

## *Widening Horizons, Raising Aspirations*

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are all looking forward to welcoming the children back to another packed term as we begin the new year!

### Year 2, 3 and 4 Term 3 Newsletter

#### Year 2

In our **Writing** this term, we will begin by finishing our learning to do with the text 'Leaf'. The children will be writing Fact-Files about polar bears. We will move on to look at the text 'Diary of a Killer Cat', writing both a diary entry from the perspective of the Killer Cat and retelling the story.

In **Maths** this term the children will begin by exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, building on their learning from Year 1, drawing different shapes and beginning to look at symmetry. Later on in the term, we will also be looking at money, where children will apply their knowledge of addition and subtraction to different problems.

Under the scientific enquiry of comparative testing, in **Science** we will be exploring different materials and their uses. The children will be exploring both man-made and natural materials and how they are used differently in the real world, comparing their uses and effectiveness.

Our **History** topic this term is 'How did we learn to fly?'. We will be looking at how flying has evolved from the very first plane built by the Wright brothers, all the way to space travel and the moon landing.

In **Computing** the children will be learning about online safety before moving on to effective searching. In **Music**, around the theme of Space, the children will learn about tempo, dynamics, timbre and motifs. In **DT**, children will have the opportunity to explore mechanisms. They will design and create a moving monster using linkages.

In **RSHE**, the children will be learning about dreams and goals. The children have the opportunity to junk model to think about how they can work best as a team to achieve a shared goal.

**PE will be on Tuesday and Thursday** and we will continue to ensure that we have daily physical activity.

#### Picasso Class

In **English** this term we will be examining the text 'How the Stars Came to Be' by Poonam Mistry. Using this text, we will be writing different narratives with a focus on description as well as using drama to help us write our own play scripts based on the book.

In **Maths** this term, our focus will be multiplication and division. We will be exploring the link between multiplication and division, using different methods, both practically and using written, to solve different calculations. We will then use this knowledge to solve different problems around multiplication and division.

In **Science** this term, we will be starting our new topic of light. We will explore how light allows us to see. Moving forward, we will carry out different experiments to test different reflective surfaces and also test to find patterns in the way the size of shadows change.

For **History** this term, we will answer the question 'Why did the Romans settle in Britain?'. We will be exploring why the Roman's decided to invade Britain, how the Britons responded to this as well as understanding why the Roman army was so successful before using artefacts to understand more about Roman life.

Our **Art** unit this term will focus on drawing skills by learning different shading techniques to create tone and texture. For **RSHE**, our topic will be 'Dreams and Goals', setting challenges for the new year and learning how we can overcome obstacles to achieve our goals.

**PE** this term will continue to be on Monday and Wednesday for Picasso class. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on these days, where we will be learning and applying a range of skills for Hockey and Dance.

**For children that were in Rosen class last year**, they will continue going swimming on Monday. This will continue until the end of this term. Please can children come to school with their swimming kit in a named bag.

## **Kusama Class**

In **Kusama Class** this term, our focus text for **English** is 'Leon and the Place Between', by Angela McAllister; a story in which magic becomes truly real. The children's ideas will centre around the beautiful illustrations and story language in the book. We will also take time to read and enjoy a timeless classic: 'Charlotte's Web', by E. B. White.

In **Maths**, we will be learning and rehearsing times tables and related division facts. This is in preparation for the Multiplication Check that the children take in June of Year 4, so please make sure that they are accessing Times Table Rock Stars at home little and often. This will help to improve their speed and fluency.

In **Science** this term, we are learning about electricity - an exciting topic that we have already launched into with enthusiasm!

In **RE**, we will continue to learn about what it means to be a Hindu in Britain today and in **RSHE**, our topic is 'Dreams and Goals'. In **Art** this term, we will be finishing off our wax resist designs. As part of our upcoming **Geography** topic on settlements, we will locate some cities and geographical regions in the UK. We will also describe the location of New Delhi and then compare land use in New Delhi to that of our local area. **PE** days continue to be on a Monday (for hockey) and Wednesday (for dance), so please remember to make sure that sportswear/ PE kits are worn on those days.

## **Morris Class**

Welcome back to all the children in Morris class for another exciting term!

In **English**, we will begin the term with the text 'The Wolf's Footprint' by Susan Price, where the children will analyse the story and its characters, comparing it to other similar stories to make predictions before using what they have learnt to write part of their own narrative. We will then move on to 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McAllister, a visually stunning book, where the children will hone their playwriting skills as well as producing pieces of descriptive and persuasive writing.

We will begin **Maths** this term with multiplication and division; looking at related facts, factor pairs, how to multiply and divide numbers by 10 and 100 and using this knowledge to solve more complex problems. We will then move on to shape, looking at the length and perimeter of different 2D shapes and spaces before starting fractions for the first time this year, building on their knowledge from Year 3.

In **Science** this term we will begin our new topic of Electricity. In this topic, we will be understanding how different appliances use electricity, test different materials to find out which make the best conductors, as well as understanding how to construct a variety of simple circuits.

The **History** question we will be answering this term is 'How hard was it to invade and settle in Britain?' In this unit, children will understand why the Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain, look at Anglo-Saxon settlements to compare these with others across history, look at important historical figures like Alfred the Great and understand how Anglo-Saxon rule came to an end.

Linking with our Science topic, for **D.T.**, we will be designing, constructing and evaluating electrical torches. In our **RSHE** unit this term, 'Dreams and goals', we learn the importance of setting goals, understanding how to overcome disappointment and devising sensible steps to achieve our goals. We will be continuing Hinduism in **RE** to answer the question 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?'

**PE** this term will continue to be on Thursday and Friday for Morris class and they will be taking part in Hockey and Dance. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

#### REMINDERS

Parents/Carers are asked not to enter the cloakrooms.

Children **MUST** bring Reading Records and **reading books** in to school daily as this supports them with reading and spelling practise in school. 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 contribute to the classes weekly reading percentage which in turn will lead to each class earning a whole class reward.

Yours sincerely

Middle Years Team