**Year 1 Learning Letter**

**April**

Welcome back after the Easter Holiday.

Last half term was fantastic and the children have returned to school still talking about all things Roald Dahl. The topic certainly captured their imaginations. I hope you had the chance to see our wonderful whole school Roly Poly bird display on the last day of term. It really was magnificent! If you didn’t manage to catch a glimpse of our creation I have included a photograph, along with a copy of this learning letter, on the school website for you to see. The children had great fun putting together a class project.

**Our Environment**

Now that Spring is here and Summer isn’t too far away, we jump straight into our new topic all about our environment. We will be spending lots of time observing and exploring different plants, insects and animals that live within our school grounds and finding out more information about them. We will be working with Class R in our usual topic afternoons, learning through exploration, art and play, as well as having separate science lessons to cover all the extra information we need to know in Year 1. This topic is always one that I look forward to as it means we can take most of our learning outside the classroom and be hands on.

**English**

Whenever possible I always try to link our English lessons with our topic and this half term I would really like to work on the children’s story telling ability and the different parts of a story. We are going to be using a book called ‘Wild Stories’ by Colin Thompson. It is a great book full of short stories that all take place within the garden of house number 14. Some of the stories are quite comical and spark the imagination of what the animals might be up to in the bottom of your garden. We will also be doing a little work on information texts towards the end of the half term, thinking about the life cycles of different animals.

**Maths**

Our maths work this half term is going to focus on the shape and measure element of our curriculum. We will start by looking at fractions and breaking them down to help the children understand the job of the numerator and denominator. We will start by finding fractions of shapes before moving onto fractions of objects and numbers. We will also be learning about measuring weight and length as well as continuing to work on the addition and subtraction process.

**PE**

We have had a few problems with PE kits not being in school just recently. It would be great if children could bring their PE kit at the start of the half term and keep these in school unless you require them at home for washing or other activities. That way we always have PE kit ready. Our PE days are likely to keep changing this half term so that we can make the most of the sunnier days and get out onto the field.

**Homework**

Homework will continue to be provided every Friday, due in the following Wednesday. As we are starting to get closer to the move up to Year 2 I have decided to move away from the Frequency Friday words and send home a more structured piece of spelling homework each week. This will be stuck inside the children’s homework books, alongside their normal hometask. This spelling homework will tell you the sound or spelling rule we have been focusing on that week, a selection of words to learn and a space for you to do a quick spelling test at home to check their progress before them being tested on the spellings the following Friday in school.

Please come and see me if you have any questions.

Miss Sarah Johnston