Summer Term 2019

It's hard to believe we're entering the final term already! We have a very busy term ahead with a couple of exciting trips thrown in.

We will be heading to London to take a spin on the London Eye and go to see some art at the Tate Modern soon. Later in the term we get to visit the fire station next door as part of our work on The Great Fire of London.

Towards the end of the term, we will be inviting you in to view and buy some of your child's art from our art gallery which is part of our EE work. Don't worry, we generally work with low figures in Year 1 so it shouldn't break the bank!

The phonics screening test will be in the second week back after half term. It is not anything the children need to be worried about. We will have prepared them well in advance without ever mentioning it as a test.

If you have any concerns over the term, please get in touch. I look forward to lots of outdoor lessons in the coming good weather (fingers crossed!).

Mrs Stuart-Watson

**Homework**

Please hear your child read every day and fill in the red reading journal with what you noticed.

Please also read to your child daily.

Literacy, spellings and maths homework will be given out on Wednesdays and are due in on Mondays.

We will be starting to use Mathletics every second week for Maths homework. Please let me know if your child cannot access Mathletics at home.

**Phonics**

We are now revising phase 5 in our phonics sessions. Please encourage your child to notice the diagraphs, split digraphs and tri-graphs as they read.

We are also working on using 'robot arms' to read longer words (both real and alien). Longer words can be a challenge as the children can lose track of the sounds they have said already. In some cases it might help to encourage them to break the word up and read it in two parts.

The sounds that lots of children do not notice consistently in words are: au aw ur ue ou ar and all of the split digraphs (a_e e_e i_e o_e u_e)

Please go over words with these in (both real and made up) regularly.

**Reading**

Our topic this term is *Let's Look at London* and is based mainly on geography, art, history and literacy work. Some of the highlights will be in Art when we make our own clay sculptures to be placed on the Fourth Plinth and in History when we learn all about the Great Fire of London.

**Literacy**

We will start with a unit on stories with familiar settings using the book *Katie Goes to London* as our inspiration. Mrs Berry will be holding regular Poets’ Café sessions as she looks at London poetry.

We will be writing a diary based on our (imagined) experiences of the Great Fire of London and a fact book all about it. A key focus for us in Puffins this term is our handwriting and letter formation. As they begin to join our letters, it is really important that children are forming their letters in the correct way. We will also be consolidating our understanding of full stops, capital letters and question marks.

We continue to add detail to our work by saying how, when or why things happen and using adjectives to describe.

**Numeracy**

The first part of the term will be finishing off areas of the curriculum such as looking at fractions (half and quarter), doubling numbers, using money and getting to grips with time. We will use the last few weeks in Year 1 to go over all our maths learning for the year.

We are also putting a special effort now into quick recall of number bonds to ten and twenty.

**Science**

We will begin our Materials unit with a hunt for materials in our classroom. This hands-on unit also includes some investigations — what material makes the best umbrella, and which materials float or sink?