

Dear Year 1 Ash Parents and Carers,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

Theme: Which plants grow in different parts of the world?

The children will be learning about which vegetation and plants grow in the UK and they will compare this to plants growing in Australia. They will compare a small area of the UK (Forest Hall) to a contrasting non-European country (Australia) and locate these on a map. Children will plant and grow their own strawberries and monitor them using scientific observation to note growth over time. Children will also observe the seasonal changes between spring and summer.

Cross curricular links:

Science: Plants Children will identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants (including deciduous and evergreen trees). They will identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common plants, including trees. They will understand and describe what plants need to grow healthily and describe what happens to a plant if it does not have everything it needs to grow healthily.

DT: Children will be looking at healthy eating. They will learn how to prepare food healthily, safely and hygienically and they will be designing, preparing and making a smoothie.

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

English: Children in Year 1 will be using 'Pip and Egg' as a stimulus for their writing and they will explore descriptive language, new vocabulary and sentence formation. The children will write their own versions of a story about friendship and they will write to persuade people to grow more plants. They will also focus on the prefix *un-* in spelling.

PSHE Who helps to keep us safe? Children will explore who keeps us safe in our home life and in the wider community.

Music (Taught by Mrs Wilcox): Charanga: Having fun with improvisation. Children will work together to create their own musical sequences, looking at improvisation of different musical sounds.

RE Hinduism – How do Hindus show their beliefs?

PE: Games (Striking and Fielding) and Net and Wall games. (NUF)

Computing: Children will be introduced to digital art, looking at different art apps and the tools within them.

Maths: Children will begin to measure volume and then they will start counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and applying this to problem solving.

How can you help?

Practise spellings (including Year 1 common exception words) with your child.

Share your child's school reading book with them. There are discussion points on the back cover to help you with this. This is best done often and in short bursts.

Practise mental maths, particularly number bonds to 10 and 20, discuss time and measure (including money) with real examples.

Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.

Please check your child's book bag frequently for letters and other information.

Class Reminders:

PE: Monday and Tuesday Children should wear their PE kits to school (white t-shirt and navy / royal blue shorts) with plain dark coloured joggers and their green school jumper on top.

Children must always have sandshoes. **Please make sure kits and uniform are labelled.**

Spellings: Spellings will be given on **Tuesday** to be tested the following **Monday**. Spellings **will be given out each week on a single piece of paper, which does not need to be returned to school.**

Class Library: Children will be able to choose a class library book every **Wednesday**. Library books should be returned the following Wednesday.