

Year 1 Newsletter Spring Term 2014

# *Dungeons and Dragons*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all; I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. A big thank you from all the Year 1 staff for your kind Christmas gifts and cards; they were all very much appreciated!

As we start the new Spring term we look forward to building on the progress made by all the children last term; it is always very rewarding seeing the children achieve new goals and targets and I hope that this term will be another happy and successful time for your child in Year 1.

Class routine stays the same this term with diary writing on a Monday morning. This term the children will be having a phonics spelling test each Friday. Spellings relating to the phonics scheme will be sent home the previous week to be learnt; this will hopefully help prepare your child for the Year 1 Phonics screening test in June. Our games and PE sessions remain the same on Monday and Wednesday afternoons; can you please ensure that your child has the correct full kit for these lessons as they form an important part of the school curriculum and your child's well being.

If you have any questions or concerns please arrange a time with me so we can discuss them together. Thank you!

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Rowland and the Year 1 Team

This term our class topic is **Dungeons and Dragons**. As **geographers** we will be finding out about castles and learning how they were built. We will be describing where they are and looking at what these places are like. We will be using maps, Google Earth and photographs to help us describe the places we are studying. As **historians** we will be finding out about the way of life of people in the past. We will research castle life, looking at coats of arms, knights, fighting, food and the designs of castles. We will also find out about St. George and the dragon, and entertainment such as falconry, jousting and court jesters. We will find out the difference between real history and made up stories about dragons. As **artists and designers** we will be drawing and painting our own coats of arms and exploring mechanisms such as drawbridges. As **story tellers** and **writers** we shall be studying both traditional and fairy tales about princesses and dragons along with poems and stories about fantasy worlds. During **mathematics** we shall be revisiting many of the concepts and ideas introduced last term including tens and units, handling and recording data and counting, partitioning and calculating. In **Religious Education** we shall be studying faith stories about important religious leaders.

To enhance your child's topic work I have booked a trip to the **Tower of London** for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of February; more details will follow nearer the time.

Our class **assembly** will be on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm; all Year 1 parents and carers are welcome to come and share in celebrating the children's learning.