

Spring Newsletter

Year 3
January 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break. We having an exciting curriculum lined up for this first half of Spring Term.

WHAT WILL WE BE LEARNING THIS HALF TERM?

ENGLISH

This term, we will study the book 'Flotsam', by David Wiesner. Children will discover a range of 'Flotsam' items that have appeared in the classroom. One item is a camera that contains mysterious photographs that the children must investigate. Children go on to read and reflect on the book, making predictions and retelling it orally and in writing. Later in the sequence, the children have the opportunity to create their own sequel to the story, called Jetsam, where they write the story of the child who next finds the camera. In addition, we will finish reading ' Bee Boy: Clash of the Killer Queens'. After, we will read 'Shiny Poppin and the Broken Forest'. Children will deepen their inferential understanding and consolidate knowledge of how to gather evidence from the text to support their answers.

MATHS

In Mathematics, we will continue developing a growth mind-set by becoming increasingly confident in improving our mistakes. We will recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables; write and calculate mathematical statements for two-digit numbers times one-digit numbers and use mental and formal written methods; and, finally, we will solve problems, including missing number problems, involving multiplication and division. After this, we will add and subtract amounts of money to give change, using both £ and p in practical contexts. We will interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables. Then, we will solve one-step and two-step questions using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

TOPIC - FLOW

This half term, we'll visit a local river to find out what lives there, where the river is going and how fast it's travelling. We will look at the different aquatic plants and investigate how plants grow.

Using our creativity, we'll write journals as river travellers and journey on an imaginary boat to rivers around the world. We'll make working models of water wheels, investigate the water cycle and use natural materials to make models that demonstrate river formation. Our descriptive river poetry will capture the movement of water, and we'll mix water colours to create beautiful paintings in art. Our map reading and research skills will help us to find out about world-famous rivers.

RE

'What does it mean to be a Hindu?' is our topic for RE this half term. The children will be learning about key beliefs of Hinduism and how these are applied to daily life for some Hindus. Furthermore, they will learn about key practices and how values and ideals influence and underpin behaviour and attitude.

PE

Year 3 will now have a double lesson of PE on Thursday mornings. They should come to school dressed in their PE kits and will not need to change into their school uniform.

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 be marked in class together as this consolidates the home learning.

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.
- Athletics tasks related to the learning inside the classroom.
- Children should read for ten minutes every day. This should be recorded in their diaries.
- Children should practise and revise multiplication facts up to 12 as they will have a times table test every Tuesday.
- Children may still receive homework from other curriculum areas throughout the term such as class projects.

I very much look forward to continuing the great work with you and your child this year,
Mr. O'Donoghue.