Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 4 and we have another busy 6 weeks of learning planned. Below is an outline of the areas of the curriculum we will cover this term.

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| English ( EYFS ) | EYFS will continue to build their reading and writing skills with daily opportunities to read and to write. We will cover two narrative units as well as some non-fiction recount writing towards the end of the term. Phonics continues to be taught daily and we will be covering Phase 4 this term as well as recapping our sounds and tricky words from Phase 3. |
| English ( Year 1 and Year 2 ) | Years 1 and 2 will complete a narrative unit in the first 4 weeks of term called George and the Dragon . We will have a particular focus on the use of complex sentences this term using the conjunctions ( so, and, if, when, because, but) to connect two ideas in one sentence. We will also continue to re-enforce independent use of the full range of punctuation we use in KS1 as well as supporting children to spot their own spelling errors. Later in the term we will switch to non-fiction and write our own recounts. |
| Reading comprehension or Book Talk | Reading comprehension continues weekly with children being taught how to retrieve information, make sensible predictions, learn new vocabulary and infer how characters are feeling from their actions and words. Year 2 continue to practice SAT type questions in readiness for the national SAT tests in May. |
| Maths EYFS | EYFS have a focus on measure for the first few weeks of this term. They will be practically exploring length, height, mass, capacity and temperature before revisiting our work on time learning the days of the week and their order. We will be spending as much time outdoors as possible for maths, making use of our outdoor learning space. Later in the term, EYFS will return to number work learning their number bonds to 4 and 5 off by heart and investigating odd and even numbers. |
| Maths Year 1 | Year 1 will also have measure as a focus this term in Maths. They will be investigating how to measure length, height, mass and capacity and will be introduced to measuring equipment and how it can be used to accurately measure and compare. Where possible they will work alongside EYFS with written extensions for the Year 1 children. |
| Maths Year 2 | Year 2 will continue their work on fractions for the first two weeks of term before moving on to work on measure. Year 2 will be recapping and learning new skills measuring length, height, mass, capacity and temperature. While recapping practical skills is important, Year 2 will focus on applying these skills to solve written problems involving measure. This term Year 2 will also practice past SAT papers in order to prepare them for the arithmetic and the reasoning maths papers in May. |
| Science | In Science our topic title is Polar Adventures. Our focus will be on animals – how we can classify them as mammals, birds, insects or fish. We will also look at the terms: carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. Later in the term we will look at how polar animals are adapted to live in cold conditions before exploring the properties of materials needed to keep humans alive in polar conditions.  EYFS will focus upon freezing and melting as well exploring the different features of animals in order to group them. They will look at what animals need to survive as well as exploring the properties of materials. |
| History | In History our topic title is Great Explorers. We will be looking at what makes a good explorer before learning about a variety of explorers from different periods of time. These include Ibn Battuta, Captain James Cook, Roald Amundsen, Captain Scott and Sunita Williams. We will investigate how each explorer changed our views of the world and how, as historians, we can find out about the impact of these people using historical evidence.  EYFS will focus upon learning about how life was different in the past and learning about our explorers through stories. They will also look at the different environments encountered by the explorers – the polar lands, Australia and space. EYFS will compare how these places are different to our own local environment. |
| RE | Mrs Davies will be helping the children explore Judaism this term. The children will be learning about objects which are precious to people who follow the Jewish faith such as the Shema and the Mezuzah. Our children will also be exploring Shabbat and how Jewish people prepare for and celebrate this. |
| Computing | In computing we will look how to use binary trees to classify and sort our polar animals. EYFS will join us where this fits with their curriculum. |
| RSE | In RSE our focus is Keeping ourselves Safe. We will look at how we can stay healthy, how important a good sleep routine is, understanding who can help us in different circumstances, how we can cope with feelings of loss and finally a session on safeguarding and a reminder about the Underwear Rule. |
| Art | In Art ,Mrs Russell will be covering painting this term. The children will be learning how to colour mix to create all the secondary colours using just the primary colours ( black, white, yellow, red, blue). The children will also explore using wet and dry techniques and using thick and thin brushes. |
| PE | Mr Peters will be exploring dance and ball skills this term. The dance unit is called Pirate Dance and in previous years this has been very popular with both boys and girls. We will have two PE sessions every Thursday this term. |
| Music | Miss De Carles will be exploring what music can teach us about our local community. The children will be learning how to play along with ’ I am the Music Man’ using our class set of glockenspiels as well as spending some time composing their own music. |

**Homework**

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| **EYFS** | * Reading to an adult daily ( please record pages read in reading record) * Learning and practising Maths KIRFS through play, incidental learning at home – mathletics can be used if they are interested and supported * Please practice number bonds for 4 and 5 |
| **Year 1** | * Reading to an adult daily ( please record pages read in reading record) * Learning and practising Maths KIRFS – complete sheet in homework book weekly or have a go at using Mathletics – certificates handed out fortnightly * Please continue to learn off by heart number bonds for 6, 7, 8. 9 and 10. |
| **Year 2** | * Reading to an adult daily ( please record pages read in reading record) * Learning and practising Maths KIRFS – complete sheet in homework book weekly or have a go at Mathletics – certificates handed out fortnightly * Please continue to learn off by heart the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Children will be tested weekly. |

Please hand in maths homework on Mondays if you are completing paper based maths homework. If you are accessing Mathletics instead, please just add a note in the homework book to tell me which activities were completed that week

As always, please do come and see me at the end of school this term if you have any problems or questions. ( I am not available except in emergencies on Thursdays this term.)

Many thanks

Mrs Spring