



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter



Year 1 – Pine and Spruce

Theme this half term: Jurassic Hunter-The life of Mary Anning

Dear Parents & Carers,

This half term, our topic is “Jurassic Hunter – Mary Anning” which is a thematic unit based on the inspirational story of Mary Anning. She is famous for being the greatest fossil finder of her era, powerfully influencing the new science of palaeontology. We will retell the life story of Mary Anning and focus on the main achievements of her life. We are looking forward to all the exciting learning that will take place!

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: As writers, this half term we will be writing instructions on how to make a toy. We will make a toy to help us retell and remember all the steps. We will focus on imperative (bossy) verbs. We will also write a biography of Thomas Barnado, who is famous for providing homes and education for children. We will be using key facts to help us write our non-fiction text. You can help your child learn about the life of Thomas Barnado.

Maths: This half term we will explore multiplication and division. The children will count in 2s, 5s, and 10. They will recognise equal groups and make arrays. You can help your child by making equal groups using different objects and sharing objects equally.

The children will also look at fractions ($\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$). You can help your child at home by finding half and a quarter of a shape and quantity.

Theme: As historians, we will be learning about the life of Mary Anning. We will explore fossils and have a go at creating our own fossils using different materials. You can help your child by researching and understanding what is meant by the terms ‘fossils’ and ‘Jurassic’. As geographers, we will learn the different between coastal human and physical features. You can help your child by exploring geographical words such as cliff, sand and lighthouse. As scientists, we will explore the different rock forms such as sand, rock and chalk.

Reading

Reading at home with your child really does make a huge difference to their life. Please continue to read at home and go through the speedy green words at the back of the book so the children can increase their fluency.

Reading books are handed out on a Friday and are collected back in the next Wednesday. Please help your child to keep their reading books safe in their book bags and bring book bags to school every day!

Reminders

PE: Year 1 have PE on Monday. This term, the children have the opportunity to work with a coach and will be building their skills in basketball.

Water: Please encourage your child to bring a water bottle to school everyday so that they can stay hydrated. Please rinse out water bottles each night.

Times tables: Please support your child in practising the 2, 5 and 10 times table at home.

Spellings for the half term

| 1 17/4/23 | 2 24/4/23 | 3 1/5/23 | 4 8/5/23 | 5 15/5/23 | 6 22/5/23 |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 'ow' 'ou' | 'ai' 'oi' | 'oa' 'ow' | 'ea' | 'ie' | 'er' |
| now | rain | goal | sea | lie | better |
| brown | wait | coach | dream | tie | under |
| down | paid | own | meat | pie | summer |
| about | oil | snow | head | field | sister |
| mouth | join | toe | bread | thief | person |
| sound | soil | goes | instead | shield | her |
| by | one | school | pull | house | said |
| my | once | put | full | our | says |