

# Inquiry and Learning Newsletter

Y1 - Topaz, Sapphire and Jade Classes

Autumn Term 2019



Children were very excited to discover an unwanted toy in the bin. They used drama to understand how the toy might be feeling and kindness to make him feel better. They have been finding out more about him and other old toys.

## **This term our value is kindness. We will explore this value by:**

- Listening to stories about kindness
- Creating our own class rules
- Singing songs about kindness – Smile, You've got a friend in me
- Exploring what kindness means
- Circle time sessions about caring friendships and relationships
- Marking anti-bullying week

## **Our inquiry activities will include:**

- Learning about toys and games from different times and places
- Thinking about what toys are made from and why
- Making our own toys
- Using adjectives to describe different toys
- Writing and receiving letters
- Writing sentences using simple punctuation and connectives (and, because)
- Drawing, printing, collage and colour mixing
- Singing simple songs and playing pitched and unpitched instruments

## **In Maths we will be covering a range of activities including:**

- Ordering and comparing numbers up to 20 and beyond
- Making numbers with different equipment and looking at what each digit represents
- Reading and writing 2-digit numbers
- Looking at what makes 'teen' and 'ty' numbers.
- Adding and subtracting groups of objects
- Beginning to record additions and subtractions formally e.g.  $5+4=9$
- Using a number line to count on or subtract
- Learning number bonds up to 20 e.g.  $4+6=10$ ,  $6+4=10$ .
- Counting in 2s and 10s
- Naming and describing 2D shapes using maths vocabulary such as sides and corners
- Measuring by comparing and ordering lengths

## **You can help at home by:**

- Reading lots of stories and describing the characters
- Reminding your child to change their book when they have read it
- Revising letters of the alphabet and practising letter formation
- Playing games with your grapheme mat
- Helping your child to do their homework
- Exploring ways of measuring at home (e.g. talking about weight and length)
- Playing counting games
- Looking for 'teen' and 'ty' numbers
- Looking for shapes all around you and naming circle, square, triangle, hexagon & oblong
- Talking about what life was like when you were a child. Encouraging children to ask grandparents about what toys and games they played with when they were young

Please see your child's class teacher if you have any further questions.  
Thank you for your support,

Laura Keatley, Georgia Smith, Jo Daubney and Leanne Davey