

If you would like to help your child learn at home there are many things you can do.

- Read with your child every day
- Join the library
- Use age appropriate computer programmes (Phonics Play/ Bug Club / School Jam / NumBots– see class teacher for more details and sites)
- Take an interest in what they did at school and bring things in to show us e.g. photos
- Play with them to help build upon their imagination.
- Use mathematics in everyday situations (counting cars/trees, in the shop, finding and discussing shapes in the environment)

PE Timetable:

Class 1A PE – Monday and Thursday

Class 1B PE – Wednesday and Friday

Class 1C PE – Tuesday and Friday

Key Dates

World Book Day dress up – 11th March

If you have any concerns or just want a chat about your child's progress feel free to contact your child's teacher on our year group email – year1@jamescambellprimary.org.uk or contact your child's teacher on Class Dojo.

English

In English this half term we will be continuing to use our Read, Write, Inc scheme, which is a rapid Learn to read programme. Your child will be reminded of a Frog called Fred who can only say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. We will be revising all the sounds your child has been taught and blending new sounds to read and write words. Alternative sounds will be introduced to the children such as the 'ay' in day and the 'ai' in pain. Your child will learn to read whilst also developing a wide range of vocabulary and encouraging a love of stories. We will also be learning to spell more words, practising our letter formation and learning good handwriting habits whilst writing sentences through a technique called 'Hold the Sentence'. Hold the sentence gives children lots of rehearsing practice before writing the sentence, as well as helping them develop more complex sentences.

Useful websites for phonics and reading:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.teachyourmonstertoread.co.uk

www.activelearnprimary.co.uk - **Bug club and School Jam** – please see your child's reading diary for their username and password. Remember School Jam activities are sent out to parents App on a Wednesday. Children should only read one or two books each day on Bug Club and always try to answer the Bug quiz questions.

The Wider Curriculum

This half-term our topic is

- In **History** we will be learning about two adventurers – Captain Scott who made several expeditions to the Antarctic, the final time ending disastrously; and Christopher Columbus who voyaged across the Atlantic four times and led the way for Europeans to colonise the Americas.
- In **Science**, we will be 'Plant Detectives' - identifying and naming, describing and comparing flowers and trees locally. We continue to observe the effect of the changing seasons on flowers and trees around our school. The children also explore changes to leaves and flowers, and observe the variety of both, describing them in detail and becoming more aware of how their numbers and appearance change during different seasons.
- In **Music** we will be learning about the Blues music. Children will learn about the instruments used to play the Blues and learn to sing a Blues song.
- In **ICT**, we will be creating algorithms for a robot. Children will develop their understanding of the process of programming a robot including writing algorithms, testing and debugging. Children will also develop an understanding of Email as a means of communicating..
- In **PE**, the focus again will be on games, this time the focus will be on passing, catching, tagging and how to move safely. Children will also be introduced to dance, to use skills of coordination and creativity practised in other games and physical activity.

Maths:

In maths, we will be consolidating what we know about addition and subtraction, number sentences and the use of the symbols $>$, $<$ and $=$. We will be focusing on numbers up to 50, finding one more and one less, comparing objects and numbers, finding tens and ones and ordering numbers. We will be working on grouping and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

School Jam

We have signed up to an app called School Jam. Please download the app and look for your child's username in their reading diary. Your child's teacher will be sending quick and fun maths activities for you to do at home with your child.

Numbots

We have signed up to NumBots which is an online game to help boost addition and subtraction skills. It can be played on: play.numbots.com. Please look in your child's reading diary for their password. There are two fun options – story mode, which is the main game play and allows you child to move up a series of levels and build a better robot. The aim is for children to play little and often – 3 minutes 4 or 5 times a week. There is also a challenge option which is unlocked when children reach a certain level.