Dear Parents,

I hope that you had a relaxing and happy Easter break with your families, Term 5 whilst shorter than previous terms, is most definitely going to be busy !

Below I will outline what we will be covering this term :

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| English | EYFS will be practising writing for different genres with a simple narrative using the book Rainbow Fish, some non-fiction writing about Penguins as well as an explanation text at the end of the term. We will focus on being able to write sentences which others can read as well as introducing Phonics Phase 5 for those who are ready.  In Year 1 and 2 we will begin the term with a unit on fables. We will look at the structure of this writing, practise the skills needed to write fables and then write our own. Towards the end of the term, we will look at explanation texts with a focus on Pirates !  Phonics continues daily for EYFS and Year 1 whilst Year 2 focus on spelling patterns. |
| Maths | In EYFS we will be looking at addition and subtraction using numbers to 20. We will also complete some spatial reasoning activities – looking for shapes within shapes. Where possible, our work will be practical and outdoors.  In Year 1 we will be acquiring the basic skills needed for multiplication and division. We will be making equal groups of objects as well as learning how to share and group collections of objects. Later in the term we will look at doubling and halving as well as investigating simple fractions – a half and a quarter.  In Year 2 we will complete a unit on telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes before preparing the children to sit their SAT papers in the month of May. |
| Science | Our focus is plants this term. EYFS will spend some time observing different sorts of plants and recording these with detailed drawings. They will also observe how seeds grow and how the seasons change from Spring to Summer this term ( if the weather behaves itself ! ).  In Year 1 and Year 2 we will be focusing upon generating our own science questions and then testing our ideas this term. We will be looking at seeds, bulbs and plants in particular, looking at the conditions plants need in order to grow. As part of our science learning we will all be going on a trip to an organic nursery on part of the Highgrove Estate. Look out for details of this trip early this term. |
| History | We will complete our history curriculum for this year with a unit on holidays and how they have changed from Victorian times to the present day. We will look at three time periods ( 1890’s , 1950’s and the present day) in order to see what has changed and what has stayed the same. We will be encouraging the children to look at different sources of historical information ( photographs, posters, tickets, newspaper articles) in order to find out what historical sources can tell us about life in the past.  EYFS will focus on understanding what the past is, recalling any day trips that they remember etc. We will also encourage them to spot differences between Victorian holidays and present day holiday experiences. |
| RE | Mrs Davies will continue to teach RE on Friday mornings. We will continue our work on learning about the Jewish faith. This will include learning about how Sukkot and Chanukah are celebrated in the Jewish faith. |
| Computing | Year 1 and 2 will complete a unit called Presenting Ideas. They will learn how to make an quiz, create a fact file and a powerpoint presentation using a variety of software packages. |
| Design and Technology | Mrs Russell will teach DT on Wednesday afternoons. Our focus is structures and winding mechanisms. Children will learn how to cut and measure accurately, find different ways to join materials as well as learning about how a winding mechanism works. The finished product will be related to our work on beach holidays, however we await the children’s ideas for the finishing details ! |
| Music | Mrs Davies will continue to teach Music on Friday mornings. She will be using seascapes to help the children compose their own music using their voices as well as instruments. The children will also begin to write their own musical scores using pictures. |
| PE | This will be our final block of swimming lessons for this academic year and these will take place on Friday afternoons. Please can children bring their kit in a bag including goggles if your child requires these.  In the morning PE slot, Mr Peters will be teaching multi-skills. |
| RSE | Our unit is focused upon rights and responsibilities this term and we will cover topics such as looking after our school and our money, how to look after something as well as basic first aid. |

**KS1 SATS for Year 2 children**

This year SAT tests return for Year 2 children. By law we are required to administer these in the month of May. The tests form part of a bank of evidence for teachers to make their judgements against a set of national standards. In June, the school is required to submit this data for each Year 2 child to the Department of Education for Reading, Writing, Grammar and Spelling, and Mathematics. The data will inform the Department of Education which children are below, at or above age related expectations in these subjects. You will receive a copy of these judgements in the final summer term. The SAT tests help us assess your child accurately, however we also use class work and what we already know about each child to make our judgements.

The SAT tests are conducted in Acorns Classroom with myself on hand to give instructions in the manner the children are accustomed to. We try to make things as relaxed as possible and the children are aware that I will use their normal class work to make the assessments too. The SAT tests generally last up to an hour and the rest of the day is spent in normal lessons. Children complete 2 maths papers, 2 reading papers and a grammar and spelling paper over the course of several days. Writing is assessed across the year using their independent writing work.

If your child is absent on the day of a test please do not worry, we will arrange for them to sit this test on their return. If you have any questions about the administration of these tests, please do come and chat to me.

**Year 1 National Phonics Screening Test**

This will take place in school next term ( Term 6) and we will let you know the result in due course.

**Acorns Class Trip**

We have booked a class trip to Cut the Mustard Club near Tetbury on Tuesday 23rd May 2022. Please look out for the letter and permission slip in book bags this term

**PE day**

PE is Friday this term. Please come to school in PE kit and trainers. Please can your child bring their swimming kit + goggles in a separate bag as we will be swimming in the afternoons. Afterschool PE club continues to run on Thursday afternoons.

**Homework**

**Please continue to :**

* **Hear your child read daily ( and record in the reading record book)**
* **Learn the KIRF Maths skills ( termly reminder sheet coming home to tell you about these)**
* **Complete activities set on Mathletics each term**
* Complete any additional work set out in homework books or in class support forms ( this will not be set weekly for all children as this is targeted practice for those who require specific practice)

With best wishes

Mrs Spring ( Class Teacher)