

## Year 1 Newsletter – Autumn 2

### Welcome

Welcome to the second term of Year 1! It has been amazing working with your children and meeting you over the first term.

We are finding out about Castles within our Topic this term. We will be learning about the history of castles, their main features and who lived and worked in them.

I firmly believe that home and school communication is vital to your child's education and emotional wellbeing, so please feel free to talk with me after school, or for a longer appointment, please contact the school office, or myself directly at [gsproson@hazelleysacademy.org](mailto:gsproson@hazelleysacademy.org) I have put together some information that I thought would be useful for you to enable you to support your child's education this term.

### Phonics and Reading

### Phonics

Our new Phonics scheme is Little Wandle Phonics and your child is continuing to enjoy a daily phonics session. Each child will continue to receive two books this year: a fully decodable book, that closely matches the phonemes (sounds) that have recently been taught in school, and that has been read in school during reading lessons, and a 'reading for pleasure' book. **READING BOOKS MUST BE SENT IN TO SCHOOL DAILY IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.**

Here is the Little Wandle Phonics link:-

<https://www.hazelleysacademy.org/page/?title=Phonics&pid=219>

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### [Hazel Leys Academy - Phonics](https://www.hazelleysacademy.org/page/?title=Phonics&pid=219)

Why is phonics the best method for teaching children to read? It makes learning to read easier, simpler and crucially gets reading quicker.

[www.hazelleysacademy.org](https://www.hazelleysacademy.org)

The children will also have the opportunity to look at and read non-fiction books based on Castles. This will support their knowledge of reading a variety of texts and learning facts about Castles.

Recommended reads: The Princess and the Wizard by Julia Donaldson,  
The Princess and the Pea.

Small Knight and George and the Royal Chocolate Cake by Ronda Armitage and Arthur Robins,  
Look Out, It's a Dragon! – Jonny Lambert



## Writing

The teaching of writing will be based around 'The Princess and the Wizard' by Julia Donaldson



The children will be retelling the story, writing character descriptions, making invitations, looking at rhyming words and writing instructions and a report.

## Science

Teaching unit: Materials and their properties



This module introduces children to a range of basic materials and their properties. They learn to name and identify wood, plastic, metal, glass, rock, brick, water and other materials and that these materials can be made into many different objects. They recognise that the same material can be made into different objects, for example, a metal can, a metal spoon and a metal car. In the second half of the module the children use touch and sight to identify a number of simple properties of materials, and test materials such as paper and fabric to compare their properties.

## Computing

The children will be finding out how to present data in a picture format by using Pictograms.



## Art & Design/Design & Technology

In our Art lessons we will be looking at and recreating Paul Klee's The Sun and Castle by looking at the colour and shapes used.

We will design and make our own castles in Design and Technology sessions, considering what rooms we might need? What defences are you going to add?



## Geography/History

Castles is such a great topic to explore! We will be looking at how castles have evolved over time, what the main features of castles are and where castles are found around the country. The children will be exploring the different jobs that they might have had to do if they worked in a castle - bit of horrid history maybe?



## Music

We will be practising Christmas songs for the KS1 Performance.



## PE

PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays outdoors and indoors, so please remember to send your child to school dressed in PE kit on those days. Children may stay in PE kit all day. Long hair to be tied up and no jewellery please. Thank you. Topics taught this term:-

Multi-skills  
Gymnastics



### PSHE

We will be celebrating our differences.



### RE

The children will be learning about the Christmas story and looking at the tradition of giving gifts.



### Enrichment

Knights and Princesses dress up day Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November.



### Homework Project



At the end of every term, a selection of homework projects will be sent home for your child to complete. They may select any of the projects set. Projects will be linked to the learning that will take place in the following term. 5 dojos will be presented on completion of a project.

Please bring your holiday project back to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Choose one project from making a castle out of junk modelling, design a coat of arms for your family, or design a fantastic flag that could fly from your castle.

Weekly homework will be sent home on a Friday and expected back by the following Wednesday. Please log onto Bug Club to access a different range of reading books and answer the questions which will complete the book. Spellings learnt in Phonics sessions will also be sent home on Fridays for practising.



### Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



### Times Tables Rockstars



### Spelling Shed



### Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



### Class information

**Class Teacher:** Ms. Sproson

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Windsor, Mrs. McKillop

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



### **Dates for the diary!**

Staff Training Day: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 – school opens – Autumn Term 2 starts

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November Princess and Knights dress up day

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November – school flu immunisation team

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Pantomime

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas performance 9.15am and 2.15pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children charity

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas school dinner  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Children’s Christmas Parties  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – End of Autumn Term 2  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – School open for children