

**VERNON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Monday 8th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a fantastic festive break. This term your child will be learning about Africa through the exciting theme of 'Hakuna Matata'.

In English, we will be using the narrative 'The Lion Inside' as a stimulus for different types of writing. The children will write stories that mimic significant narratives, recounts and narrative diary entries to explore emotions and characters perspectives. With a focus on the main characters, Lion and Mouse, the children will discover 'that even the smallest creature can have the heart of a lion'. The children will become explorers and after researching into different places in Africa they will use their knowledge to write information texts. Mathematics sessions will require your child to use their 'explorer skills' to support them in developing their knowledge of place value, fractions, measurement – length, height, time, shape and statistics.

Computing will involve developing skills to use a computer as a tool to explore rhythms and melodies, before creating a musical composition; and to collect data, use attributes to organise and present data on a computer, using a pictogram. In Science, the children will build on the scientific knowledge they have gained so far, carrying out practical activities to consolidate learning. The focus will be plants: observing and describing how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants and animals including humans: whereby the children will describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival. In Art, we will be exploring the patterns used by the African artist Nicholas Kowalski. Design and Technology will involve the children taking inspiration from architect Sir David Adjaye to use a range of construction joining techniques and materials, including matchsticks and clay to design a castle. In Geography the children will investigate the question, 'why is our world wonderful'. Exploring the features of the UK and amazing places around the world. To build an overview of world history, the children will become history detectives and piece together the significant events of Nelson Mandela's life.

In Religious Education we follow SACRE and explore the thread 'Authority and Personal Belief', What might people learn from the story of Abraham? How do people choose what is right and wrong? Our PSHE curriculum follows the PSHE Association and ensures full coverage of the statutory Relationships Education. This term we will be focusing on living in the wider world. Full information about our PSHE curriculum can be found on our dedicated webpage: [PSHECurriculum](#) which includes our long term plan and full programme of study, in line with the PSHE Association.

P.E will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please ensure your child has their PE kits available on these days, short-sleeved t-shirt and shorts for indoor P.E. Warm trousers and t-shirt with pumps or trainers for outside P.E. They will also need to ensure earrings are removed and hair is tied back.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come and speak to us. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

S. Tootell and E. Worthington



'Nobody else is quite like me'

