

Miss Katie's class - January newsletter

Welcome back

After a long and healthy Christmas break, I am really looking forward to this term. We feel very positive about the changes to the original Grades 1 and 2 class and of course it will be the children who benefit most. Welcome Ms Nichola! I will still have the opportunity to work with her new class, as I will teach them gymnastics, music and citizenship. Ms Nichola will take both classes for RE and 'outdoor and adventurous activities', as part of the PE curriculum. For more details of the topics being covered, please see below.

There is even more to see now on the school's new website

www.provopriamary.com

Take a look!



Literacy

Oxford University Press produce a children's dictionary called the "Oxford Reading Tree" dictionary Stages 1-5. We recommend that each child in Grades 1 and 2 to have a copy of this at home and that you help them to use it to look up words, or to learn how to read and write new words. Knowing how to use a dictionary is something they find difficult but would benefit from greatly. Using dictionaries and understanding how they are organised is also part of the Literacy curriculum for this term, for our class. This is a wonderful, simple, colour version and includes the characters from our main reading scheme, as well as key words such as the days of the week and the months of the year. I believe that Unicorn has some copies or you could order it through them. The ISBN number is 0-19-910690-8.

Thank you to....

... all the children for such a fantastic effort in the Christmas production, "A Step in Time". The children are still taking every opportunity to practise the dances and songs at playtimes!

We also have to say a huge thank you to 4 people who gave up some of their free time last term to come and talk to the children. Henrik and Marcus, pilots, and Steve Wallace, Megan's dad, talked to the children about their work in the community. Also to "Chef John", Senga's dad, for his wonderful Halloween activities!

Birthdays

This month we celebrate Ciara's and Senga's birthdays, on the 9th and 27th respectively. They will both be 7. Many happy returns!



Topics for this term

Literacy - Traditional stories with patterned language, poetry from other cultures, dictionaries and alphabet-ordered texts, instructions and explanations, past tense verbs, using cursive handwriting (joined), exploring opposites, prefixes, revision of all letter sounds and blends, spellings of common words and topic words.

Numeracy - Number sequences; counting, adding and taking away 10 from numbers up to 100 then 1000; comparing and ordering numbers; recognising and using money; estimating, measuring and comparing masses (weight); sorting, describing and making 2D shapes; understanding how to read analogue and digital clocks; 2 and 10 times tables; halving and doubling numbers; using tables and grids to record information.

Science - Health and growth.

Social Studies - Studying contrasting localities around the world.

PE - Gymnastics and Outdoor and Adventurous Activities.

Design and technology - studying homes and constructing models.

Music - The class orchestra, songwriting, investigating pulse, rhythm and pitch.

Citizenship - Living in a diverse world.

Information and Communication Technology - Controlling a floor turtle (robot) and finding information on the Internet and from CD-Roms.

Art - Designing and making a collage based on aspects of nature

RE - Looking at places of worship (will include a visit to a church).