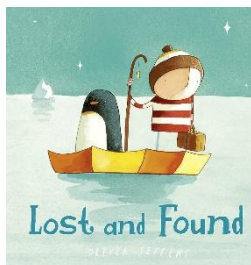


I hope everyone has had a great first half term. The children have settled into year 1 brilliantly and are doing amazing at getting stuck into our daily routines and learning. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Gray who is now working with us daily. Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask on the door or you can email myself during school hours s.vella@harris.lancs.sch.uk

Mrs Vella

English

This half term, we have an exciting unit based around the theme of animals. For the first three weeks our focus text will be *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers. After the reading phase, we will write our own version of the story. Later in the half term, we will research and gather facts about polar animals and write our own information poster about an animal of our choice.



Maths

We will begin this half term by learning to counting patterns, counting in 5s and 2s. Following on from that, we will learn fractions $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. Then, we will measure capacity in practical activities. We will also learn about money including recognising coins, ordering their values and adding two prices together. Finally, we will complete a unit on time including days of the week, months of the year and measure and compare time in seconds.

Phonics/Reading

Please read as often as possible at home with your child and make a brief comment in their reading record. Your child will come home with 2 home reading books on their selected book changing day. We recommend the following:

- One night your child reads one book to decode and apply their phonic knowledge to read any new, unfamiliar words. Parents can read parts of the book too to help.
- The next night, re-read the same book. Your child should be able to read this more confidently and develop a better understanding of the book.
- Repeat with your child's second book.

Each child has been allocated a day which their books will be changed. Feel free to ask us when their day is. Please ensure their reading books are in school every day.

Geography

In Geography, we will be looking at the globe and discussing all the different continents there are. We will also be learning about the different oceans and the Equator.



Science

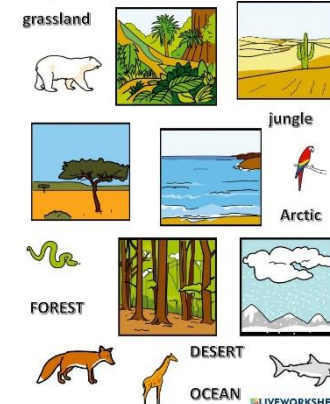
In Science this half term we have covered all the animal groups. In Autumn 2 we will be looking at herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. We also will look at different habitats animals may live in and discuss the differences in wild animals and pets.



ALERT: This may involve digging in some animal poo to help us investigate. (*child friendly of course*)

The children will learn that all living things move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.

If anyone has a pet that fits into any of these groups, it would be lovely if you could visit the class with them so the children can ask questions and see the features of these animals. Please speak to Mrs Vella if you are able to help.

Where do ANIMALS live?



<p>Computing</p> <p>We will be using the app Pic Collage to create our own pictograms linked to our topic work.</p> 	<p>PE</p> <p>Mr Ridge will be teaching PE every Tuesday this year.</p> <p>If this ever changes, you will be notified on School Spider or Google Classroom.</p> <p>The children will be doing dance and invasion games this half term.</p> <p>This year, across the whole school each class will learn about a significant sports star. Ours is Jessica Ennis Hill.</p>	<p>PSHE</p> <p>Meet your brain</p> <p>We will be using My Happy Mind journals to work on meeting and understanding our brain and relationships.</p> 
<p>RE</p> <p>Christianity Jesus Why is Jesus special to Christians?</p>	<p>History</p> <p>In History, we will be looking into the topic of Polar Explorers. This includes looking into significant figures who managed to reach the Polar regions from the past and even more recent.</p>	<p>French</p> <p>We will use the Language Angels programme to teach the boys and girls basic greetings in French.</p>

Reminders

Reading – As a whole school we are monitoring the amount children are reading at home. The new reading record should be filled in and signed every time you read which ideally is every day. The new format of the reading record does make it more apparent to those who don't read at home as much as they should or even at all. Let's try to have a big push on reading at home even if it just a couple of pages. Data on the amount of children reading is being monitored weekly.

Google Classroom- We have now managed to create all the Google classroom accounts and passwords and these can be found in your child's reading record. You should only need to log in once on the device. Here is where you can message the teacher and find all Year 1 homework, messages, support materials, newsletters etc. The Year 1 class code is [ak5fzfg](#)

Homework- Homework is set each half term. There will be a range of activities linked to what we are learning in class. Green challenges are quick and the easiest and dark red are longer projects that may take some time. You can photograph all tasks when they have been completed and 'turn it in' to evidence that the task has been complete. It is not expected that all tasks are completed but that you have a selection of tasks that suits your child and your home-life.

Spellings – The children will be given a set of spellings at the beginning of half term. They will need to be practicing them regularly at home and during school. They will be given a homework book in their book bags to practice in. We will then collect the spelling books at the end of half term to review learning at home and set new spellings for the following half term.

Wellies – We love to use our outdoor area during the wetter, colder months. To keep school shoes clean, we ask that your child has a pair of wellies in school for when it gets muddy. These are kept inside the long blue bench under our classroom window. Should you need them back for weekend walks, you will be able to grab them whenever is necessary.

Book Bags/Reading Packs – The children will need their book bags and reading packs in school every day. Please ensure their bag is clearly named and avoid attaching large keyrings because they struggle to fit them into their trays.

Names – Please remember to write/stick your child's name on all their belongings, including water bottles (and for some children, socks!).

PE – Mr Ridge will teach the children PE on Tuesday afternoon. Your child should come to school wearing the new PE Kit- plain white t-shirt, navy shorts/joggers and navy zipped jacket.

Coats & Outdoor Learning – We like to go outside, whatever the weather. Please ensure your child has a suitable coat in school every day.

Book Vote- We love reading at Harris Primary School. Every day the children have the opportunity to use their named peg to vote for a book to enjoy at the end of each day.

Fruit and Milk- Please check with your child if they would like to have milk. One or two children are insisting they no longer want it and some would like it but they're not on our current milk list. Please speak to the office staff if your child would like milk or if you would like to cancel it.

School lunches- Thank you to those who have already used our new lunch booking system. Please ensure that you have selected your child's meal for each day and you can pre book these in advance for the ½ term.

Key Dates

Friday 8th November – Over Autumn 1 term year 1 won the highest amount of green orbs, therefore we get to choose a prize/treat for all our brilliant behaviour and good choices. We have voted as a class and the children have chosen a Pyjama day with a movie afternoon. Please make sure Pyjamas are acceptable for school and the cold weather we are having. Children can bring a **small** teddy for the movie if they wish but please don't feel they have to or need to.

Friday 6th December – Christmas Fayre 5pm – 7:30pm.

Monday 2nd December – Bring in clothing/ costumes for the nativity. More information will be sent out nearer the time via School Spyder.

Monday 16th December – Christmas Nativity for parents 2:30pm and 5pm.