



## Year 1 Newsletter - February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely half term. We have some great learning planned for the rest of the term.

### Curriculum

This half-term, we will be starting a new **geography** unit on 'The Rainforest'. We will be looking at where there are rainforests in the world and what are their features. We will look at the different animals that live in rainforests - focusing on Borneo, the Amazon and the Congo. Finally, we will learn about deforestation.

Our **science** topic, 'Everyday Materials', continues for this term as well as looking at 'Seasonal Change'. This will link in with both our English and geography units.

In **English**, we will be focusing on the books 'The Umbrella' and '10 things that I can do to help my world' this term. We will also be focusing on Poetry. Please see the **Weekly Overviews** for more detail.

In **maths**, we will start the unit of work 'Numbers to 50'. We will be learning to count to and across 50, forwards and backwards, beginning on any number; to count, read and write numbers to 50 in numerals; to count in multiples of twos, fives and tens; and to identify one more and one less. We will also be focusing on 'Measures' where we will be learning about length, weight and capacity.

In **phonics**, we will continue learning the phase 5 sounds. Please see the weekly overview to see which sounds we are learning each week as well as tricky words. We will also continue to send home spellings every Friday and will have a spelling quiz every Friday. The spellings will be on the weekly overview.

In **music**, our unit of work is 'Our World'. We will be learning to play simple rhythms with a steady beat, to compose simple musical patterns and to use symbols to represent sounds.

We are continuing our **religion and worldviews** unit of work 'How do we celebrate our journey through life?' and continue to talk about how people celebrate important events in their lives.

Our next Personal Social Health Education (**PSHE**) unit of work will be 'Safety and the Changing Body' after we finish off our 'Health and Wellbeing' unit with learning about sun safety.

In **PE** we will be focusing on gymnastics and games for this half-term. Please ensure that your child is coming to school dressed appropriately in their PE kits on their PE days. They can wear shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms and will need to be wearing trainers. If your child has long hair, please ensure it is tied back.

PE days **return** to as follows:

**1B** – Week 1 Monday and Wednesday. Week 2 – Wednesday and Thursday.

**1O** – Week 1 Tuesday and Friday. Week 2 – Monday and Wednesday.

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

**1P** – Week 1 Monday and Wednesday. Week 2 – Tuesday and Wednesday.

**1R** – Week 1 and Week 2 – Thursday and Friday.

### **Trips and Events**

We are in the process of booking trips for the summer term and will hopefully be attending The London Aquarium to go alongside our next geography topic, 'Oceans and Seas'. We will let you know more information about this when it has been finalised.

### **Author Visit**

On **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, we will be welcoming the brilliant author **Kelechi Okafor** into school to visit the children in Reception, Year 1 and 2. She will be talking about her new book, **Strong Like Me**, a heart-warming picture-book about finding your own ways to be strong.

If you would like to pre-order this book for your child to have signed personally, please visit our local children's bookshop, Pickled Pepper Books' website and order on this link:

<https://www.pickledpepperbooks.co.uk/products/strong-like-me-by-kelechi-okafor-coleridge-primary-school-6th-march-2024>

Please remember to add your child's name and class to the 'notes to the book fairy' when ordering.

Children in receipt of the *Pupil Premium Grant* will receive this book for free.

### **Dates for your diaries**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day. Children can dress up as their favourite book character. More information about the day will be sent out soon.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** – INSET day (school closed for all children).

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Coleridge's Reading Bingo Challenge finishes – please bring your bingo card and any money raised into school by this day.

**Parent meetings** this term will be taking place on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** and **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** between 4-6pm online on SchoolCloud. More details on this to follow.

Open communication between staff and parents/carers is very important to us and we try to keep you as informed as possible of happenings during a busy school day. If you have any questions or queries then please do make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher either face to face or through our admin team.

We are looking forward to a very happy and successful half term.

Yours sincerely,  
The Year 1 Team

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

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