.17 Hedgehogs Class Assembly</p> <p>21.3.17 Bats Class Assembly</p> <p>21.3.17 Talent Show</p> <p>23.3.17 Easter Disco</p> <p>28.3.17 M &amp; M productions – The Railway Children</p> <p>30.3.17 Easter tea</p>
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