

Welcome Back!

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you have all had a wonderful Spring Break and that your child has enjoyed their first week back at school. We are greatly looking forward to the term ahead, as we are sure the children are too.

Writing

During English lessons, children will be developing their ability to write in a range of styles, alter their language use and the presentation to suit different types of writing. English lessons will also reinforce the Year 5 spelling, punctuation and grammar objectives. During the first half term, children will be reading 'The Hunter' by Paul Geraghty. The children will be working towards writing a story involving the discovery of an endangered animal baby. Following this, we will study 'The Brilliant Deep' by Kate Messner and Matthew Forsythe. The outcome will be for children to write their own persuasive information leaflet considering the effects of climate change on coral reefs.

Reading

Once a week, our English lessons will focus on building key reading skills. These sessions will follow our 'Pathways to Read' scheme. Our first text will be 'African Tales: A Barefoot Collection' written by Gcina Mhlophe and Rachel Griffin. Following this, we will focus on 'The Last Wild' by Piers Torday. These reading sessions in class support children in reading at a pace and allow spellings and grammatical structures to be absorbed more readily.

Please discuss books and reading choices with your child and continue to listen to them reading aloud when possible.

Reminder: Children can bring in their banded book (or free reader book) once they have finished it, and it can be exchanged for a new book.

Maths

Maths lessons will follow the White Rose Maths Hub scheme of learning and will focus on geometry (properties of shape and position and direction), decimals, and converting units. Our maths lessons will aim to build children's mental maths, problem solving techniques and overall mathematical subject knowledge. In addition to daily maths lessons, we will also continue with our times table practice. Please ensure that your child engages with 'Times Tables Rock Stars' at home to help build their recall of multiplication and division facts.

Science

'Living things and their habitats' will be our science topic for this term. Children will build their knowledge and understanding of this topic whilst developing their ability to work scientifically.

French

In French this term, our topics include 'Out of this world' and 'Going to the seaside'.

Geography

Our topic for the first part of the summer term is 'Mexico' which will provide children with opportunities to undertake a regional study of the country and look at its geographical similarities

and differences compared to the UK. During this topic, children will learn about key aspects of physical geography. We will also be exploring the human features in the locality, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

History

During the last half-term, we will be focusing on the Ancient Maya in order to give pupils the opportunity to see the stark contrast between their own history and that of the Maya. Pupils will learn about who the Maya people were and where they lived, as well as how the Maya empire grew to become so important. As part of this unit, pupils will also explore the remarkable achievements of the ancient Maya which will include looking at their writing, calendar system and perspective of time.

P.E

P.E. will take place on Tuesday afternoons for Larch (taught by Mr Bell) and for Rowan (taught by Mrs Beech). Both classes also have P.E. on Thursday afternoons. Children must come to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days. Please ensure earrings are taken out on P.E. days (or, if the ears are newly pierced, children must apply their own medical tape).

Art

This term, we will be continuing to develop our painting and sculpting skills in order to create 3D models of Maya masks. If you would like your children to have art shirts to wear during painting, these can be brought into school and kept in school.

P.S.H.E.

This term, our lessons will focus on a variety of topics, such as: Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me.

R.E.

During this term, we will be continuing to focus on Christianity. The class will be exploring how and why Christians worship. Following this, we will be focusing on the Baha'i faith and we will be learning about the Baha'i concept of God, and why community and equality are particularly important for followers of this faith.

Computing

In computing, we will use physical computing to explore the concept of selection in programming through the use of the Crumble programming environment

Homework

Homework will be set every week for Maths, English and spelling.

Maths and English - Given out each Friday and to be handed in by the following Wednesday, unless stated otherwise. Times Table Rock Stars should also be completed at home.

Spellings - These will be sent home on Fridays and tested the following week. If applicable, Nessy should also be completed at home.

Uniform

To avoid any lost property, please make sure that all of your child's clothing, including coats and jackets, are marked with your child's name. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform and has the correct P.E. kit for lessons (white t-shirt, dark shorts/tracksuit

bottoms and a jumper during colder months). If your child has pierced ears, please could these be taken out for P.E. days or by themselves prior to the P.E. lesson. This also applies to afterschool sports, clubs/activities. In addition, we do ask that if your child has long hair that they tie it back for school.

Home Time

With permission, your child is allowed to walk to and from school. If you would like your child to walk home from school, please contact the school office to give permission (if you have not done so already). Please make sure that the office has your correct contact details and that you inform them about any changes.

Mobile Phones

With permission, your child can bring their mobile phone into school for safety purposes when walking to and from school. All mobile phones are safely stored in a box within the classroom and are to be taken home at the end of the day. Mobile phones are not to be used on the playground before or after school.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school. Water bottles must only contain water as no juice or squash is allowed.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask the office for a phone call or use the class email accounts.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Beech and Mr Bell