



KS1 Summer Term 2022 Newsletter



Great things take time to grow!

The topic theme for the first half of the Summer Term is growing plants and will use the stories: Billy's Sunflower, The Tiny Seed and Jack and the Beanstalk. The themes for the second half of the term are: minibeasts and the environment using the texts: The Case of the Missing Caterpillars, a range of non-fiction minibeast themed texts and the story: Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish.

English

Children will continue learning their phonics in groups at an individual level. The reading and spelling of words will be taught through a variety of activities and games using 'Letters and Sounds'. Children in Year 1 will learn new sounds for reading and/or spelling daily. Children in Year 2, once all the sounds have been learned, will continue to learn about spelling patterns using the 'No Nonsense Spelling' programme. The children's writing this term will mainly be based on the texts and themes above. Our poetry unit will be linked to minibeasts. We will continue to learn how to extend sentences using conjunctions, adding adjectives to create noun phrases and add interest to our writing. Punctuation will be taught alongside sentence structure. Guided reading will be delivered through whole class activities based on understanding vocabulary and sequencing text and small group guided reading sessions where texts will be analysed in more detail and children will make predictions and inferences. Children will continue to read books from a colour band to an adult in school once a week and they should read **daily** at home to an adult (this is homework and a record of this should be made in your child's reading record book).

Maths

All children in Key Stage 1 will continue to follow the White Rose maths scheme. In the Summer term, children following a Year 1 curriculum will focus on: multiplication, division, fractions, position, direction, place, value, money and time. The units of work for the children following a Year 2 curriculum are: the properties of shape, length, height, position, direction, time, mass, capacity and temperature. At Downlands, we teach maths using a: Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract (CPA) approach. This approach teaches new concepts using physical apparatus and visual aids to build up children's understanding of abstract topics.

Science

In science, the children will be learning about plant and minibeast lifecycles. We will be watching caterpillars grow and develop into butterflies, investigating minibeast habitats in the school grounds, including pond dipping. The children will also investigate what plants need to grow and watch seed germination. The children will learn to work scientifically by following practical scientific methods, processes and skills as they learn.

ICT

The children will begin to learn simple coding by using the 'Beebots' and 'Bluebots' programmable floor robots and using the code.org program on the iPad.

Humanities

This term, in history, we will learn about the life of Her Majesty the Queen linked to the Platinum Jubilee and use the amusing story: The Queen's Handbag as a springboard to label and learn about the capital cities of the United Kingdom in geography.

Art

Our art learning will be linked to our topic. We will critique Van Gogh's painting: The Sunflowers and use paints to create our own versions. Learn about how Eric Carle used collage tissue to create the pictures in his books and create pictures using fruit and vegetables in the style of Giuseppe Arcimboldo.

PE

Each week we will have 2 PE lessons – **Monday morning and Wednesday afternoon**. We will use the BBC Time to Move programs for the first half term linked to our topic for dance. Similarly, after half term, children will learn some traditional English country dances which we will demonstrate at our yearly Downlands dance morning in the last week of term. On Wednesday afternoons we aim to be outside, weather permitting, working on football skills for the 1st half term and athletics for the 2nd half. Please ensure that PE kit is in school every day.

RE/PHSE

RE will be taught using the Discovery RE scheme. The theme for the first half term is Islam: the key question being: Does going to the mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging? After half term, the theme is Judaism with the question: What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God? Our PHSE topics using Jigsaw is 'Relationships' for the first half term and 'Changing Me' for the second half term. I Can Problem Solve (ICPS) will continue weekly and is a whole school scheme that teaches children to solve problems and resolve conflict themselves.

Music

Music will be taught through a mix of activities linked with our texts, topics and the Charanga primary music scheme.

Homework

Reading - Daily reading of 10 to 15 minutes.

Spellings - Look, say, cover, write check spellings of common exception words.

Maths – Practise: number bonds to 10 and 20, doubles and halves to 10, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, 2 times, 10 times and 5 times tables.

Reminders/Other Information

If you need to **contact the teacher**, please either email the school via the office (office@downlandsschool.org). Please note that in KS1, the reading record books will not be checked daily for messages as the children are responsible for changing and recording their new reading book in the log independently. Please be advised that Seesaw may only be checked before and after school. Therefore, if you wish to inform us of a change during the day then please ring the office.

PE kit should remain in school all week. If taken home for washing, it must be back in school on Monday morning for dance. Please see uniform policy for PE kit. Out-door PE kit (Jogging bottoms and tops) will not be required this term. Plimsolls/pumps/daps are advisable for use in the hall in order to enable appropriate grip.. PE kit should be stored in a drawstring PE bag.

All children require a **book bag** and this can be used as a school bag. Please ensure they are named and if you attach decorations then only have ONE small hanging 'keyring'. These decorations get in the way and get caught up in the boxes if more are attached. KS1 children do not need to bring backpacks to school, we do not have room for them in our cloakroom area.

All children should bring water in a **named water bottle**. WATER only please.

Please ensure all clothing, book bags and bottles are named with the correct name.

A **mid-morning snack** will be provided by school under the free fruit/veg scheme. If your child/ren would like milk it can be ordered online.

Downlands School has a **NO NUT policy** – so please ensure nut products are not included in packed lunches, including items such as chocolate spread and muesli bars.

We Care, We Share, We Believe, We Achieve

