



North Bridge House
Nursery & Pre-Prep

North Bridge House Pre-Prep School

Year One Spring Term Curriculum Letter January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term at NBH Pre-Prep School.

This curriculum letter will provide information about what Year One will be learning over the course of the term ahead. There are many events planned that you can engage in over the coming weeks including FoNBH events, trips, themed weeks: Book week and Science week and the Year 1 Production. Please be sure to check the app for the spring term calendar (see 'info' section and 'calendar' section) in addition to the *Week Ahead* which is sent out each week.

Each Thursday, class teachers will publish an update on class news via the app so please do take a moment to read these. It is promising to be another action-packed term.

Headteacher
NBH Pre-Prep

Overview of the Spring Term in Year One

This term we will continue to teach foundation subjects (Topic, Science and RE) in blocks. This means that the children will be fully immersed in a subject for a one or two week period with the aim of promoting deeper learning.

English and Maths lessons will take place daily.

RE: 1. Creation stories.

2. Easter.

Science: 1. Forces.

2. Light and Dark.

Humanities: 1. The Circus is Coming to Town (Geography).

2. Transport (History).

Additionally we have Book Week and Science Week to look forward to!

Philosophy for Children: P4C

The children will be continuing with their weekly Philosophy for Children (P4C) lessons this term. Philosophy for Children offers a way to open up children's learning through enquiry and the exploration of ideas. Through these lessons, the children realise that their ideas, and those of others, have value. The children are supported in their thinking, reasoning and questioning, as well as the way they speak and listen to each other. P4C enquiries are based upon the 4Cs where children work on being caring, critical, creative and collaborative.



English

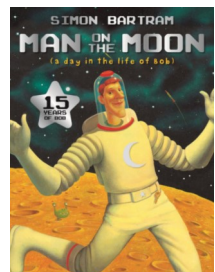
Over this term the children will continue to develop their writing skills by learning about a range of different genres of writing. This term the children will focus on: recounts, contemporary fiction, poetry and non-chronological reports. Some key texts that we will be studying in class are: Olivia Saves the Circus, Man on the Moon, and Can't You Sleep Little Bear?

Handwriting practice will take place throughout the week. We encourage the children to use a joined cursive script in all pieces of written work. Spellings are sent home to learn and practice each Thursday. We will

conduct a weekly spelling test but the **true test** will be whether your child *independently applies* these spellings in their written work. The children will be taught punctuation and grammar rules, including: using capital letters and full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, prefixes and suffixes.

The children will focus on further developing their comprehension skills in reading through daily whole class comprehension sessions. The skills that we will look at are: prediction, inference, clarifying, summarizing, making connections, evaluating and questioning. Phonics will also be taught every day.

You will have the opportunity to view the children's writing through Pobble and also at the Parent & Child mornings.



Reading at school and at home.



All children are assessed in reading half termly at school. This assessment comprises of a 1:1 session with a TA and assesses both fluency and comprehension. To assess each child's level accurately can take time.

Your child will read unseen texts which they are then required to:

- 1) Retell in as much detail as possible, using specific vocabulary found in the text
- 2) Read with an appropriate level of fluency and expression
- 3) Answer comprehension questions (literal and inferential) based on the text they have read

This assessment then provides a 'Reading Age' and directly corresponds to a colour band in the Big Cat reading scheme.

All children will read regularly at school but this will not always be recorded in your child's diary. Reading at school includes: reading texts/ extracts of texts in lessons, daily whole class comprehension sessions, small group reading sessions, 1:1 reading sessions with teaching assistants. Please ensure that you encourage your child to read **every day at home**.

Your child will receive 3 Big Cat reading books to use at home each week. If your child reaches the end of the assessment then they will choose any book and change it when they have finished.

Guidance on reading at home:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Child reads first book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the first book—	Child reads second book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the second book—	Child reads third book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the third book—	Child reads any text of their choosing. This could be a magazine or a book from the local library.
Child re-reads first book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Child re-reads second book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Child re-reads third book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Oxfordowl have lots of free e-books. Your child could complete a response to reading activity eg write a book review, re-write the story, changing key events or characters.

Computing in Year One

The children will have 1 lesson per week learning discrete computing skills. This term the focus will be on coding using 2Code from Purple Mash and Espresso. In each lesson, the children will be guided through fun ready-made activities to develop them into competent coders. Once they've mastered the activities, children can hone and explore their skills in the free-code arenas.

The children will continue to develop their digital literacy skills this term. These skills will be developed through the use of our ipads and laptops in a cross-curricular way. For example, the children will be creating fact files, publishing their written work in English and conducting research.

