
Widening Horizons, Raising Aspirations

Mrs N Murrell
Headteacher
Mrs T Cripps
Deputy Headteacher

24 February 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers, Welcome back!

We hope you had an excellent half term break and are looking forward to the children returning to another busy and exciting term.

Reception

Our topic this half term will be 'The Magic Pond' as we will be taking part in Forest School. In this topic, we will be learning about all the different creatures you might find in a pond area through books such as 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Tadpoles Promise' as well as different non-fiction books too. Continuing this theme in our science topic, we will be exploring different life cycles and looking at different plants and how they grow.

Some of our learning will also revolve around important celebration days this term such as Pancake day, different Saint days, Mother's Day before learning all about Easter.

We will continue to complete our daily mile as this has really benefitted the children's concentration and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Please remember to send your child's book bag every day. We will change reading books/sheets each Friday but will be reading with your child every day so having their book bag with them is very useful. PE will be on Mondays.

As all children wear the same uniform we have had a few times when cardigans and jumpers have been switched. Please remember to clearly label all clothing. For the beginning of term at least, hats, scarves and gloves may still be needed and we help the children to store these safely.

For both reception classes, this term we will be taking part in Forest School sessions for the first time this year, where the children will begin to explore new outdoor learning opportunities. This will be on Tuesdays. On this day, please can children bring a change of clothes that are warm and that can get dirty. Children will also need to bring wellies or a change of suitable footwear from their school shoes. These must come to school in a named bag.

Year 1

In our English this term, we will be using the books 'Man on the Moon' and 'Beegu' to inspire our writing. From 'Man on the Moon', the children will be looking at how to write letters, fact files and adverts, whilst using 'Beegu', we will be exploring how to write post cards, look at how to create character descriptions as well as learning how to write a play script.

This term in Maths, we continue to focus on place value. We will continue to build on the children's existing knowledge of place value within 20 before moving on to numbers within 50. Following this, we will begin to learn about measurement, looking at different lengths and heights.

In Science we will continue to focus on every day materials, carrying out experiments to see how suitable materials are for their uses.

In History, our topic will be 'How have toys changed?'. We will explore different toys from the past and their purpose and comparing these to the toys we have today.

Our Computing we will be starting our new unit of 'Animated Story Books'. In RE, we will continue to focus on Christianity and with the key question, 'Who is a Christian and what do they believe?'. For RSHE the children will be learning about how to live healthy lives through the topic 'Healthy Me'. In DT we will be learning how to create different stable and secure structures.

PE will now be on Tuesday and Friday and the children should come to school in their PE kit.

Year 2

In our Writing this term, we will begin by continuing to use the book 'Leaf' to write an informal letter. Following this, we will be starting our new text, 'Hedgehog'. Using Hedgehog, the children will learn how to create an informative poster, character descriptions before writing their own extended narrative.

In Maths this term the children will begin learning about multiplication and division for the first time by using arrays and making groups to create good foundations of understanding for these operations. Later in the term we will focus on different measurements, beginning with length and height, before moving on to mass, capacity and temperature.

Under the scientific enquiry of comparative testing, in Science we will continue to exploring different materials and their uses through different experiments.

In Geography this term, our topic will be 'Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place'. We will be looking at the different continents and different climates around the world.

In RE this term, the children will be learning about Christianity, focusing on special and sacred items. In Computing the children will be learning about creating different pictures using different digital tools. In Music we will continue with our theme of African Calls. In Art, children will craft and create different mixed media pieces for our own class galleries. In RSHE, the children will be learning about healthy lifestyles.

PE will continue to be on Monday and Friday through Handball and gym, whilst we will continue to ensure that we have daily physical activity.

Donaldson class will begin their swimming block this term which will run until the end of this academic year. Children will need to bring their swimming kit in a named bag every Monday.

Children MUST bring Ocean Diaries and reading books in to school daily as this supports them with reading and spelling practise in school. We will be putting books outside in coming days so that you can be involved in selecting and changing your child's reading book. Mrs Wotton will be on hand to help. The expectation is now that children read to an adult at home at least 3 times per week and the diary is signed. This will then earn Reading Stars which in turn will lead to each class earning a whole class reward. Our weekly spelling words will also be sent home this week to help your children to read and spell these key words independently.

Yours sincerely

The Infant Team