

### English: We are Authors

**Writing:** As authors this half term, the children will first be studying the CBeebies narrative animation of **Jo Jo and Gran Gran - It's time to go on a voyage**. We will be talking about Gran Gran's journey from St Lucia to the UK and join them as they donate Gran Gran's objects from the journey to an exhibition. We will be thinking about our own special objects and recreate the story. Our second unit will be focused on writing our own **travel diary** whilst on Safari. We will be inspired by studying a travel journal from a journey across the Antarctic.

**Reading:** Our reading sessions will focus on developing children's vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation and retrieval skills through discussion-based learning. We will explore a range of poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts throughout the half term, based on our enquiry or seasonal events. For example, '**Jack Frost**', '**Bodhi sees the world**', '**Children just like me**' and '**Noah and the little elephant**'.

Our class text is '**Charlie and The Chocolate factory**' by Roald Dahl.

### RE: We are Philosophers

**JUDAISM: What is the Torah & why is it so important to Jewish families?** The children will be introduced to Judaism and learn all about The Torah. What makes it so special? What's inside? Where does it live? What makes it so important to the Jewish people?

### PE: We are Athletes

**Outdoor PE/Games on a Wednesday: Ball skills - throwing, kicking, hitting and striking a variety of balls.**

**Indoor PE on a Friday: Dancing around the world - from the Chinese Dragon Dance to a Mexican Fiesta and the African Desert dance.**

Children should come to school wearing their smart PE kit on Wednesdays and Fridays.

## How are schools the same?

### Year 1, Spring 1

#### Enquiry: How are schools the same?

As Geographers, we will be learning about our local area and comparing it's features to Martin in Malaysia. We will be using the language of physical and human geography to look at similarities and differences. We will also be learning about the continents and oceans.

As Artists, we will be learning about primary and secondary colours and how to mix these using paint.

Our challenge will be to create a poster to show how the schools we have looked at are the same.

#### Homework

Children should **read** their schoolbooks to you at least **four times** a week, enjoy a **range of other books** and practice their **phonics**.

We will now be sending home **spelling homework** every Thursday and a **weekly task** for them to complete, such as learning some poetry or extra maths. This will need to be completed by Tuesday.

### Maths: We are Mathematicians

This half term begins with a focus on place value and counting within 20. We will be furthering our understanding of the numbers 10-20, using a number line and comparing and ordering numbers to help us solve maths problems. We will then look at addition and subtraction within 20. We will use our knowledge of number bonds and doubles to help solve finding the difference, missing number and word problems.

**How can you help at home?** Please help your child apply their maths in practical situations. Practise counting to 20 and back to 0. Ask for your child's help when adding or subtracting numbers within 20, in the shop, or in the kitchen etc.

### Wellbeing: We are Philosophers

We will be reading the story of "Angry Arthur" by Hiawyn Oram. As we are reading, we will be discussing our emotions, what appropriate and proportionate behaviour means and how it is important to ask for help when needed. We will look at how Arthur likes to relax his brain and take some responsibility for looking after the school environment.

### Music: We are Musicians

As musicians, we are going to be learning about Malaysian instrument families and The Malaysian Orchestra. We will be listening to both traditional and modern Malaysian music including the pianist and composer Adeline Wong.

**Ask your child:**  
**What have you been today?**  
**How have you been a mathematician or an author today?**  
**What have you enjoyed being today and why?**



## Year 1 Learning – Spring 1

### Weekly Non-Negotiables:

Read at least four times a week with an adult. Ask an adult to sign your reading record every time you read.

Practise your spellings three times a week.

### Recommended Reads:

Jo Jo and Gran Gran  
Noa and the Little Elephant - Michael Foreman  
A School like mine – Dorling Kindersley  
My School, Our World – Susan Hughes  
Children just like me – Zahavit Shalev, Penny Smith  
Bodhi sees the world – Marisa Aragon Ware

### **Optional Homework:**

Watch some of the Jo Jo and Gran Gran episodes on CBeebies.

### **Optional Homework:**

Write a diary or an account of any travels

### **Optional Homework:**

Find out about Malaysian traditions and present what you have found.

### **Optional Homework:**

Write a letter to find out information about something of your choice.

### **Optional Homework:**

Paint a picture of a Malaysian animal and find out some facts about it.

If you would like to share any optional homework in school, please ensure it is in school by Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

### Important Dates:

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Jan: Back to School

Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: School Movie Night? TBC  
(organised by friends)

Wb 10<sup>th</sup> Feb: Online Safety Week

Wb 17<sup>th</sup> Feb: HALF TERM

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb: INSET Day