Each child will have log in details for Mathletics and Purplemash and these can be used at home (these can be found in your child's reading record book. Please speak to your class teacher if you need these re-issuing to you.



Mathematics

Maths is taught every day in Year One. This term there will be a continued focus on developing mathematical thinking and reasoning skills, both in discrete weekly problem solving/investigation lessons and throughout the week in other lessons. The children will be taught to work systematically and to make connections between different areas in maths.

Each week the children will focus on a different strand of maths. Teachers will be working on securing the children's mathematical understanding by moving between concrete, pictorial and abstract understanding. We will encourage the children to work collaboratively to solve problems and to develop their mathematical language skills. We will teach the children to link their mathematical understanding to the world around them.

This term strands of maths will include: number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, measures, geometry and statistics. The children will build on and deepen their understanding and application of these areas to a range of problems.

There will be daily practise of counting forwards and backwards in different multiples, starting from different numbers. This They will also begin to learn to recall their times table facts.

There will continue to be daily practise of key skills. These will include: reading/writing numbers to and above 100 in numerals and words; doubling and halving numbers within 20; using the greater than/less than/equals sign to order and compare numbers; recalling and using addition and subtraction facts within 20; recalling 1 more, 10 more, 1 less and 10 less than a given number; identifying the value of coins and sorting and describe shapes according to their properties.

Key vocabulary your child will learn and use:

Number, digit, value, order, tens, ones, units, larger, partition, smaller, number line, forwards, backwards, skip count, addition, subtraction, more, less, equals, number sentence, multiplication, division, commutative, array, grouping, sharing, odd, even, pounds, pence, combine, compare, value, sequence, hour, minute, measures, fractions, numerator, denominator, estimate, symmetry.

Maths

School Council

The school has an active School Council which is comprised of two pupil representatives from each Pre-Prep class: A Lead and a Vice. The School Council reps meet each half term with Miss Winters to discuss school plans, events and fundraising ideas. After February 1/2 term the Vice rep will become the Lead for the rest of the academic year.

This term the children have chosen to support a charity called '[Farms for City Children](#)', founded by author Michael Morpurgo.

The charity offers urban children from all over the country a unique opportunity to live and work together for a week at a time on a real farm in the heart of the countryside.

Next term they will be supporting the work of [Mayhew, an animal re-homing centre](#).

The school council are planning some fun and creative fundraising events to raise money over the next two terms.

This will include a reading challenge in the spring term and a charity day in the summer term.



FARMS FOR CITY CHILDREN

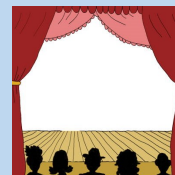
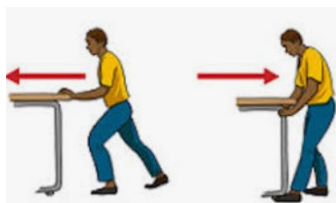
mayhew
for dogs, cats and communities

Science

In Science this term, the Year One children will cover 'Forces' and 'Light and Dark'.

In the topic 'Forces' the children will be learning that forces are pushes and pulls which can make things move, stop or change shape. They will use their knowledge of forces to identify which forces are acting during circus performances. The children will also be learning about gravity and how magnets attract or repel each other.

In the topic 'Light and Dark' the children will be learning about different sources of light and understand that we need light to see things. They will learn about the sun as a source of light and how the light from the sun can be dangerous. They will also learn how shadows are formed. Finally they will plan, conduct and evaluate a scientific investigation about the size of shadows.



Year 1 Spring Term Production

This term the children will be preparing for their production.

This promises to be a real treat for you as parents and the children look forward to performing for you on the following dates:

1st April : Hazel and Oak at 14:15 in the Nursery Gym

2nd April: Pine and Larch at 14:15 in the Nursery Gym

Topics (Geography & History)

The Circus is Coming to Town

Our geography topic this term will be 'The Circus is coming to Town'. The children will begin by looking at a map of Hampstead and identifying best location to set up their circus. They will then create a map of their circus with a key for visitors to use. After that the children will plan a UK tour for their circus by identifying different cities on a map of the United Kingdom. Then they will be learning about the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world and will plan a trip around the world. Finally, the children will be learning about the climates of different countries around the world and will create a packing list for their trip.

Transport

In history the children will be learning to order the invention of different transport types chronologically. They will learn about the invention of automobiles, the first flight and the first landing on the moon.



PSHE+C

This term we will continue to teach the Jigsaw PSHE scheme, which brings together PSHE education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a lesson-a-week curriculum.

