

# CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 1 - Autumn 1



Ted Wragg TRUST

## Exwick Heights Primary School

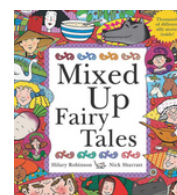
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Tuesday 10th September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 1 pupils,

In **English**, the children will start with the fundamentals of writing sentences using images and short story sequences to practise their writing. They will be focusing on using capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and their phonic knowledge to spell words. This will be modelled and revisited in all writing lessons throughout the year. Following this, we will then be looking at mixed up fairytales for a longer writing unit and, by the end, the children will have a go at writing their own story books using familiar characters. **Supporting learning at home:** Please provide as many opportunities as possible for your children to write at home e.g. shopping lists, invitations, stories, instructions.

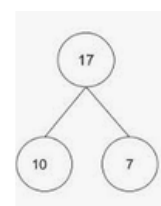


Each week, the children take part in three **reading** practice sessions where they develop their **decoding, fluency and comprehension** skills in reading a book matched to their phonic knowledge. Any reading that can be done at home is invaluable and will greatly support your child's reading and vocabulary development.



**Supporting learning at home:** Please support our child by reading daily; this can be done online using their Collins E-Book library or the book they bring home from school. Books can be changed on a Tuesday and Friday. Please record their reading in their reading journals. Regular reading gets a READ TO SUCCEED ticket and the chance to win a book every half term.

In **Mathematics**, we will be beginning the year by learning about place value up to 10. We will be practising counting forwards and backwards as well as sorting, grouping and ordering numbers. Following that, they will be comparing numbers looking at the less than and greater than symbols and how numbers are positioned on a number line. After this, they will begin learning about addition and subtraction by looking at the part-whole model, fact families and the number bonds to 10. **Supporting learning at home:** Please support your child to master counting up and backwards from 10. This is an important skill that will be used throughout the key stages.



In **Science**, the children will be starting a new topic on **Seasonal Changes**. We will start by looking at autumn and winter and the changes that we see. We will be learning the months of the year and will focus upon changes in weather, plants and nature. We will be working scientifically by gathering data about how the weather changes

**Supporting learning at home:** Please discuss what your child has learned, this consolidation really helps them remember and recall facts. Take walks and talk about the changes in the seasons that you see.

In **History**, we will be studying **Dinosaurs**. We will learn about when and where they lived. We will look at fossils, group different species of dinosaur and understand how they became extinct.

**Supporting learning at home:** Discuss the topic with your children. You can research Dinosaurs together and visit a library to find out more about these amazing creatures.



REACH THE HEIGHTS



In **Art**, the children will be exploring **mark making**. They will experiment with line, texture and shape and will investigate drawing with different materials. They will also be studying portraits and drawing their own self-portraits

**Supporting learning at home:** *Talk about different artists and encourage the children to doodle and draw as much as possible. We would love to see their artistic creations!*

In **PE**, we will be starting two new units. In the first unit, the children will be taught how to throw and return a ball using different equipment. They will focus upon using space to **Attack and Defend** in small games. In the second unit, the children will be developing their travelling, jumping and balancing skills in **Gymnastics**.

**Supporting learning at home:** *Ensure a PE kit is kept in school. Practise ball games together.*



Our **PSHE** topic this half term is **Being me**. The children will be exploring the sense of self. They will celebrate their strengths and set goals for the future. They will explore their relationships with others and learn how to keep healthy.

**Supporting learning at home:** *Talk about healthy relationships, how to keep safe and healthy. Encourage the children to think about all the people they can talk to if they have worries both at home and at school.*



In **RE**, we will be answering the big question **'What is it like to belong to a faith community?'** As part of this unit, the children will consolidate all of their RE learning through discussion and comparison. They will refer back to their knowledge of both Judaism and Christianity as they learn about what it is like to be part of a religious community. They will discuss the concept of belonging, symbols, ceremonies and celebrations.

**Supporting learning at home:** *Discuss different faiths and beliefs noticing places of worship in the local area.*



### Computer Keyboard



In **Computing**, our topic is **Technology around us**. The children will be developing their Chrome Book skills and will explore typing using the keyboard. They will be taught about adding and removing text, the toolbar, making changes to text and exploring art programs.

**Supporting learning at home:** *If you have a laptop or computer at home, any opportunity to practise finding letters on the keyboard would be invaluable.*

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email [admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk). If you have any concerns or want to bring something to our attention, please do contact the Year Group Lead - Miss Haswell.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Haswell  
Anning

Miss M Woolner  
Earhart

Mrs L Johnson and Miss E Williscroft  
Pankhurst