Year 1
Autumn 2

English: We will begin our half term by exploring stories with repetitive patterns and retelling familiar stories in a range of contexts. Our focus book will be Zog by Julia Donaldson and the children will use this to write their own dragon story. We will then move onto completing a unit of work on poems with a theme, where we will look at dragon poems, linking with Zog and The Great Fire of London. The children will use non-fiction books to find out about 'The Great Fire of London' and create their own topic poster containing relevant facts. Year 1 will further develop their handwriting when writing sentences with capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. They will use their knowledge of phonics to help spell words that they can easily decode.
The children will be taught Phonics during a daily session where we will revise all previously taught phases and focus on new learning through Phase 5. The children will also take part in two Guided Reading sessions per week. Books will be changed once a week.

Maths:
The children will learn that subtraction equations can be done in three ways: by crossing out, by using number bonds and by counting back. They will continue to use practical resources and pictorial representations to support their understanding and use vocabulary appropriately. The children will gain an understanding of positional language, as well as directional language for left and right. We look at numbers up to 20 focusing in particular on numbers between 10 and 20. We will help the children to be able count and write to 20, compare and order numbers, and see patterns within 20. The children will also learn different ways to add and subtract numbers within 20.

Computing:
Year 1 will take a close look at technology around us and consider what technology we use every day. Children will be introduced to using a computer and will learn how to use the main features of a computer such as the mouse and keyboard. Children will begin to learn how to use the mouse to open and close programs and how to use the keyboard to type. Finally, we will learn how to use a computer safely and responsibly.

History:
The children will be learning all about the Great Fire of London. We will begin the unit by discovering who started the fire. We will use lots of artefacts and pieces of information to make our own predictions. We will then move on to sequencing the events of the fire and explore how the fire spread. We will investigate how the fire was stopped and what things were used to help with this. Finally, we will look at how London was rebuilt and what legacy was left behind following the fire.

Music:
The children will be learning and performing a new song called 'Rhythm in the Way we Walk!' and 'Banana Rap'. We will be exploring rhyme, rhythm, pitch and movement as well as learning about different instruments and genres of music including rap! We will be preparing for our Christmas assembly too.

Science: The Science focus this half term is Materials. The children will learn to identify and name a range of different materials, including: wood, plastic, glass, metal, wood and rock. They will also look to distinguish between the object iteself and the material that it is made from. They will learn that some materials occur naturally while others are manufactured, they will learn to sort these into the correct group. Year 1 to describe materials according to their properties - hard, soft, waterproof, transparent etc. They will be learning the term absorbent and carry out an investigation to identify which materials are absorbent.

RE:
This half-term we will looking at Incarnation as part of Christianity. We will start by discussing the first signs of Christmas and how we prepare for Christmas. We will then talk about how Mary and Joseph prepared for the arrival of Jesus. As well as discuss the Christmas story, we will also talk about Advent and how it is a time of waiting for something special to happen. We will remember that Christmas is a time to be thankful for everything we have and the children will write a prayer about Christmas.

Art:
Children will be learning to use control when drawing a range of different lines. They will experiment with a range of mark-making techniques. Colour neatly and carefully, featuring a range of different media and colours. Apply a range of marks successfully to a drawing. Children will apply their new drawing skills to produce their own unique art.

PSHE:
During this half term we will be learning about 'Valuing Difference'. We will look at the differences between people and how this should be respected and celebrated. We will look at the differences between bullying, teasing and being unkind, as well as following rules. As we get further into the unit, we will be looking at what things are fair and unfair and how we can deal with these things. The unit will be completed by looking at the special people in our lives and why they are special to us.

PE: This term our PE lessons will be linked to our Literacy unit. We will be using the story 'Zog' by Julia Donaldson to develop our gymnastic skills in a fun way. We will also complete a dance unit called, 'Fire, Fire!' The children will explore moving in different ways-hopping, skipping, rolling, balancing, jumping etc. They will develop their sending skills by throwing over arm, under arm and then aiming at a target.

PE: Tuesday and Wednesday - PE kit to stay in school.
Spelling test: Monday
Homework/Spellings: Given out on Mondays.
Due back in on Mondays – Send on Dojo.
Read daily for at least 5 minutes (1 Dojo given per read at home with signed book).