



**Heathcoat Primary School**  
**Year 1 Spring Term Newsletter**  
**January 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to welcome all of the children back to school. We hope that you have all had a really relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday. Here are the exciting new topics that the children will be exploring in Year 1 this term.

Spring Term 2024		
Subject	1st half term	2nd half term
English	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Dear Mother Goose (Fiction)</u></b></p> <p>The children will write a letter to Mother Goose from a nursery rhyme character, using the correct punctuation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Hot and Cold (Non-Fiction)</u></b></p> <p>Children will learn the features of non-fiction texts and use this to write a page about opposites using our previous topic learning e.g., summer and winter.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Knights (Non-Fiction)</u></b></p> <p>Children will build on their knowledge of non-fiction texts and write a page for a book about a job or role.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>It's My Birthday (Fiction)</u></b></p> <p>The children will learn features of writing a story about going to a party. They will use the conjunctions 'and' and 'but' and begin to use commas in a list.</p>
Mathematics	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Recognise, compose, decompose and manipulate 2D and 3D shapes</u></b></p> <p>The children will learn to identify and explore 2D and 3D shapes. They will also explore pattern.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Numbers 0-10</u></b></p> <p>Children will build on their previous number learning, exploring how numbers 6-10 are represented on the part, part whole model. They will also learn about odd and even numbers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Additive structures</u></b></p> <p>Children will learn about the structures of addition and subtraction, making their own addition and subtraction stories and writing equations to match.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Addition and subtraction within 10.</u></b></p> <p>Children will develop their fluency in addition and subtraction facts within 10.</p>
Science		<b><u>Animals (Biology)</u></b>



		<p>The children will learn to identify and group animals into these groups; fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.</p> <p>They will learn about what different animals eat and discover what carnivores, herbivores and omnivores are.</p> <p>We will end this topic with a visit from Exmoor zoo, bringing some animals for us to see!</p>
PE	<p><b><u>REAL Dance</u></b></p> <p>Children will explore moving and making shapes to a range of music and tempos. They will work on solo skills and partner work.</p> <p><b><u>REAL PE: Dynamic balance</u></b></p> <p>Children will explore the theme of dynamic balance and focus on walking in a line with little wobble! We will be improving our balance skills.</p> <p><b><u>REAL PE: Static seated balance</u></b></p> <p>Children will be practicing their static balance and working on standing and holding shapes with accurate balancing on the floor and on beams.</p>	<p><b><u>REAL PE: Co-ordination ball skills</u></b></p> <p>Children will practise throwing and catching skills with a range of ball sizes.</p> <p><b><u>Rounders</u></b></p> <p>Children will learn the basics of the game rounders and practise using a bat and ball.</p> <p><b><u>REAL PE: Counter balance</u></b></p> <p>Children will explore balancing and counter balancing with a partner.</p> <p><b><u>Orienteering</u></b></p> <p>We will explore the school grounds using a simple map to go on a treasure hunt.</p>
Computing	<p><b><u>Internet Safety Focus</u></b></p> <p><b>Celebrate Safer Internet Day (February)</b></p> <p><b><u>Skills showcase: Rocket to the moon</u></b></p> <p>The children will develop their keyboard and mouse skills through designing, building and</p>	<p><b><u>Internet Safety Focus</u></b></p> <p><b>Always be kind and considerate</b></p> <p>To understand how to treat others, both online and in-person</p> <p><b><u>Programming 2: Bee-Bot</u></b></p>



	testing individual rockets using drawing software and recording data.	The children will learn early programming skills using either the Bee:Bot or virtual Bee:Bot.
DT		<p><b><u>Food Technology</u></b></p> <p>The children will plan, make and evaluate a fruit salad, understanding the importance of eating fruit as part of a healthy diet.</p>
Geography		<p><b><u>Why does it matter where our food comes from?</u></b></p> <p>The children will learn about dairy farming in Devon and how cheese is made. They will also explore which parts of the world fruit and vegetables come from.</p>
History	<p><b><u>What does it take to be a great explorer?</u></b></p> <p>The children will learn about the explorers Ranulph Fiennes, Amy Johnson, Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong and will discover their achievements.</p>	
Music	<p><b><u>Music Vocabulary (Under the Sea)</u></b></p> <p>The children will explore key musical vocabulary and will sing short songs from memory, adding simple dynamics. They will also learn to play instruments expressively.</p> <p><b><u>Music tuition:</u></b></p> <p>The children will be taught how to play the ukulele.</p>	<p><b><u>Timbre and Rhythmic Patterns (Fairy Tales)</u></b></p> <p>The children will be introduced to the concept of timbre, creating sounds to represent characters and key events in a story.</p> <p><b><u>Music tuition:</u></b></p> <p>The children will be taught how to play the ukulele.</p>
Art	<b><u>Painting</u></b>	



