



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. I look forward to teaching your child this year. Here are the exciting topics and subjects we will be covering during the autumn term.

CbIDS (Consciousness-based Interdisciplinary Studies)

Consciousness-based Interdisciplinary Studies is at the heart of all of our lessons and this helps to nurture each individual's potential, creativity and understanding of the world. This term our CbIDS key ideas are;

We are here to enjoy – this will be a key theme throughout the entire curriculum as we strive to deliver exciting and engaging lessons including a weekly Golden Time and our termly trips/workshops.

Action, Reaction, Purification, Problem solving and Fulfilment.

Maths

In maths this term we are covering a range of topics which includes: reading, writing numbers to 100; place value – recognising 10s and 1s; Addition and Subtraction including becoming fluent in number bonds to 10 and 100; Shape including recognising and counting vertices, edges and noting symmetry in both 2D and 3D shapes. There will be an emphasis on using mental strategies also in our daily Maths Mastery sessions. Helping your child to revise the 2, 5 and 10 times-tables will be invaluable.

English

In our English lessons we have begun the year looking at a range of fiction in the fantasy genre to promote imagination and creative exploration of a range of stories. The children are already really enjoying reading and responding to these texts. Our next focus will be non-fiction and looking in

particular at information texts – building fact files to inform and organise. Children will be learning how to add more detail to their sentences through expanded noun phrases.

Our poetry unit this term will focus on classic poetry; reviewing, learning and celebrating the poems of Edward Lear.

Our second fiction unit explores the children's well being through wishes, dreams and feelings. It's a very creative unit incorporating painting and drawing, singing and dancing and other expressive art forms.

Our final non fiction unit of the term is Letters and Postcards. We look at the structure of letters and how to write persuasively including writing a letter to Father Christmas.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be a focus through our English work. We have spelling tests every Wednesday, words of which are a combination of common exception words, key vocabulary covered in class and the Year 2 statutory spellings. We will work on sentence structure throughout the term and build upon existing knowledge of punctuation. We also use Alan Peat sentence types to enable the children to develop a deeper knowledge of different sentence structures.

Children have daily phonics lessons covering all of Phase 5's phonemes and spellings in a range of interactive and consolidating activities.

Science

This term our topic is Animals Including Humans; the children explore; life cycles, animal groups (mammals, reptiles, fish etc), animal diets (herbivore, omnivore, carnivore) including their own diets and what they need for a balanced diet, and much more.

History – Autumn 1

Our current history topic is Lively Liverpool. Children will be exploring the history of music since World War II to present day and how The Beatles influenced a change in global music. They also explore some of Liverpool's most famous landmarks accumulating in an exciting trip to The Museum of Liverpool and The Beatles Story.

Geography – Autumn 2

In geography, the children will be learning about villages, towns and cities. We conduct a local study on our surrounding villages and towns and learn to note the features that make up and define each of these settlements.

Art – Autumn 1

Art and DT will be taught this year by Mrs Painter-Chapman (Mrs P.C) during my planning, preparation and assessment time on a Thursday morning.

This half term the children will be introduced to the idea that often artists are collectors and explorers. We have looked at the work of various artists that find inspiration for artwork from their environment, particularly the land artist Andy Goldsworthy. The children will be inspired by his work and create their own amazing land art by collecting natural objects from the playground and eco garden. This is followed up by careful observational drawings of their finished land art sculptures. The children are also introduced to wax resist techniques inspired by the rich colours and shapes of autumn leaves. We will finish by experimenting and exploring mono printing using different mediums for this project.

DT – Autumn 2 –Mechanisms, wheels and axles

The children will design, develop, and communicate their ideas through drawings and mock ups. Following their designs they will then use construction kits with wheels and axles to produce a product that moves. They will then evaluate their finished product against the original criteria.

Computing

We begin every half term with an online safety lesson and the children sign a computing promise at the start of the year, promising to always be respectful, kind and careful when using IT.

Autumn 1 – Computing systems and Networks – IT around us – How is information technology (IT) being used for good in our lives? With an initial focus on IT in the home, the children explore how IT benefits society in places such as shops, libraries, and hospitals. Whilst discussing the responsible use of technology, and how to make smart choices when using it.

Autumn 2 – Creating media – Digital photography – The children will learn to recognise that different devices can be used to capture photographs and will gain experience capturing, editing, and improving photos. Finally, they will use this knowledge to recognise that images they see may not be real.

Music – Autumn 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. Music has a pulse, a steady beat, music is also made up of long and short and high and low sounds, called 'rhythm' and 'pitch'. These elements combine when we sing and play. As we listen to, sing, play and dance to the music in this unit, we explore these elements of music and how they work together.

Religious Education – Autumn 2

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 Christian beliefs, learning about Jesus, how we treat the world and why that is important, Christmas and what worship means.

Other important information

P.E this year will be on Monday's. The first half term will be on the school premises and off site in autumn 2.

I will set homework on a Friday and the children will be expected to complete and return the work by the following Thursday. Golden time will be used to complete homework if not handed in, this is so that I can sit with the children to ensure comprehension and offer support if needed. Home work will always be revision/consolidation of what is being covered in class and will at times be differentiated depending on the target areas of each child's needs.

Please remember to return plastic wallets with reading books every day. I can't stress the importance at this stage of their learning, that your child reads at home every day. Reading for just five minutes a day can rapidly improve your child's exposure to vocabulary, aid comprehension and support their development.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Lunn, Mrs P.C, Mrs Newton and Bell