



Welcome back Year 1!

We hope everybody had a lovely Christmas break

Please remember you can contact us by email at [mrs.haley@greattoham.essex.sch.uk](mailto:mrs.haley@greattoham.essex.sch.uk) and [miss.paul@greattoham.essex.sch.uk](mailto:miss.paul@greattoham.essex.sch.uk)



## English

### Reading

In school, we are sharing traditional tales including The Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children will continue to have 5 phonic lessons each week. Please refer to the sheet handed out during parents' evening in October, showing the graphemes and tricky words that are being taught during the spring term. The children will continue to have 3 practice reading sessions a week. They will be reading fully decodable books which have been carefully matched to their knowledge of phonics. Remember the books they bring home will have been chosen by them to share and enjoy with you. **They are not intended for your child to read to you independently.** It would be wonderful if you continue to share a range of other stories and non-fiction books too.

### Writing

We are starting our topic with the story 'The Three Little Pigs'. The children will be writing parts of the story and focusing on being able to punctuate their sentences correctly with full stops and capital letters. They will begin to use 'and' in a sentence accurately. The children will be learning about the importance of following instructions in the correct order. They will use this knowledge to write their own set of instructions about how to make a sandwich.

As part of our topic on The Great Fire of London, the children will develop their understanding of fiction and non-fiction texts. The children will learn to write recounts and diaries. They will also be learning to recognise questions within a text and demonstrate this in their own writing.

## History

Our topic in this term is about The Great Fire of London in 1666. We will look at how the fire spread and how London was rebuilt.

### Poetry and Music

During our music lessons, the children will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music, such as pulse, rhythm and pitch. Using this knowledge, the children will compose their own verse of the poem 'London's Burning', which we will be learning and reciting as part of our poetry unit. The children will experiment with a range of tuned and untuned instruments to support their final composition.

## Computing

We will continue to use BBC Dance mat to improve keyboard skills. We will be introducing the children to Google docs. They will find out how to open a document and add text, including the use of upper case letters.

The children will use the program 'Jamboard'. They will learn how to change the pen colour to suit the purpose of the image. They will produce a scene of the Great Fire of London.

## Maths

At the start of term, the children are learning to tell the time to the hour. As the term progresses, the children will be learning to count in twos, fives and tens and will apply this to a range of problems.

Please continue to help your child with addition and subtraction to 20, number bonds to 10, and counting to and from 100 from any given number.

During the second half of the term, the children will be sharing and grouping different amounts. They will use a range of equipment to support their understanding, including counters and multilink.



**Design and Technology**

The children will use their understanding of the properties of materials, including strength and flexibility, to make their own freestanding structure. We will be making a chair for a bear. The children will use a range of tools and materials and learn how to make their structures stronger, stiffer and more stable.



**Science**

During Science sessions, the children will learn about a range of materials, such as plastic and glass. The children will learn about the properties of materials and use this understanding to establish the best material for an umbrella.

**Life Skills**

In life skills, the children will be learning to recognise what a 'choice' is and identify how their choices make them feel. They will be learning about maintaining a healthy lifestyle, and how to take care of themselves. Alongside this, they will learn how to keep themselves safe in a range of situations, such as staying safe at home and safety around medicines.

**Religious Education**

The children will learn about how Jewish people celebrate the holy day called Shabbat. They will learn about key artefacts used during Shabbat including candles and Kiddush cup.

**Geography**

In Geography, we will be learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom and the surrounding seas.

Using books and computers, the children will research information about the capital cities of each country. They will be taught about the physical and human features of London.

**PE**

Our PE lessons are on Wednesdays and Fridays this term.

In indoor PE, the children will be shown a variety of country dance moves, and work towards performing their own dance.

During gymnastics, the children will be developing their rolls, jumps, balances and ways of travelling. They will then link three of these actions to produce a sequence.

**Art**

In Art, we will be learning about texture. The children will explore the patterns on the surface of materials through the creation of pencil and crayon rubbings. They will produce a sketch of a tree, using their drawing skills to demonstrate texture.

**Parents' Evenings**

Wednesday 14th February 4:30pm –7:30pm.

Thursday 15th February 3:30pm—6:30pm

Inset Days — 26th and 27th February

World Book day—7th March

