



# Dodford First School

## English

In this half term we will be focusing on re-establishing the basics of reading and writing before introducing new learning.

The focus will be on word reading and word building for Year 1. In Year 2 the children will focus on developing their reading fluency and sentence construction.

Our first learning sequence for English will focus on a key text with the theme of hope. Short stories from this text will be used to prompt discussion and provide children with the time to reflect upon their recent experiences and emotions.

**Key Text: The Book of Hopes by Katherine Rundell**

*Phonics lessons will be taught daily to enable revision and teaching of missed content from the summer term, before next phase learning will begin.*

## Physical Education

Children are required to wear their PE kit for school on Friday as they will be participating in an outdoor PE session. Children will develop their games skills with sports coach Alan Gormley.

Children will also be taking part in Yoga and meditation sessions.

## Outdoor Day

We will be working in our outside classroom or in the garden every Wednesday. The children will be taking part in a variety of lessons and activities outside, linked to their class theme. Remember, they will need to come to school dressed in suitable old clothes as they may get messy!

## ALL ABOUT US!



**The cross-curricular unit of work for this half-term will focus on learning about each other and developing and rebuilding friendships. Children will explore their own abilities and ask questions about their environment, themselves and the world and people around them. It will help us to build a strong class community ready for our future thematic topics.**

## Relationships and Health Education / Mental Health and Wellbeing

Children will be thinking about understanding their own emotions and relationships, focusing on working together and building friendships.

Our mental health character NED will be helping us with our learning and teaching us how to be resilient learners.

## SCIENCE: Humans and Animals

As scientists children will learn about animals, including humans. They will be identifying, describing, comparing and naming a variety of common animals.

They will also learn about the human body and investigate the 5 senses.

## Maths

Throughout the first half term children will be developing their mathematical skills in the following key areas:

Year 1:

- Number and Place Value to 20.
- Mental Addition and Subtraction to 10 and 20.

Year 2:

- Number and Place Value to 100.
- Mental Addition and Subtraction to 10, 20 and 100.

## COMPUTING

The children will be using ICT to create images and text on screen to support their work across the curriculum.

We will be learning how to use the Internet safely and children will begin to explore Purple Mash.

## MUSIC – Charanga

Children will be learning a song that celebrates South African music called 'Hands, Feet and Heart'. They will use a variety of body percussion and musical instruments to explore adding accompaniment to this song.

## Religious Education

In RE children will learn about the story of Creation. They will explore the following key question:

*Who do Christians say made the world?*

### HOME READING

Please help your child to achieve their full potential as readers by ensuring that they read at home every day.

Books must be returned to school on a Friday. New scheme books will be issued on a Monday and each child will have a reading for pleasure book for the weekend.

**REMEMBER** as developing readers it is a good idea for children to read shorter books twice in order to develop both their decoding skills and comprehension.

Further information about changes to our home reading scheme for this term has already been sent home in an email but can also be found on the school website.

### SPELLINGS

During autumn term one, we will be focusing on reading and spelling common exception words.

Children will be given up to 5 key words to learn at home each week. These will be sent home on a Thursday and our spelling quiz will take place the following Thursday.

Please help children record spellings in their home reading diaries and a 'look, say, cover, write, check' practise sheet will also be sent home each week. These practise sheets do not need to be returned to school.

### ONLINE LEARNING

We will, as we move through the term, introduce the children to the following online platforms and how they can be used to support learning at home: Purple Mash, Education City, Bug Club, Times Tables Rock Stars and Yumu. Don't forget to check pupil login details and ensure that each works at home. These can be found in the front of reading diaries.

### BUG CLUB

Remember to encourage your child to read at least one e-book each week online.

Don't forget to click on the bugs to answer the comprehension questions.

### HOMEWORK

More guidance and information on further homework tasks to include English, Maths and topic will be sent home soon!