



PLAINS FARM ACADEMY

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

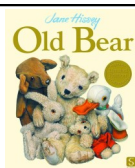
Autumn 1 - 2025

Mrs Stanness



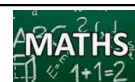
Literacy

In English this half term, we will be reading the story *The Old Bear*. We will be developing our writing skills so we can retell the story ourselves. We will learn to use plurals, use a range of adjectives and expand our sentences with conjunctions, whilst continuing to focus on our use of capital letters, clear letter formation, finger spaces and full stops. Then, our next writing focus will be message sentences, so that we can write a letter from one of the toys who is still stuck in the attic. We will learn how to create a letter to explain why we are writing the letter, how we feel about being stuck and what the toys could do to save the other toy from the attic. We will focus on punctuation to show emotion, such as question marks and exclamation marks, and persuasive language to encourage the toys to come to the rescue.



Maths

In maths, we will start the half term by learning about place value within 10. We will revisit skills from Reception which will us when practicing to write numbers up to 10 as numerals and words, sorting objects and finding one more or one less of a number. Then, we will focus on addition within 10, where we will look at fact families, number bonds to 10 and finding parts of a number.



Geography

In geography we will be learning about Sunderland and the local area. By the end of the half term, we aim to be able to identify three features on an aerial photograph of the school and know the name of the country and village, town or city in which they live, make a map of the classroom with four key features, using objects to represent the distance and direction of features in the classroom, recognise four features in the school grounds using a map and draw a design to improve three areas of the playground using the results from the survey.



DT

In design and technology we are going to be learning health and nutrition, specially fruits and vegetables. We will be describing fruits and vegetables and explain how to identify fruits, learning to name a range of places that fruits and vegetables grow, describing basic characteristics of fruit and vegetables and learning how to safely prepare fruits and vegetables to make a delicious smoothie.



P.E

In PE we are focusing on football. Alongside learning skills such as ball control and aiming at a target, we will also be learning how to work as a team while playing together. Each week we will work with different people in our class and learn how to communicate effectively in a team to succeed.



Computing

Our focus in computing this half term will be online safety. We will be learning what it means to be safe online, how to identify if something or someone is not safe and who we should speak to if we are worried about something we see online. This includes using computers, social media and games consoles to ensure that children are safe when using any device.



Science

In Science this term, your child will be learning about materials. We will be exploring what material every day objects are made from, which materials can be recycled and why that is good for the environment and conducting experiments to see if they are absorbent, transparent or opaque and will see if they can find any patterns between materials and their properties.



R.E

In RE we will be considering the question, who do Christians say made the world? In this unit, pupils will learn about the Christian creation story. They will learn about the key events within the story and be able to retell it using key vocabulary. They will begin to understand that some Christians believe different things about creation. Pupils will begin to compare texts found within the creation story and start to think about how Christians might try to be stewards of the world. Pupils will also consider how Christians may act in response to creation and why they may choose to praise God for it.



Music

Hey you!

Hey You! is written in an Old-School Hip Hop style for children to learn about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch and to learn how to rap and enjoy it in its original form. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other Old-School Hip Hop tunes.



PSHE

In PSHE this term, we are learning to work as a team. We will talk about the different teams we belong to, describe how we can listen to others, list some ways we can show kindness to others, discuss examples of friendly joking, teasing and bullying behaviours, identify helpful and not-so-helpful thoughts and talk about different choices we can make within our team and how these can effect others.



Information

- * Please encourage your child to **read every day** and return their reading record and book to school daily.
- * Homework will be set on a Friday and this must be handed in by the following Wednesday. Homework is linked to your child's learning, therefore, it is vital it is completed.
- * Spellings will be given on Friday, please work with your child to learn these spellings, they will have a spelling quiz the following Friday.
- * Year 1 PE will be on Wednesday and Thursday, children must come to school in their PE kit.
- * Please label all of your child's clothes with their name—it always makes it easier to locate lost items of clothing at the end of a school day.
- * Please keep us up to date with who will be collecting your child from school each day by updating your named adult list kept in school.
- * Please ensure your child is in school on time everyday. Key stage 1 morning registration 8.40—8.50am, home time 3.20pm.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is vital for your child's progress. Each lesson builds on the last, so missing even a small amount of time in school can make it harder for children to keep up and feel confident in their learning. Being punctual is equally important, as arriving on time ensures children are settled and ready to learn from the very start of the day. Regular attendance and punctuality help your child to make the most of the exciting opportunities planned this term across all subjects.