	The children will learn about the primary and secondary colours and how to create them. They will also learn how to use a paintbrush to create different strokes and effects.	
<b>RE</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Judaism</u></b></p> <p>The children will explore how Jewish people live, including learning about Jewish celebrations, festivals, artefacts and symbols.</p>	
<b>PSHE</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Dreams and Goals</u></b></p> <p>The children will learn to recognise their achievements and what makes them proud. They will also think about things that they want to improve on and achieve, and how this will give them a sense of achievement.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Healthy Me</u></b></p> <p>The children will be taught to identify ways in which they can look after their physical and mental health, such as the importance of eating healthily, doing exercise and getting enough sleep.</p>

<b>Trips / visits:</b>		Exmoor Zoo outreach visitor to visit school- (date to be arranged)
<b>Dates for your diary:</b>	<p>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February NSPCC Number Day Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February Safer Internet Day</p> <p><b>Half Term</b> Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March Reports out Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March Parents Evening Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March Easter Bonnet Competition Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March Parents Evening</p> <p>Last day of term Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</p>

**READING:** As we said in the Autumn term, it is really important that children complete repeat reading of their books. This is because on each read they are gaining a different skill:

- decoding,
- understanding
- fluency.

You will be really helping your child by hearing them read **at least 3 times each week**. As with all things, the more we practise, the better we get! Please record information about their reading in their reading record book. Please remember to ask your child questions about what they have read or to summarise/explain what they have read to check their understanding.

Here are some questions that you could ask when they read:



- **Tell me about what you have just read (summarise).** Can they clearly explain to you what has just happened?
- **Which words do you not understand?** Ask them to try to work out what the word means from the rest of the sentence. Then look up the word on a computer/tablet or in a dictionary.

**Here is an example of what you might write in a reading record:**

Read well – could remember what had happened. Didn't know the meaning of 'tribute' so we looked it up. Pg 12 next.

**Homework:** One piece of maths homework and one piece of phonics homework will be set each Friday on Google Classroom, which should be submitted by the following Wednesday. Also, please continue to hear your child read every day.

**Useful websites:**

<b>Topmarks</b>	fun maths games	<a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/</a>
<b>Phonics Play</b>	play free phonics games to help reinforce the phonic sounds learnt at school	<a href="https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/">https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/</a>
<b>Scratch</b>	a fun coding ICT site where children can create their own animations	<a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/">https://scratch.mit.edu/</a>

You can help your child at home by using the above websites and encouraging them to learn through play. You can also help them to research things related to the topic that they are studying in school, such as talking about fruit and vegetables linked to their Food Technology and Geography learning, and how they are important for healthy living.

**If you aren't a member already, the local library in town is free to join and is a great place to visit with your children so they can do research or borrow books to read at home.**

**PE:** Our PE days are Wednesday and Friday. Children should come to school wearing their school PE kit on these days. This includes a white PE shirt or t-shirt in their house colour, plus their school jumper. They must wear sensible trainers. Earrings must be removed or covered with tape for safety.

**Outside learning:** Children will often be going outside to learn. They will need waterproof coats in school each day- as you know our English weather can be unpredictable!

**Labelling uniform:** We would really appreciate you clearly naming your child's uniform, but especially their coat and jumpers, as these are often items that can go missing. Thank you for your support with this.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to email us if you require any further guidance, using our year group email: [year1@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk](mailto:year1@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk) This will be checked twice a week. **If you need to get an important message to us urgently, please contact the office on 01884 252445 or email them on [admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk)**

We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning.

TeamWork Respect Aim High Independence Never Give Up



Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bowkett, Miss Davis and Mrs Johnson (Year 1 Class Teachers)  
Mrs Budden (KS1 Team leader)