



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Class H Topic letter Autumn 2020

Toys

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class Hummingbird!

I would like to welcome you to Class Hummingbird and hope that your children will be inspired and excited by the lessons I have planned for them on our topic this term.

Our topic for this term is "Toys" which will involve looking into the past, how they have changed and compare them to the toys of today. We will learn to sequence events chronologically and learn about the different sources we can use. For further details on what the children will be learning, please look at the curriculum map on the school website.

Class Routines

Reading

Reading is a vital part of education and we would ask that an adult hears your child read regularly at home and makes a note in the reading diary. In Year One and Early Years, we are developing our phonetic awareness learning to decode, segment and blend sounds to enable us to read words. It is equally important to discuss the pictures and the text with your child as well as 'hear' them read, to develop their comprehension skills.

In Class H, as Year One children, I expect the children to generally change their own books first thing in the morning. The first few weeks we will support the children as much as is needed. We will always remind all the children when they first come in to change their books and give them time to do so. We suggest that you spend one night reading their book and another on their Phase or Tricky Word card. Our reading books will be cleaned once they are returned and quarantined for 24 - 72 hours. Your



child will receive an Oxford Reading Tree book on a Monday and a Bug Club book on a Thursday. We expect your child to have read their reading book at least three times before it is changed. This is done to help build up your child's fluency in their reading. Please ensure your child brings in their diary, reading book and Phase Card everyday.

PE

PE will be on a Monday afternoon and a Wednesday morning. We encourage your child to get ready for the lessons to develop their independence. Therefore, on these days could you avoid clothing which your child may find tricky as this will help. We do go outside in most weather conditions so please ensure your child has a tracksuit in their PE bag for when the weather starts to turn. In the PE kit, please ensure there are a pair of short socks for these lessons as we find they often get damp feet or, if your child is wearing tights they need socks to change into. Please can you also ensure any earrings are removed either before coming to school or can be removed by your child.

Let's Present - Speaking and Listening

Let's Present will be on a Wednesday afternoon - this is part of our Speaking and Listening Curriculum. Each child will be allocated a date for their presentation, where they have the opportunity to bring in something they would like to share with the rest of the class. It is usually five minutes long and linked to our topic. We will start this on the 30th September and a separate letter will follow with more information.

Spelling Tests

The weekly spelling test will take place on a Friday. Due to the current climate we will be keeping the spelling books in school and your child will write their result in their reading diary.

Maths Games

The children will be given a Maths game each Friday to play over the weekend, then returned by Wednesday at the latest. They are rotated and with challenge the children's maths skills.

General

We encourage the children to drink regularly from a water bottle during school time and would therefore ask you to provide a named bottle of fresh water for your child daily. Following guidance the water fountains in the school are not in use and therefore it is imperative that your child brings in their own NAMED water bottle.

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office. If you would like to speak to me then please contact me on the class email address which



is ClassH@danburypark.essex.sch.uk, this will be checked everyday between 3.30 and 4pm. If you have any concerns regarding any special needs you can contact out Senco Mrs Trussell on senco@danburypark.essex.sch.uk .

We realise there are a lot of routines for everybody to adapt to however we will endeavour to make the transition as smooth and happy as we possibly can.

Our Curriculum

English

English is taught daily as well as being embedded throughout all lessons. This term our genre areas are: stories in familiar settings, we are going to learn to write labels, lists and captions. We will then write simple sentences, using words and phrases from familiar stories and discuss; create story maps, retell stories through role play and perform in front of the class. We will look at different types of poetry and write our own. We also look at what a non-fiction book is and the features that they have.

In Year One we are focusing on holding our pencil correctly in the tripod grip, correct letter formation, understanding the families they are from, as well as making sure our letters sit correctly on the line.

Maths

Maths is taught as a lesson every day but we also try to include real life Maths in the classroom as much as possible. We start with sorting shapes, colours, sizes and patterns. We then move onto representing numbers and place value. As we progress we will start consolidating learning and use our reasoning and problem solving skills.

We will learn to compare, using the signs $<$, $>$ and $=$ for numbers up to 10, Through the term, we will move on to the two of the four calculations, we will look at addition and subtraction. We will learn to identify parts and whole objects and numbers, and look at number bonds and fact families. We will also spend a week looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We will endeavour to make Maths as practical as we can, while observing the restrictions we have in the current climate.

We will be asking the children to complete tasks on the Mathletics websites (Username and Passwords given) that will help consolidate or extend your child's



learning from in the classroom. We will cover the area of Maths in class first then set the tasks to do at home. Your child will be set activities on Mathletics fortnightly but please feel free to do any other activities your child wishes to attempt.

Science

Our science topic is materials. Again we will link this to our topic, looking at materials used in toys from the past and in the present. We will learn to identify objects, the material they are made from and the properties they have. We have a lesson planned to be toy testers!

Computing

We will be looking at how to stay safe online, understanding the dangers and how children should seek help if necessary, making our own set of online safety rules for the class. We will also be looking at algorithms to program a Beebot and discussing ways in which we use technology in our world.

History

We will be focussing on toys in the past. The children will learn to use primary and secondary sources for research, to tell the difference between past and present in their own and other people's lives, to know how children in the past had different toys to them and that depending on your wealth how this also affected the toys you would have. They will begin to recognise some of the similarities and differences between periods of time and place toys in a timeline.

Geography

We will look at the countries that make the United Kingdom and the capital cities. We will be identifying landscape features, teach them about key human features and compass points. We will learn how to read a map and go on a treasure hunt. We will be looking at the different countries toys come from and Christmas around the world.

Art and Design/DT

We will be experimenting with a variety of media: pencils, crayons, pastels, charcoal and Chalk. We will be doing some sketching of toys, looking at colour, shade and tone. We will be making paper dolls and jumping jacks linking to our history. We will be asking children to evaluate their work, talk about what they have done and why.



Music

Mrs Long will be teaching the children Music every week. They will be looking at finding the beat (pulse) in different pieces of music and practising playing along to the beat. They will learn how to copy, create and record simple rhythms.

Outdoor PE - This will follow our curriculum, albeit adapted to due to Covid19 of outdoor team games.

Indoor PE - We will be covering Gymnastics. They will learn how to use space and equipment safely. Use different parts of their bodies to travel around on. They will also learn how to move and manage apparatus as a team. We will look at the effects exercising has on the body.

RE - This term we will be looking at Special People and Special places. We will be looking at the role people play in the local community, famous people and how we commemorate well-known people. We will incorporate learning about specific celebrations including Harvest, Remembrance Day and Christmas.

We will also be looking at places that are special to us; our school, the town we live in and places we visit for a holiday. We will look at Christianity, the local church and other local places of worship. We will look at different beliefs and how we respect those beliefs.

PSHE

This is taught every week and we will be looking at the following headings over the term.

Relationships

Families and Friendships Making friends, feeling lonely and getting help.

Safe Relationships Managing secrets; resisting pressure and getting help; recognising hurtful behaviour.

Respecting ourselves and others Recognising things in common and differences; playing and working co-operatively, sharing opinions.

Languages - The children will be taught French every week by Madame Dekhar. They will learn the days of the week, colours and numbers.



Thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to a great year with your children.

Mrs Smith

Class Teacher

