



PLAINS FARM ACADEMY YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER



Spring 2017 Crazy Castles (whole School Time Tunnel)



LITERACY

In Literacy we have started looking at non-fiction texts, identifying the features and trying to use them within our own writing. We are currently making our own castle information books. We will move onto looking at instructions and the traditional tale Jack and the Beanstalk. We are continuing to work on sentence structure, producing simple and extended sentences that are correctly punctuated. Children continue to have phonics everyday in small ability groups. The sounds we are learning are becoming increasingly tricky as they are same sounds but different spelling variations. In preparation for the end of Year 1 phonic screen we continue to look at real and nonsense (alien) words.

MATHS



In maths we will continue to consolidate our knowledge of the number system recognising and recording numbers 1-100. We are working on counting in twos, fives and tens. We are building up our knowledge of addition and subtraction in terms of recording and solving using mental and practical resources. Children will become more familiar answering word problems gaining an understanding of the variety of language used. We will also look at 2D and 3D shapes, naming and describing their properties. Children will learn to tell the time and measure short periods of time in simple ways.



PE/RE



In P.E we have a football coach who will focus on improving children's team skills in terms of playing competitive games. In R.E we will be consider what it means to 'belong' in terms of our own families and different religions of the world.

SCIENCE



In Science we looking at materials, identifying and naming a variety of materials and building up our vocabulary to describe its properties i.e. waterproof, transparent etc. linked to our castle work we will consider how the building of castles have changed.



ART / DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

In Art and Design we will continue to work creatively with a range of materials producing artwork linked to castles i.e. making and designing shields, knights. We will look at the work of Paul Klee 'castle and sun.'

COMPUTING



In ICT we will take work on typing text into a Word document and change the colour and size of the font. We will research different castles and consider life within a castle. We will arrange shapes to design our own castles.

MUSIC



In music we are lucky to have a music teacher who is focusing children's attention on identifying different types of sounds as well as creating their own music using percussion instruments.

GEOGRAPHY/HISTORY



In Geography we will draw castles on a simple map with a key. We will use geographical knowledge when choosing the best location for building a castle. In History we will learn about life and jobs in a medieval castle. Children will consider the features of a castle and how this supported castle defenses.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

It is vital that children are heard read as often as possible and that they are questioned about what they have read. Please encourage your child to return their reading book regularly, at least once per week. Spellings are sent home every week, please support your child to learn them as these reflect the new sounds that they have learnt. Homework is sent home every Friday to be returned every Wednesday, this reflects the work we have been considering over the week. A large number of children do not bring PE kits into school. Please support your child in bringing a PE kit into school each Friday.