

Chatsworth Class Advent 1 Newsletter

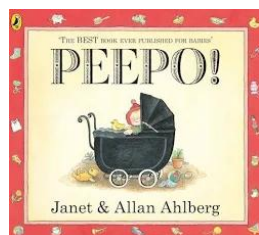
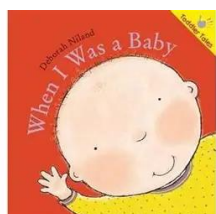
Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely Summer holiday. I am really looking forward to teaching you this year and can't wait for all of our fun learning!

English

This half term we will be looking at the story 'When I was a Baby'. We will be thinking about how we have changed since being a baby, our likes and what we can do. We will be focusing on our sentence rules and how to demarcate a sentence correctly. We will be writing fact files all about ourselves.

After this, we will be looking at the story of Peepo! Set in 1940s wartime Britain, the book captures a single day in the life of an inquisitive baby. The story follows a baby through a sequence of ordinary daily events. Each scene begins with the rhyming question, "Here's a little baby / One, two, three / Standing in his cot / What does he see?" The baby goes about his day observing his family and surroundings from a variety of settings. We will be focusing on our narrative retelling skills.

Finally, we will look at 'Pebbles'. With sweets stuffed in their pockets, a boy and his grandad take the trip down to the beach: through the wonky woods, across the railway track - stopping for a chat with the spotty dogs! - over the stile, and there ... peeking out beyond the dunes, the sea and "their" beach. They pick pebbles, wash them clean in the waves and paint their memories from the day, placing them in a special place - a secret place. We will be developing our letter writing skills with the help of this story.



Maths

During Advent 1 we will expand our knowledge as mathematicians through the White Rose maths scheme and focus on place value within 10. This will include things such as sorting, counting, finding one more and one less, matching and recognising numbers as words. We will then move on to addition and subtraction within 10.

The children also have access to Sumdog, which is a fantastic maths resource for regular maths practise at home.

R.E

Our focus for RE during Advent 1 is Creation and Covenant. This topic will teach us about the story of Genesis and how God created the world and everything in it. We will learn about how it is our responsibility to care for this world that God created for us.



Topic- How am I Making History?

For our first topic this half term we are going to be historians. We will be investigating the past within living memory by exploring personal chronology and using photographs to ask and answer questions about the past.

During this unit we will:

- Order photographs correctly on a simple timeline.
- Use common words and phrases for the passing of time (e.g. now, long ago, then, before, after) when discussing our timelines.
- Talk about three memories and place one of them on a timeline.
- Explain why memories are special and name four events that we celebrate throughout the year.
- Think of three ways we celebrate our birthday.
- Ask a visitor one question about childhood in the past.
- Know a similarity and a difference between childhood now and in the past.
- Add three ideas to a time capsule about ourselves.
- Use key vocabulary to compare the present, the past and possible changes in the future.

Science

This half term we will be looking at the seasons. We will cover things such as:

- How we know what season it is.
- What kinds of weather we get in each season.
- How our clothes change depending upon the seasons.
- What activities we do in each season.
- How trees change across the seasons
- How daylight hours change

We will also be taking part in some investigations observing the weather.



Reading

This half term we are beginning our new Phonics programme. Children will apply their phonic knowledge to reading a decodable book. The books are carefully matched to children's secure phonic knowledge.

Children will read the same book three times in a week. The first time we work on decoding (sounding out) the words. The second time we work on prosody which is reading with expression. The third time we look at comprehension - understanding the text.

We read the books three times at school because we want to develop the fluency. The more children see words, the more they begin to read them automatically without having to sound them out, which is the ultimate goal.

Children's books will then be sent home, so that they can practise their fluency further.

How can you help?

Reading books will be sent out each week. One book will be a fully decodable book based on your child's Phonics level and the other will be a sharing book for you to read with your child. Reading plays a huge part in your child's learning and all reading done at home will be a great benefit.

Any homework for your child to complete will be set on Friday and it is due the following Friday. Maths will be set on Sumdog maths (logins are in reading diaries).

Spellings will be linked to sounds we are currently learning in our Phonics sessions.

If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Greenwood-Knapper, Mr Bowd and Miss Smith