In the spring term, Year 1 will be focussing on Dreams and Goals. They will set themselves goals, think about how they will reach their goal and the best ways to work with their peers to achieve them. They will think about how it feels to tackle a new challenge, obstacles they may face and how best to overcome them. Finally they will discuss how it feels to achieve goals and how to celebrate achievements.



Home Learning Tasks

Homework is set each Thursday in Year One and should be returned to school on the following Tuesday.

All written homework should be completed in the Homework Book

Reading—Your child should read every day at home for at least 10 minutes. Please keep a record in your child's diary.

Spellings—Your child will get 10 spellings per week to learn at home. Please encourage your child to practise them daily. They should try to include these spellings in a sentence, remembering to use a capital letter, full stop and a cursive script.

Counting—Counting will be practised daily in class. Each week we will focus on a different counting skill. Practise these forwards and backwards at home (1s, 2s, 5s and 10s).

Main Task—Your child will receive one piece of homework, either English or Maths, that must be completed.

There are also additional tasks which are *optional*. There will be an English or Maths task, and another subject.

Music

This term in Music year 1 will be mastering their singing and performing technique, learning to sing with focus, actions, posture and dynamics. The children will also be performing in the 'Sign to Sing' charity event on Friday 8th February where we will perform a special song that we have learned which includes sign language— ask your children to teach you the actions at home!

sign2sing

RAISING MONEY FOR THE DEAF HEALTH CHARITY SIGNHEALTH

Reminder that choir takes place on: **Mondays-8:30-8:50 in the Lunch Room.**

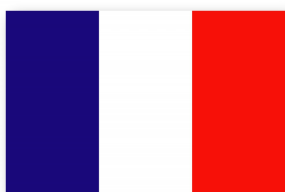
French

This term the children will learn how to ask and give information about themselves (name, age, family, pets, address). They will also revise clothing and classroom objects.

Please use Linguascope at home to revise what we are learning in class.

Username: nbhjs

Password: france1



Art

During the Spring term, Year one children will continue to look at the elements of art and create Chinese Dragons. They will focus on artists Paul Klee and Henri Matisse and produce topic related work with circus themed artwork. In the latter part of the Spring term, children will look at light and dark in art, as well as exploring form/ sculpture with focus on making and building.



Swimming/ Gym/ Games

This term the children will be working on sequence work in gymnastics, including: travelling, jumping and landing, rocking and rolling, balancing and flight. The children have learnt to move in a safe and controlled manner and negotiate challenges in groups on the benches, balance beam, mats, ropes, ladder and small and large apparatus. Swimming lessons will endeavour to develop consistency of stroke techniques in front crawl and back-stroke. Games Skills lessons will include playground games and small and large ball manipulation skills, attacking, defending, teamwork and communication.

RE

This term the children will learn about creation stories. They will learn about the Christian creation story and compare it to other religious creation stories.

We would very much welcome parents in to school to talk about your faiths and cultures. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to come in to school to lead a class session or an assembly.



Science Week 11th-15th March

Prior to the launch of Science Week, the Pre-Prep children will take part in a special Science day on the 1st February where they will explore *Sound in Science*.

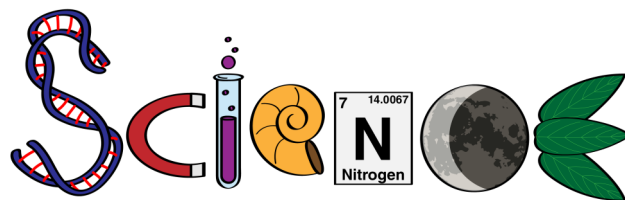
The children will have the opportunity to work with children from across the school in their house groups (rather than classes), and will work with one teacher to learn about different scientific phenomenon through mini hands-on workshops.

Monday 11th March will see the launch of Science Week at the Pre-Prep.

During the week, the whole school will be taking part in a week-long science investigation.

In order to answer a scientific problem, each class will: research, plan, carry out and evaluate an investigation.

The children will then share their findings in an assembly the following week.



**SOUND
SCIENCE**



Please be sure to have selected the appropriate channels and filters on the app to ensure that you receive the regular updates and alerts.

For example, Year 1 parents should check the following:

Settings / Channels / Urgent Messages for Parents of Pre-Prep / Year 1 / Class name

Settings / Filters / Pre-Prep

The General Info section contains useful information including term dates.

In conjunction with the app provider we are developing the registration and privacy aspects plus improving the speed and accessibility for devices. Further updates on progress with this will follow.

Book Week 4th—8th March

This term both the Nursery and Pre-Prep Schools will be following the theme of *Traditional Tales*.

