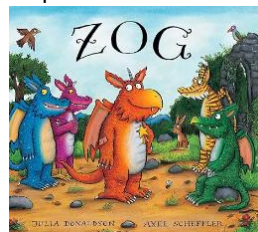


I hope you've all had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to starting a new school year with us in Year 1. The boys and girls have settled well into the classroom and our routines. I am really looking forward to teaching the children and having some fun along the way throughout Year 1. We are fortunate to have Miss Wilkinson in class with us daily. Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask on the door in a morning or after school or you can email [staff@harris.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:staff@harris.lancs.sch.uk)

Mrs Vella

## English

We have an exciting unit based around the theme of Fire! Fire! For the first three weeks our focus text will be Zog by Julia Donaldson. After the reading phase, we will write an alternative version to the story. Later in the half term, we will read firework poems and write our own which we will perform. Finally, we will read non-fiction texts about The Great Fire of London and write our own information text about events linked to our History unit.



## Maths

We will begin this half term by looking at number and place value for two weeks. We will be counting items up to 30 including groups of tens. Following on from that, we will explore length and mass using non-standard units to measure. Then, we will focus on addition and subtraction by counting on and back across 10 using a range of maths resources to help us. Finally, we will learn about 2-D and 3-D shapes which includes circles, triangles, square rectangles, oblong rectangles, spheres, pyramids, cubes and cuboids.

## 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.

This week, we will allocate the day that your child's book will be changed. You will be able to ask us when their day is. Please ensure their reading books are in school every day.

## Art

This half term, we are learning about the artist and sculptor Joanna Vasconcelos and her creative sculptures, which she created using everyday materials. We will use paper and pipe cleaners to create our own firework sculptures.



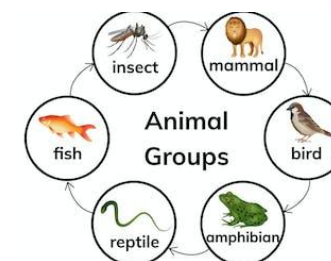
## Science

In Science, we will be learning about animals. The children have asked some great questions about what they want to learn. We will learn the names of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals then group animals based on their features. Then we will learn about animal diets and those that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and what they eat.

**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.



## Computing

We will be using the app Pic Collage to create our own story boards linked to our topic work.



## PE

Mr Ridge will be teaching PE every Tuesday this year. If this ever changes, you will be notified on School Spider or Google Classroom.

Fundamental Movement Skills Baseline: Lost and Found  
Gymnastics unit 1

This year, across the whole school each class will learn about a significant sports star. Ours is Jessica Ennis Hill.

## PSHE

Meet your brain

We will be using My Happy Mind journals to work on meeting and understanding our brain and relationships.



## RE

Christianity  
God

Why do Christians say that God is a father?

## Design Technology

In DT, the children will design and make a Tudor home from 1666. They will explore ways to make their structure stronger, stiffer and more stable.

*We will ask for boxes to be sent into school for the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. More information will be sent out nearer the time.*



## MFL

We will look at introducing a foreign language and basic language such as numbers, greetings and colours.

## Reminders

**School lunches-** Thank you to those who have already used our 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. It really is important to select what your child wants for their lunch to avoid disappointment of something they may not like.

**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.

**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.

**Reading Packs** – Your child will be given a day that they will read to a member of the Year 1 team and then have their books changed. Reading is so important in Year 1 and help the children progress with their phonics.

**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. 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 each half term. They will need to be practicing them regularly at home and during school. They will be given a spelling 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.

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

**Design Technology**- In a few weeks, we will be asking the children to bring in a box or two to make their Tudor houses. A shoebox / amazon sized box will be fine. Please avoid cereal boxes as these are too narrow for the structure or boxes that are HUGE! These will be sent home after our project and unit has finished. More information will be sent out nearer the time. We will start to create the Tudor houses around October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Newspaper**- Please can we have all your unwanted newspaper to help us papier mache our Tudor houses.

**PE** – Mr Ridge will teach the children PE on Wednesday afternoon. Your child should come to school wearing their normal school uniform and bring their P.E kit to school in a drawstring bag if possible. The children will then get changed for P.E and then will get back changed to go home in their school uniform. P.E kits can be left in school and sent home to wash and change every half term. This will help with people forgetting or losing any P.E kits.

**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.