

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term. I hope you all had a restful holiday and enjoyed spending time with your families.

**Key Dates:**

8<sup>th</sup> Jan - Inset day

9<sup>th</sup> Jan - Children return to school

2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - Trip to the Natural History Museum

7<sup>th</sup> Feb - Ash Wednesday Service in the Church

12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Feb - Half term

7<sup>th</sup> Mar - World Book Day

22<sup>nd</sup> Mar - Trip to the Finchley Reform Synagogue

28<sup>th</sup> Mar - End of Term

**Reminders:**

- **PE:** Our PE day this term is **Tuesday** (Coach Johnny).
- Please wear your PE kit on Tuesday. The correct kit is a navy T-Shirt, blue shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers for outdoor PE, or black plimsolls for indoor lessons.
- **Homework:** Numbots (10 mins a week), spelling shed.
- Please make sure your child reads for at least **10 minutes per day** and records something in their yellow Reading Record.
- **Reading records are checked daily and need to be in school every day.**
- Guided reading books will be changed on a Friday and school library books will be changed on a Wednesday. Please **re-read your books** on the days that books are not changed. This is very important.

Additional optional homework ideas:

- Maths – can you practise your adding and subtracting?
- Writing – can you write your own story?
- R.E – can you retell the Easter story?
- Computing – can you practise logging on?
- Science – can you design a raincoat for your teddy bear? What material would you make it out of?

If you would like to meet me to discuss anything, please feel free to make an appointment for after school.

**Miss Davis and Miss Noel**

## St John's Upper Holloway CE Primary School

'Love each other as I have loved you' – John 15:12



**Year 1**

### Spring term curriculum letter

Our science topic this term is  
Materials, with the big question

***'How can we describe different materials?'***



Our Humanities topic this term is the Great Fire of London,  
with the big question - Why was it called the Great Fire?



**Humanities: Key Question**  
**Why was it called 'The Great Fire'?**

We will be learning about the Great Fire of London. We will learn to sequence the key events and use sources to learn about a different period in history.

We will also be continuing our learning about the geography of the UK. We will also learn about the difference between human and physical features and make maps of our local area.

**Art and DT**

In Art we will be focusing on collage and will be creating our own picture inspired by our learning on the Great Fire of London.

In DT we will be designing, creating and evaluating our own Tudor houses.

**Music**

Our units will be focused by a song called '*In the Groove*' and the children will learn to listen to and appraise songs, learn to perform songs with instruments and finally, to compose and perform a song of their own.

**PSHE**

In PSHE we will be learning about what makes us special and what our roles and responsibilities are. We will also be celebrating friendship and will learn about what makes a good friend.

**Year 1 Curriculum letter**  
**Spring term 2024**

**Literacy**

Our focus books this term will be 'The Eggbox Dragon' and 'The Emperor Egg'. We will focus on writing retells of the story, fact files and instructions. Our phonics learning will continue and we will be learning all of the phase 5 sounds and using them in our new 'grow the code' activities. In Reading we will continue improving our fluency and expression. We will also work on answering retrieval and inference questions.

**RE**

In this unit we will answer the question: What is it like to live as a Jewish person? We will know about some of the Jewish symbols and know what the Torah is and how Jewish people use it. We will know the meaning of Shabbat and what happens during Shabbat including the meal. We would like to visit a synagogue as part of the unit and information about this will follow shortly.

**PE**

In PE are units are 'gymnastics' and 'athletics'. We will learn different ways to travel and will know the difference between tension and relaxation of our muscles in gymnastics. In athletics we will focus on running, jumping and throwing and be able to run without stopping for 1 min. We will know the difference between running and jogging.

**Science**

In Science this term we will be exploring different materials and learning to distinguish between the object and the materials it is made from. We will name and describe the properties of everyday materials including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock. We will then use the information we have learnt to conduct simple experiments testing the different properties of different materials. Please help your children by talking about what things are made of at home and by describing how they feel and look.

**Maths**

In Maths this term we will continue with our addition and subtraction units by adding and subtracting to 20. We will learn about numbers to 50 and describe them using tens and ones. Finally, we will begin to explore measurement, including length and height, weight and capacity. Please help your child by using the terms full and empty, heavy and light in everyday activities.

**Computing**

We will continue to develop our computing skills by logging in to the computers and using 'Busy Things' and J2E using our own passwords. We will practise our mouse and keyboard skills, take selfies and then use this to create a multimedia document combining pictures and text. Please help your children by helping them to learn to log in using their LGFL passwords independently.