Each class across the schools has chosen a different traditional tale to work on.

Your class teacher will soon tell you which tale has been selected for your class.

A copy of this tale will be sent home to you so that you can enjoy it together at home.

During Book Week itself, commencing 4th March, there will be a range of exciting activities, linked to our Traditional Tales theme, taking place including:

Drama & Role Play

Art- making story props, illustrations

Writing alternative versions of the class tale

Buddy reading across the schools

P4C exploring issues for example, 'Goldilocks, should she be arrested for burglary?'

Story Teller Visits

Author Visits

Dress Up Day— Thursday 7th March

Daunt Books Sale

Sponsored Fundraiser for Farms for City Children



**"You're never
too old, too wacky, too wild,
to pick up a book and
read to a child."
-Dr. Seuss**



We are warmly encouraging parents from all classes to come in to school across this term to read or re-tell traditional tales from around the world.

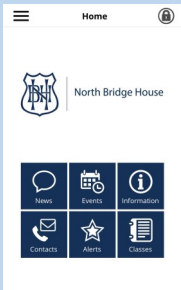
With 27+ languages spoken amongst the school community there is a real opportunity for the children to learn about other cultures through these stories.

If you would like to come in to school to read a story to your class please let your class teacher know.

It would be wonderful if these sessions started before Book Week and continued afterwards.

If you would rather send a copy of a traditional tale in for the teacher to read to the class then **please do**.

Dates for your diaries....



The best way to keep up with school events and plan ahead is to use the 'Events' section on the NBH app. From here you can import dates straight into your own calendar

You can also download the calendar as a PDF in the 'Information' section.

Each week the 'Week Ahead' is uploaded to the app.

Key dates for Year One this term are:

- Thursday 24th January - Hazel and Pine to National Centre for Circus Arts -9:00am-2:30pm
- Thursday 31st January - Oak and Larch to National Centre for Circus Arts -9:00am-2:30pm
- Tuesday 12th February—FoNBH 2nd hand uniform sale

Half term: 18th Feb –22nd Feb

- Wednesday 30th January: Year 1 Taster day at the Prep 9:00am. Parents welcome to travel on coach from Nutley Terrace.— Parent coach departs at 08:45
- Friday 1st March:FoNBH Event: Bingo for Pre-Prep children
- Monday 4th March—8th March: Book Week
- **Thursday 7th March-World Book Day-Children to dress up as book characters.**
- Tuesday 5th March: Daunt Book Sale
- Tuesday 5th March—Parents' Evening
- Monday 11th—15th March: Science Week
- Wednesday 20th March: FoNBH - Parent social event
- Thursday 21st March:Hazel and Pine visit to the Science Museum
- Friday 22nd March: Larch and Oak visit to the Science Museum
- Monday 25th March, Wednesday 27th March, Friday 29th March— 8.30-9.00am— Parent and Child morning in class
- Monday 1st April-14:15-Hazel and Oak Spring production-Nursery Gym
- Tuesday 2nd April-14:15-Pine and Larch Spring production-Nursery Gym
- Friday 5th April—11.45am—End of term, non-uniform day.

Start of next term: Thursday 25th April 2019

Pre-Prep Café

Every morning from 08:15 the Pre-Prep Café is open in the Lunch Room serving hot drinks and pastries.



Use of the Pre-Prep playground after school

The Pre-Prep playground is open for parents and children to use until 17:00 each day.

Please note that between point of dismissal from class to 17:00 the children remain your responsibility and as such must be supervised at all times.

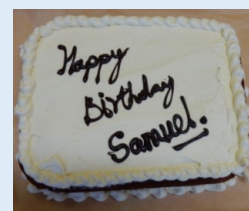
Please do not allow the children to enter the chicken enclosure and please make sure that the playground is left clean and tidy, with toys neatly stored away before you leave.

Celebration Cakes

We like to celebrate special events and Birthdays in school.

If you would like to provide a cake for your child to share with their friends please ensure that it is **shop-bought and clearly shows that it is Nut-Free.**

Our wonderful catering team are able to create a range of delicious celebration cakes to order which are nut and seed free (gluten free options also available).



To place an order for a bespoke cake please speak to Caroline who will provide you with an order form

School Snacks

We are a Nut and Seed Free School.

There are children in the school who have severe and life-threatening allergies to nuts and seeds.

Please do not send any products into school that may contain nuts or seeds.

The school provides the following snacks daily: Fresh Fruit / Raw vegetables, Rice Cakes, Milk (optional, chargeable).

Parents may supplement this with the following: Fresh Fruit, Raw Vegetables, Cheese, Yoghurt



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