

Dear Parents

Welcome back after half term. There will be a wide ranging curriculum that the children will be engaged with in the run up to Christmas.

WHAT WILL WE BE LEARNING THIS HALF TERM?

We will continue learning through a thematic approach in English inspired by a children's book. This term we will study 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick,' and also makes reference to 'The Chronicles of Harris Burdick' and the 'Harris Burdick Website.' Children begin by exploring the illustrations and creating mystery setting descriptions, using a variety of grammatical and authorial tools, going on to creating action, suspense and drama in their middle-sections and endings. In the final part of the sequence, children write their own mystery stories, based upon a place of local interest, of which they have collected photographs or images, and publish them in a class collection for others to read. In addition, we will finish reading 'Stig of the Dump'. Then we will read 'Bee Boy Clash of the Killer Queens.' Children will continue to build fluency, make predictions and learn to gather evidence from the text to support their answers.

In Mathematics, we will have a clear focus towards developing a growth mind-set towards all our Mathematic work with the aim of becoming confident in improving our mistakes. We will develop reasoning skills to solve a range of place value problems becoming fluent in our understanding of numbers above 100. After this, we will hone these skills to solve a range of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems.

'What Can We Learn from Wisdom?' is the topic in RE this half-term and the children will be learning about what why wisdom is important, what wisdom can you offer and from where does this wisdom come? During the learning, we will also look at wisdom from different faiths and their commonality.

This half term, we'll visit places in the local area to look at important buildings. We'll photograph urban art including graffiti, murals and statues. Using digital mapping tools, we'll identify the streets and buildings that we saw. We will then use digital editing to create short films using I pads.

We'll investigate cities around the world and find out how they've changed over time. As part of our design work, we'll study street art and artists, then we will recreate these with our own styles and ideas. Finally, we will learn the Science behind dramatic light effects and find out how light is used to keep people safe at night.

PE

Year 3 will continue to have PE on Monday afternoon and Thursday morning. On Monday they should bring their PE kit with them in their school bag to get changed at school. On Thursday, they should come to school dressed in their PE kits and will not need to change into their school uniform.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

This year our Christmas nativity production will be 'Lights, Camel, Action!' Join the jam-packed cast of nativity celebrities as they celebrate Jesus' birth with a dazzling dance show. We will be holding auditions for speaking roles. Please be aware that some children may not get a speaking part, but there will be many other opportunities throughout the show and everyone will be involved.

HOMEWORK

All homework will be set on a Monday and is to be completed by the following Monday. As requested by some parents, the spelling test will now be completed in the orange books instead of the English books. All homework will still be marked together in class.

If you wish to speak with me, my door will always be open, but please make an appointment. The mornings are an extremely busy time and I will not have time to speak with you. If you feel that you must speak to someone in the morning, then please approach the office.

HOMEWORK

- The children will have a mix of national requirement spelling words and words with specific spelling patterns ready for a weekly spelling book.
- The children will continue to take home a grammar and punctuation book and comprehension book.
- Mathematics tasks related to the learning inside the classroom.
- Children should read for ten minutes every day. This should be recorded in their diaries.
- Children will receive a set of multiplication facts up to 12 to learn each week.
- Children may still receive homework from other curriculum areas throughout the term such as class projects.

I very much look forward to working with you and your child this year,
Mr. O'Donoghue.