



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all have had a wonderful winter break. Here are the exciting topics and subjects we will be covering during the spring term.

CbIDS (Consciousness-based Interdisciplinary Studies)

This is at the heart of all teaching at Maharishi School. The Key Ideas taught in Year 1 are designed to enliven each student's awareness that there is something deep within the surface of everything.

'We are here to enjoy,' is a key theme that we start off with at the beginning of each term. We will also be exploring the key Principles of Enjoy and accomplish more; Every action has a reaction; Purification leads to progress; Problem solving and Fulfilment (Thought leads to action; action leads to achievement; achievement leads to fulfilment).

Maths

In maths this term, we are covering a range of topics which includes:

PLACE VALUE WITHIN 20: The children will build on their growing knowledge to use number lines to make estimations and order numbers to 20.

ADDITION and SUBTRACTION WITHIN 20: Children will learn how to use part whole models and number lines to help them add and subtract.

PLACE VALUE WITHIN 50: Ordering, counting and comparing numbers up to 50. The children will be taught how to write the numbers up to 20 in words.

MEASURE: The children will learn key vocabulary relating to length, height, mass and volume.

The children will continue to have a 15 minute discrete 'Maths Mastery' session each day to further deepen their understanding in maths.

English

Spring 1

We will start the term by reading and retelling *Nobot the Robot*, written by Paul Linnet and Sue Hendra, which will inspire our creative writing. The children will use 'Talk for Writing', which is an excellent way for children to learn sentence stems by heart, using actions and drama. There will be a focus on adapting the story and using the conjunctions, 'but, and, so' to extend sentences.

We will use 'Alan Peat sentences' with a focus on 'list sentences' to expand noun phrases. A list sentence must have 3 or 4 adjectives before the noun and use and between the final 2 adjectives.

Our next unit will be a poetry unit, exploring the theme of the senses. Children learn parts by heart and respond, focusing on interesting adjectives. The children will be taught how to identify and create similes and then write their own poems.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be a focus through all of our English work. We will work on sentence structure throughout the term and use Alan Peat sentence types to enable the children to write in a more sophisticated way.

Spring 2

We will start spring 2 by reading a children's favourite 'Zog' by Julia Donaldson. The children will use adjectives to describe characters and objects, before adapting the story to create their very own story. We will then complete a unit on postcards and letters, which will be inspired by the story 'Here comes Mr Postmouse'. The children will continue to practise good sentence structure to write letters and postcards, whilst using capital



letters to start sentences, full stops and question marks. A key focus in this unit is to use the conjunction 'because' to extend sentences.

Science: Materials

During this unit of work, the children will learn how to recognise and name a variety of everyday materials and they will explore the world around us to identify which materials certain objects are made from. Children will be introduced to key scientific vocabulary to describe the names and simple properties of materials and the children will work scientifically, by classifying materials, their uses and by conducting investigations to find out which materials will be 'best' in a variety of contexts. The children will be presented with practical challenges, such as finding a suitable material to make a boat that floats, a waterproof shelter and a strong bridge.

History

Spring 1 'THE HISTORY OF FLIGHT'

We look at how flight travel has changed over time and the children will use artefacts, books and media to research these. The children will learn about early means of flight and they will learn how to create a timeline to put these in chronological order. We learn about some significant people like the 'Wright Brothers' and 'Amelia Earhart'.

Geography

Spring 2 The United Kingdom

Our geography work will concentrate on identifying the countries that make up the United Kingdom and the children will learn about the flags and capital cities of each. We will use information technology as well as



atlases to name and locate these countries and also the seas and coasts around the UK, ensuring we cement our knowledge of the physical geography of the country we live in.

Art

Spring 1 - Playful Making

During this project, children will be introduced to what sculpture can be and will explore the work of other sculptors whilst taking a playful and inventive approach to making their own sculptures. The children will be encouraged to start voicing their response to sculptural artworks, including their own, and given time and space to explore properties of materials, and to see what happens when you join one or more materials together to construct new forms.

Painting Watercolour

In this second project the children will be introduced to watercolour and explore the work of Paul Klee & Emma Burleigh. Through an open and exploratory approach, children will discover what watercolour can do, how it acts and how they can "control" it. Mrs P.C will teach Art on Wednesday afternoons.

Design Technology

Spring 2 Structures

The children will design, make, and evaluate a free-standing structure. They will decide who their structure will be for? What the purpose of their structure will be, and (linking with our science topic) the materials they will use to build their structure? The children will develop their ideas through talking, drawing, and making mock-ups of their ideas with construction kits



or other materials at hand. Mrs P.C will teach the children design technology every Wednesday afternoon.

Computing

Spring 1 Moving a robot

This unit introduces learners to early programming concepts. Learners will explore using individual commands, both with other learners and as part of a computer program. They will identify what each floor robot command does and use that knowledge to start predicting the outcome of programs. The unit is paced to ensure time is spent on all aspects of programming and builds knowledge in a structured manner. Learners are also introduced to the early stages of program design through the introduction of algorithms.

Spring 2 Data and Grouping

This unit introduces pupils to data and information. They will begin by using labels to put objects into groups, and labelling these groups. Pupils will demonstrate that they can count a small number of objects, before and after the objects are grouped. They will then begin to demonstrate their ability to sort objects into different groups, based on the properties they choose. Finally, pupils will use their ability to sort objects into different groups to answer questions about data.

Music

Spring 1

In music this half term we will be following the Charanga scheme of work. It is a 6-week unit of work which includes musical warm up games with emphasis on vocal warmups, rhythm, pulse tempo, pitch etc.



We will be focusing on exploring sounds and reflecting on how music makes the world a better place? Any student who plays an instrument and would like to bring it in to play along with the song would be very welcome.

Religious Education

Spring 2 Creation

The taught R.E syllabus is not designed to convert pupils, or to promote a particular religion or religious belief. The aim is to promote an understanding and respect for those with different religions and religious beliefs and to prepare our students to live in a diverse and modern Britain.

This half term, pupils will explore the key question '*How might beliefs about creation affect the way people treat the world?*' Pupils will be given the opportunity to think about and reflect on their own beliefs towards creation and our responsibility to creating a sustainable world. The children will be taught about some of the beliefs about creation that are held within the religions of Judaism and Islam.

PSHE – RELATIONSHIPS

We use stories, circle time and social exercises to help the pupils to recognise how other people are feeling and how they can share their own feelings with others. We will discuss different types of behaviour and how this can make others feel and how to play cooperatively. We will talk about the importance of not keeping secrets that make them feel uncomfortable, anxious or afraid. The children will learn about the importance of respect for the differences and similarities between people. We will discuss bullying and teasing and how that can make us feel. The children will learn about what kind of contact is appropriate between yourself and others.



Other important information

P.E will be on Friday mornings and we will go to a local community hall by coach during the winter.

Termly homework challenge sheets are located in the reading records and are to complement and extend any learning completed at school. The children will have a spelling quiz every Friday. Reading at home each day is highly beneficial. We will change the books weekly and ask that the child rereads the reading book daily to develop fluency and comprehension. If you feel that your child would enjoy further challenge or variety, the oxford owl website offers many of the books that we have at school, for free online, in ebook format.

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school and a healthy snack can be brought for morning break time.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Jones and Mrs Roberts