

# Year 1 and 2 Newsletter

January 2012

Dear Parents / Guardians,  
We hope you have all had a wonderful time over the Christmas Holidays and we wish you a very Happy New Year!



In school this half term our topic is 'Fruit and Vegetables; How to Stay healthy'. This encompasses many National Curriculum subjects such as Science, Art and Design Technology. It is also linked into other curriculum areas such as Literacy and Maths.

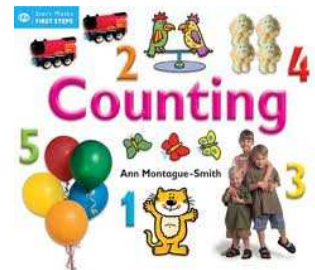
## Literacy



We will be using our overall topic of Fruit and Vegetables as a theme for our writing, and will be reading and creating silly food poems, alongside learning the story of The Gigantic Turnip. We will use this story as a basis for some very exciting competition writing that will also be linked to Moshi Monsters!

## Maths

We will be continuing our work on number, looking at counting and matching numerals and words to 100 and beyond. We will be using money to buy fruit and vegetables at the shops; looking at the coins we can use and how we can use addition and subtraction to find totals and calculate change. We will also be weighing and measuring fruit and vegetables before we use it to make soup!



## RE



Following the 'Here I Am scheme of work', we will be focussing on the topics of Celebrations, Thanksgiving and Self-giving. Initially, we will be thinking about different community and Christian celebrations we may have taken part in and the importance of these to our lives.

## Topic – Fruit and Vegetables; How to stay Healthy.

We will be pulling together Science, Art, PE and Design & Technology to find out all about healthy eating, and how we can make choices that impact our whole lives. During these topic lessons we will be creating self-portraits in the style of Arcimboldo (using the peelings and waste from our fruit and vegetables), looking at the impact of exercise and healthy eating on our bodies, thinking about the use of medicines and drugs and reading a variety of different story books which talk about lifestyles and diet of different children within different cultures. As part of our topic this term, we will be planning a few walks within the local area. We will inform you when these are due to take place although changes may need to be made due to the weather conditions. Please let us know if any of you have a current CRB form and are willing to accompany us on any of the walks.



## A Few Reminders and General Notes



Book bags should be brought to school **every day** and taken home **every night**.

Learning logs need to be handed in every Monday. If they are late they may not be marked until the following week.

Items of school uniform, PE kits and coats should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Full PE kits should be kept in school. We often have children without their PE pumps or pumps that are too small for them. Our PE days are Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure that children do not wear earrings to school on those days.

**Spelling** - We are continuing to encourage children to *apply* the spellings they have been learning within their writing. The spellings that we send home in the learning logs will be words that the individual children have spelt incorrectly within their writing in the previous school week. Please continue to help them to learn the correct spelling of the words and then to apply the spelling within a sentence.



**Reading** – We are currently trying to raise the profile of reading and the children's enjoyment of reading.

At school, we currently carry out guided reading with small groups of children. We would however like to enable a system where all the children are able to read individually to an adult. We have one fantastic volunteer to help support us with this but we would really welcome the support of other volunteers who may be able to spare an hour or so to give the children an additional opportunity to read to a grown up in school. If you know of anyone, or are available yourself, please let us know. As I am sure you are aware, reading is key to all learning, and enabling fluent and confident readers is really important at this stage. (All volunteers do need to have a valid CRB form – please ask at reception for details on how to attain one.)

We have set up a system in class to encourage children to read at home as much as possible. The children will be given a sticker for their reading sticker chart every time they have read at home and then a small prize when they complete their sticker chart. This does not mean that the children have to read the whole book. Please write in their reading records each night when they have read.

This term, Mrs McNamara will be leaving for her second maternity leave and we will welcome Mrs Mendonca to work alongside Mrs Johnson.

Finally, we would like to say 'Thank you' to all our parents for your continued support with the work in the learning logs and with home reading. We are all looking forward to a busy and enjoyable Spring term ahead!

If there is anything at all that you have concerns or queries about, please do not hesitate to approach either one of us.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Johnson and Mrs McNamara

