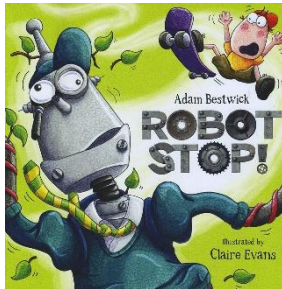


As we start the Spring 2 term, The children have come back to school with a positive attitude to their learning. We have introduced all the new topics we will be learning this half term. We are all making great progress and looking forward to what is coming up. Hopefully we will see some warmer weather to take our learning outdoors and not come back in wet from the rain. We are looking forward to our school trip this half term and exploring. Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask on the door or you can email myself during school hours [s.vella@harris.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.vella@harris.lancs.sch.uk)

Mrs Vella and the Year 1 team

### English

This half term we will be reading the story Robot Stop by Adam Bestwick. We will also be writing about our trip to Blackpool Zoo, step by step guide of how we built our robots and a recount of world book day. This half term is an exciting time for our writing.



### Maths

This half term we will be expanding our learning in Length and Mass. There will be different activities that allow us to practice our measuring and weighing of different items. We will be looking at Addition and Subtraction through both arithmetic and reasoning. We will be learning about fractions and time. Towards the end of the half term we will also be learning about position and direction.

### Phonics/Reading

In phonics, we are progressing really well and working super hard to become secure on phase 5 before the end of the year. Please read as often as possible at home with your child and make a brief comment in their reading record. Your child will come home with 2 home reading books on their selected book changing day. We recommend the following:

- One night your child reads one book to decode and apply their phonic knowledge to read any new, unfamiliar words. Parents can read parts of the book too to help.
- The next night, re-read the same book. Your child should be able to read this more confidently and develop a better understanding of the book.
- Repeat with your child's second book.

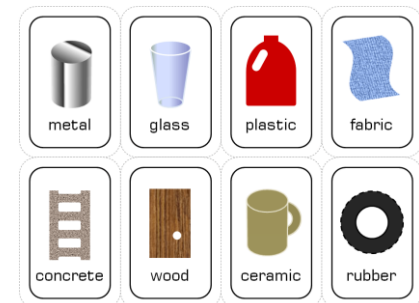
Each child has been allocated a day which their books will be changed. Feel free to ask us when their day is. Please ensure their reading books are in school every day.

### History

This half term we will be looking at "what our families did for fun?" we will be looking back at different toys, films, music that our parents/grandparents used to like doing when they were a child. We will be comparing and finding the differences with what we play/watch or listen to now.

### Science

Science this half term will be materials. We will be exploring all the different properties of materials. We will be looking closely at what different materials we have around our classroom, outside and around school. We will be using a magic box to feel different materials that are inside and try to describe them to our friends. We will also discussing why we use certain materials for specific things.



## Computing

This half term we will be looking at programming. We will be designing a character and creating a path/maze for our characters to follow. We will be using the programme Scratch Junior to complete this unit.



## PE

Mr Ridge will be teaching PE every Wednesday afternoon this year. The children will be doing net and wall games.

If this ever changes, you will be notified on School Spider or Google Classroom.

## PSHE

### Meet your brain

We will be using My Happy Mind journals to work on the Relate module and looking into relationships and things/people we can relate to.



## RE

Judaism

Why might some people put their trust in god.

## D.T

This half term in D.T we will be planning, designing and evaluating a robot that has moving parts. We will be focusing on the skills of creating and using different joints to make parts of our robots move.

## French

We will use the Language Angels programme to teach the children some different greetings.

## Reminders

**Green Orb Treat** – Year 1 won the greatest number of green orbs in KS1 so we will be having a vote within class to decide what we want to do as our treat. I will be in touch with all the details asap.

**School Trip** – We will be going on our school trip to Blackpool Zoo as a Key Stage on the 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**World Book Day** – For world book day this year we are decorating potatoes. The children will be able to vote for the potato they like the most. The winner will receive a book voucher. The potatoes will be on display in the hall from 3pm, you can then collect your child's potato with them at 3:15.

**D.T** – We will be designing and making our own robots this half term. If possible, please could you collect and send in some small boxes, toilet/kitchen roll tubes, milk bottle lids, plastic fruit trays or any small bits your child may want to use for their robot. If you could put any bits in a carrier bag with your child's name on. We will need these for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

**History** – In history we are looking at the things our parents/grandparents used to play with, films they used to watch or any favourite songs/bands they liked. If you have any that we could keep in school for a week or so to look at and return to you safely it would be appreciated. Please email me with yours or grandparents favourites so we can discuss them in class.

**Reading** – As a whole school we are monitoring the amount children are reading at home. The new reading record should be filled in and signed every time you read which ideally is every day. The new format of the reading record does make it more apparent to those who don't read at home as much as they should or even at all. Let's try to have a big push on reading at home even if it's just a couple of pages. Data on the number of children reading is being monitored weekly.

**Google Classroom-** We have now managed to create all the Google classroom accounts and passwords and these can be found in your child's reading record. You should only need to log in once on the device. Here is where you can message the teacher and find all Year 1 homework, messages, support materials, newsletters etc. The Year 1 class code is [ak5fzfg](#)

**Homework-** Homework is set each half term. There will be a range of activities linked to what we are learning in class. Green challenges are quick and the easiest and dark red are longer projects that may take some time. You can photograph all tasks when they have been completed and 'turn it in' to evidence that the task has been complete. It is not expected that all tasks are completed but that you have a selection of tasks that suits your child and your home-life.

**Spellings** – The children will be given a set of spellings at the beginning of half term. They will need to be practicing them regularly at home and during school. They will be given a homework book in their book bags to practice in. We will then collect the spelling books at the end of half term to review learning at home and set new spellings for the following half term.

**Wellies** – We love to use our outdoor area during the wetter, colder months. To keep school shoes clean, we ask that your child has a pair of wellies in school for when it gets muddy. These are kept inside the long blue bench under our classroom window. Should you need them back for weekend walks, you will be able to grab them whenever is necessary.

**Book Bags/Reading Packs** – The children will need their book bags and reading packs in school every day. Please ensure their bag is clearly named and avoid attaching large keyrings because they struggle to fit them into their trays.

**Names** – Please remember to write/stick your child's name on all their belongings, including water bottles (and for some children, socks!).

**PE** – Mr Ridge will teach the children PE on a Wednesday afternoon. Your child should come to school wearing the new PE Kit- plain white t-shirt, navy shorts/joggers and navy zipped jacket.

**Coats & Outdoor Learning** – We like to go outside, whatever the weather. Please ensure your child has a suitable coat in school every day.

**Fruit and Milk-** Please check with your child if they would like to have milk. One or two children are insisting they no longer want it and some would like it but they're not on our current milk list. Please speak to the office staff if your child would like milk or if you would like to cancel it.

**School lunches-** We have recently had a few children that have not chosen a lunch option. When this happens the children will only receive what is available which sometimes isn't what the children necessarily like or would choose. Please could we keep choosing in advance to limit children's disappointment.