

Widening Horizons, Raising Aspirations

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4, I hope you all had a great half-term.

World Book Day

World Book Day this year will be on Friday 8th March.

This year we would like children to come to school in fancy dress as a book character. Our theme for the day will be Roald Dahl however, children may choose to dress as any **BOOK** character they wish. There will be prizes awarded per year group for the best homemade fancy dress. We strongly encourage all children put their costumes together using things they already have at home so that everyone has an equal and fair chance at winning a prize.

This year we will also be doing 'Extreme reads' as we have done in previous years. We ask that children bring with them on World Book Day, a picture of them reading in a peculiar place. This has been a great success in previous years and we are looking forward to seeing the different places the children have been reading this year! There will also be prizes per pod for the most extreme read!

The Big Book Swap- following the success from last year, we would like children to bring in a book they are happy to swap with another child. Please ensure this is a book you are happy for your child to part ways with and not something with great sentimental value! On World Book Day children will swap their books and return home with a different book they haven't read.

We look forward to another fantastic World Book Day!

Year 2, 3 and 4 Term 2 Newsletter

Year 2

In our **Writing** this term, we will be starting our new text, 'Hedgehog'. Using Hedgehog, the children will learn how to create an informative poster to help Max cross the road, 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 look at living things and their habitats with the scientific enquiry focus on observations over time.

In **Geography** this term, our topic will be 'Why is our world wonderful?' We will be looking at the difference between human and physical features, starting in the UK before looking globally.

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.

Donaldson Class PE will be on Tuesday and Thursday through Handball and Netball.

Rosen 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. They will have Handball lessons on a **Thursday**.

Picasso Class

In **English** this term we will use be examining the text 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balti. Using this text, we will be writing different narratives with a focus on description as well as diary entries based on the book. We will also take time to read and enjoy our new text: 'Adventure Mice- Otter Chaos!' by Reeve and McIntyre.

In **Maths** this term, our focus will be length, perimeter and fractions. We will be exploring the use of different measuring equipment, using different methods, both practically and using written. We will then use this knowledge to solve different problems involving equivalent lengths and fractions.

In **Science** this term, we are starting our new topic on Forces and Magnets. We will explore all the different materials that have magnetic qualities using a range of practical and written activities.

For **Geography** this term, we will answer the question 'Why do people live near volcanoes?' We will be exploring that the Earth is constructed in layers, and the crust is divided into tectonic plates. They study the formation and distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and use Mount Etna to identify how human interaction shapes a volcanic landscape.

Our **Design and Technology** unit this term will focus on the digital world and for **RSHE**, our topic will be 'Healthy Me', learning how to keep ourselves fit and healthy through diet and exercise.

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 Tennis and Handball.

Kusama Class

Our focus text for **Writing** is 'The Pebble in my Pocket: A History of our Earth', by Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady. This non-fiction text takes children on a scientific adventure through time and across the globe, all by following a single pebble over millions of years.

This links well with our **Geography** lessons, during which we will study the formation and distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. We will also take time to read the fun chapter book, 'Adventure Mice: Otter Chaos', by Sarah McIntyre and Philip Reeve.

In **Maths**, we will continue to focus on multiplication and division, whilst also learning about length and perimeter.

In **Science** this term, we will consolidate and embed our knowledge and understanding of electricity. In **RE**, we will learn why festivals are important to religious communities. Our **RSHE** topic is 'Healthy Me'. During **Music** lessons, we will learn how to compose, adapt and transpose a motif. **PE** days continue to be on a Monday (for tennis) and Wednesday (for handball), 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. We hope they have enjoyed their half term break and are ready and excited for new learning this term!

In **English**, we will begin the term with the text 'I Was a Rat or The Scarlet Slippers' by Philip Pullman. From this text, we will be recapping our knowledge of diary entries to write diaries as different characters from different points in the story. From this story we will also use this information to write our own newspaper reports about exciting events before writing some informal letters.

We will be starting with fractions in **Maths** this term. Building on their knowledge from Year 3, we will recap what they already know about different fractions as equal parts and identifying a whole. We will then look at fractions as mixed numbers, improper fractions, ordering these on number lines and exploring problem solving and reasoning questions around this. We will also be exploring different equivalent fractions as well as applying our knowledge of addition and subtraction.

In **Science** this term we will begin our new topic of 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. Through the scientific enquiry of pattern seeking, we will be understanding classification of animals and other living things and also understanding the similarities and differences of different characteristics.

For **Geography** this term, our big question is 'Where does our food come from?' To answer this question, we will be understanding the difference between locally sourced and imported food and the reasons for both. Part of this will include carrying out some field work, where the children will find out where the food for our school dinners comes from.

In **Art** this term, our topic will be 'Painting and mixed media'. Linking to previous learning from Year 3 of use tone in drawings, children will explore how to create tone with paint and explore other media to create different styles of paintings. In our **RSHE** unit this term, 'Healthy Me', we learn the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle. We will be starting a new **RE** topic about religious festivals, looking at different religions and understanding why these are important to different religious communities.

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

Yours sincerely

Middle Years Team