



# Ark Ayrton Primary Academy

**Phase  
Newsletter  
4<sup>th</sup> October  
2021**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start to the school year we have had! Classrooms are full of learning and engagement, and it is just lovely to see all of our children playing together as one community on the playground.

## **Curriculum Update**

### **Year 1**

#### **Reading**

In Year 1, we are learning our Set 1 and 2 phonics sounds and applying these in Read Write Inc storybooks. In the afternoons, we are reading about The Great Fire of London to deepen our understanding of our Horizons topic.

#### **Writing**

This term we are focusing on simple sentence writing and ensuring that our sentences are punctuated accurately and make sense.

#### **Maths**

Our Unit this half term, is numbers 1-10. Deepening our understanding of what each number means and how we can represent it in a number of ways. We are also beginning to learn a range of strategies to help us solve addition and subtraction equations. We need to know that when we add, the value of the number increases, and when we subtract it decreases.

#### **Science**

Our science unit this half term is Animals including humans. We will be answering the follow Key Questions:

- What are examples of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals?
- What examples of animals are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores?
- How are fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals the same and different?
- What are the basic parts of the human body?
- Which of the five senses are associated with which body part?

#### **Horizons**

Our Horizons learning this half term is based around 'The Great Fire of London'. We will be answering the following Key Questions:

- What was London like in the past (before 1666) and in the present?
- How was life different in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century compared to now?
- How did the Great Fire of London begin?
- How do we know about the fire and what changes were made after it?

## Trips

Next half term we will be visiting Marwell Zoo.

## **Year 2**

### Reading

In Year 2, we are consolidating our knowledge of Set 2 and 3 phonics sounds and applying these in Read Write Inc storybooks. Some of us have come to the end of the RWInc programme and are now in a Whole Class Reading group, working on building fluency and understanding of the texts being read. In the afternoons, we are reading about Pirates to deepen our understanding of our Horizons topic.

### Writing

This term we began our writing journey by retelling, and making a change to the traditional story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have been learning to describe nouns with more than one adjective to engage and entertain the reader.

We have also been learning about instruction writing and which language features we need to include to ensure that our instructions can be followed successfully.

### Maths

Our Unit this half term, is numbers to 100. We have been learning to partition numbers in different ways and understanding that 2 digit number has tens and ones. We have been learning what odd and even numbers are and how we can identify them. We are learning a number of strategies to add a 2 digit number to a 2 digit number.

### Science

Our science unit this half term is 'Everyday materials'. We will be answering the following Key Questions:

- Which everyday materials can we identify?
- What are the physical properties of everyday materials?
- Why are objects made from different materials?
- Is it natural or man-made?
- How can we sort and group everyday materials?
- How can we compare everyday materials?
- Which materials are recyclable?

### Horizons

Our Horizons learning this half term is called 'Life on the ocean wave'. We will be answering the following Key Questions:

- When was the 'Golden Age of Pirates'?
- What was life like as a pirate?
- Which famous pirates do we know about?
- Do pirates exist today?
- Who was Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson?
- What is the purpose of the Royal Navy?
- What is it like to be a sailor?

## Trips

Next half term we will be visiting the Historic Dockyard and learning what life was like aboard the HMS Victory.

## **Year 3**

### **Reading**

In year 3, our reading is linked to our topic, so that we can develop our reading skills as well as broaden our subject knowledge. We are currently reading 'Time Hunters - Stone Age Rampage, Battle of the Mightiest' by Chris Blake. During Whole Class reading we practise reading with fluency and use the text to help us answer a range of comprehension questions.

### **Writing**

This term we began our writing journey by writing our own version of 'The Stone Age Boy' which is about a young boy's adventure as he travels back to the Stone Age. We have been refining our writing skills and ensuring that we build on what we learnt in Year 2. In our non-fiction unit, we have been writing a guide to the Stone Age.

### **Maths**

This half term we have been exploring numbers up to 3 digits. We have been learning different mental strategies to calculate addition and subtraction equations and have used practical equipment to embed our understanding.

### **Science**

Our science unit this half term is 'Light and Dark'. We will be answering the following Key Questions:

- What is the difference between light and dark?
- Which surfaces are reflective?
- Why is light from the sun dangerous and how can we protect our eyes against it?
- What is a shadow?

### **Horizons**

This half term our Horizons topic is 'The Stone Age to The Iron Age.' We will be answering the following Key Questions:

- How do we know about prehistoric Britain?
- What was life like in the Stone Age?
- What discoveries have been made about the Stone Age?
- What was life like in the Bronze Age?
- How did the invention of the wheel allow for technological advances?
- What was life like in the Iron Age?
- Why did people in the Iron Age settle in hillforts?
- Why was trade so important for survival?
- Was Boudicca revolutionary?

### **Trips**

This half term we will be visiting Stonehenge, the details of which you should have received in a different letter. If you have any questions please speak to your child's class teacher.

### **Uniform**

All children are expected to wear full uniform every day, unless it is a PE day. Sensible black shoes (not trainers) should also be worn.

Children in Year 1, 2 and 3 must wear grey trousers or a skirt, a white collared shirt (not a polo shirt) and a red Ayrton jumper or cardigan.

Children in Year 3 must wear a grey tie.

Jumpers, Cardigans and Ties can be purchased from the School Office.

For PE children are expected to wear a white t-shirt and black shorts. If it is cold they can wear a black or grey tracksuit

### **Phase Leader drop in**

I will be available on the morning of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October between 9 and 9.45, for any parent's in Year 1, 2 and 3, to drop in for a chat.

### **Home learning**

In Year 1 and 2, we will set weekly spellings. We will send these out as a paper copy and the beginning of the week.

In Year 3, your spellings will be set on Purple Mash.

In all years, children will be sent home with a home reading book. It is very important that your child is reading regularly at home. When they have finished the book, they need to return it and swap for a new book.

### **Facebook**

Don't forget to like and follow our school FB page for the latest information, weekly nominations and to see all our children's hard work!

Best wishes,

Mrs H Serjent

Lower School Lead