

MADAGASCAR

Overview Letter for Key Stage 1 - Term 1

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the new academic year! We hope you all had a fantastic summer and are looking forward to our exciting new topic *'Madagascar.'* The attached *'Welcome to Year 1 & 2'* letter provides you with specific information regarding reading, phonics, homework and general reminders. It also refers to specific attachments that we have also attached for your information. This letter provides you with an overview of what the children will be focusing upon this term in English and Maths, and the attached topic web provides you with further information regarding our learning for this term.

We have included a list below of key events that are happening this term, which includes our forthcoming trip to Bristol Zoo on Wednesday 19th September. Information regarding the trip was sent home via Parent Mail at the end of last term. If you are available to help on the trip or on our walks to the local library or church this term, then please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible.

Events:-

Value: Respect

19th September: Bristol Zoo trip

27th September: 2KH Class assembly

1st October: Individual pupil photographs

Week beginning 8th October: Year 1 Classes are visiting the local library

15th October: Harvest Festival

24th October: Teacher Training Day (school is closed) and end of term 1

5th November: Start of term 2

Topic & English

We have begun the term by exploring poetry and the children have been superstars at thinking of nouns that they associate with particular colours. We then challenged ourselves to think of adjectives to describe our chosen nouns before using our ideas to create colour themed poems. We are looking forward to planning, investigating and evaluating our first scientific experiment of the academic year, which will focus on exploring waterproof materials. After we have visited Bristol Zoo later in the term, we will support the children with planning and writing recounts of their trip. The children will be given valuable opportunities to convey their newly acquired knowledge of Madagascan animals through their writing and they will be using the popular story 'Walking through the jungle' as stimulus for their writing.

Maths

This term, we will focus upon developing the children's understanding of the place value of digits in numbers. This will enable them to improve their accuracy with reading, ordering and writing numbers appropriate to their year group. We will support the children with improving their mental arithmetic skills, which is fundamental to their mathematical learning. They will have opportunities to practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, whilst also learning to recall number bonds to make given totals. We will focus on all four mathematical operations this term and the children will be supported with recording their calculations, using both pictorial and written methods.

Best wishes, Year 1 and 2 Team