

### **Homework**

We continue to encourage all children to read to you **every day** at home. We ask you to focus on their decodable reading book, which they will have read three times in school before bringing home. This will mean that they are confidently reading the book to you, and our aim is that they are 95% accurate in their decoding. We cannot stress enough the importance of regular reading at home. It has a huge impact on progress and confidence, providing opportunities for your child to practise the skills they've learned in school. Ten minutes a day makes such a difference! We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. In addition, the children will continue to choose a book to share from our new selection of titles. Please read these books to or with your child; we do not expect your child to read them independently.

### **Expectations in Year 1**

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, kind and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We encourage teamwork and a respect for all other members of 'Team St Minver'. We remind the children daily of our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

The way in which we learn and our motivation to do so remains hugely important. We focus on these characteristics using our 'Lenny Lion's Learning Zoo'. Each characteristic has an animal associated with it and so the children strive to become Proud Peacocks, Persevering Parrots, Go for It Gorillas, Creative Chameleons, Choosing Chimps and Slinky Linky Snakes. These characters are introduced to the children in EYFS and our aim is to build on the good habits established last year.

### **Class rewards**

House points and stickers are given to the children as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. A filled sticker chart means the children choose a small gift from our prize box. Each week two children will be selected to be the stars of the week, and their achievements will be shared in our weekly celebration assemblies.

We look forward to working with your children again this coming term, and are excited to build on the impressive progress made by the children since September. They have made an excellent start already this week and should feel proud of themselves so settling back into our class routines so smoothly. Well done to all!

As always, please do catch us after school for a chat if you have questions or concerns. Remember also that you can keep up to date with what we are doing in class by visiting our class page on the school website.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cray and Miss Merson



# Daymer Class Information Booklet - Spring 2023

Teachers: Mrs Cray and Miss  
Merson

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Luke



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you've all had a happy and restful holiday. This booklet sets out our plans for the next half term and what we will be learning in school, although of course some things may change as we go along. As you can see, we have much to cover in quite a short time. This half term the children are learning about space and the moon landings, and we will be considering the question, 'will we ever be able to travel to the moon?'. We will cover lots of history as part of our topic work and this will link with much of our literacy work too. This is an interesting topic which we are sure the children are going to enjoy.

As last term, Mrs Cray will teach the class from Monday to Thursday each week, and Miss Merson will teach the class every Friday. Mrs Luke is our full time teaching assistant.

### **English**

In English this term, we will continue with our daily phonics lesson using the Little Wandle programme. We will send home an overview of the week's learning every Monday so that you can keep up to date with coverage and support your child at home. Our group reading sessions will take place every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and as last term, the children will bring home a weekly phonics reading book each Thursday. Please aim to read this book daily at home. The children will also continue to choose a book to share for our class library, changing this book as often as they would like to.

Our class text this half term is 'Whatever Next?' by Jill Murphy and this will be the focus of our whole-class reading sessions as well as our writing activities. The children will be writing their own adventure stories based on the class text, using all of the writing skills we learned last term and beginning to extend their work.

We look forward to sharing a number of lovely stories, non-fiction texts and poems linked to our space topic. If you have any books at home that might support our topic work, please do send them in. We promise to look after them!

### **Maths**

The children will develop their calculation skills as we start this term, consolidating their previous work on addition and beginning to work on subtraction within 10. We will cover number bonds, finding parts and wholes, subtracting by crossing out, subtracting on a number line and subtracting by counting backwards. We will also be looking at how to measure and compare the mass of objects. We will then explore the capacity of different objects and the concept that volume is the amount of something inside a container. We will describe the volume in a container by using phrases such as "empty", "nearly empty", "nearly full" and "full".

The children will continue to follow the 'Number Sense' teaching programme, building fluency with addition and subtraction strategies.

### **Computing**

This term we will continue to build our knowledge of how to stay safe online. We will be using Bee-Bots and learning how to create and follow instructions to make these robots move.

### **Science**

As well as learning about the solar system, the children will learn about everyday materials this half term. They will be learning to confidently identify and name a variety of everyday materials including wood, plastic, glass, metal, liquid and rock, comparing and grouping them and describing their physical properties. They will then use the information they have gathered to consider which materials would be best to build a rocket.

### **History**

The children will be working hard to find the answers to lots of questions in history lessons this half term. We will be asking ourselves questions such as:

- Has man ever been to the moon and how can we know for sure?
- How were astronauts able to get to the moon and back safely?
- What did astronauts do on the moon?

The children will examine lots of historical sources and evidence to find the answers to these questions, building the skills they need to be real historians.

They will explore the lives of significant individuals from the past, focusing on the astronauts Neil Armstrong and Helen Sharman. We will learn a little about their achievements and experiences, and how the world has changed since space travel began.

### **DT**

In design and technology the children will be designing and making space rockets using recyclable materials. They will also be thinking about what makes a good picnic, before designing our own 'moon picnic', and making and evaluating it too!

### **Art**

The children will reinforce previously learned painting skills, painting pictures of aliens, rockets and planets this half term.

### **Music**

In music this term we will be learning different songs and we will begin to think about our voice as an instrument. We look at the importance of why we warm up our voices, having good posture and controlling our breathing. We will also be using our bodies to find the pulse and beat of a piece of music and why it is important to do so. We will learn to keep the rhythm and pulse of a piece of music. Our key piece of music will be Gustav Holst's 'The Planets.'

### **PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)**

Each week the children will have PSHE lessons based on the Jigsaw Framework. During this time the children will play lots of different games which encourage them to get along with each other and follow the class and school rules and encourage them to be thoughtful, independent and mindful about their learning. This half term we will be looking at the topic 'Dreams and Goals.'

### **RE**

In RE we will be learning about Judaism. We will be looking at the key features of the religion. We will be learning about what is special to Jewish people and what the mezuzah is. We will also be exploring how and why Jewish people celebrate Shabbat.

### **PE**

This half term the children will continue to have PE lessons every Wednesday with Mr Rickard and every Thursday with Mrs Cray. On P.E. days the children should come to school wearing their school uniform and have a full P.E. kit with them to change into. Our Active Mile continues every Friday, and the children should come to school wearing the usual sporty dress code.