



Autumn Term 2023

Welcome back

We hope you had a wonderful summer break. The students have returned to school with an incredible amount of enthusiasm, setting the stage for an exciting year of learning ahead. This year we have a fantastic addition to our team to introduce, Mr. Pearson, a dedicated student teacher. He'll be working with us on Mondays and Tuesdays until October half term, and then he'll be with us full-time for the second half of the Autumn term. We are confident that both parents and students will warmly welcome him into our school community.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Your involvement is crucial as we strive for excellence together.

With Kind Regards

Mrs. Wilson and Miss Wood

Religious Education

We continue to follow the RE scheme, 'Come and See'. The three topics that the children will be learning about this term are:

- **Loving**

- **Vocation and Commitment**

- **Expectations**

We will explore the theme of 'Belongings and Values when we learn more about Judaism

A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet has also been sent home this week.



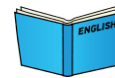
Mathematics



This term we are going to focus on the development and understanding of calculating using different mathematical structures, explore place value of numbers up to 10,000, 000, including the reading of scales and measures and draw, compose and decompose shapes. We are aiming to acquire a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of the subject therefore the children will use concrete materials, pictorial representations and abstract concepts in lessons. This will help the children better understand the relationship between numbers and the real world, and therefore helps secure their understanding of the mathematical concept they are learning.

The children will also continue to develop their fluency skills through a daily fluency session. This will focus on the development of quick and effective strategies and develop quick recall of number facts. As always children are encouraged to practise their times tables and other skills such as telling the time at home.

Pupils should be accessing Times Table Rockstars at home regularly to assist them with their speed and accuracy in this area.



English



This term our class novels are, "Pig Heart Boy" by Malorie Blackman, "The Boy at The Back of The Class" by Onjali Rauf and "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. We will explore these novels in depth in our guided reading sessions focusing on the many themes and issues that arise. The development of our reading skills will be at the core of all lessons, not just in English, as we aim to develop the children's vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills. Daily reading is still very important, and we encourage the children to try to read at home for at least ten minutes each school day. Reading Plus is an excellent online resource that will support your child in developing their reading comprehension skills. The children will be given their login details for this, so should try to access this regularly. Our writing this term will link to both our class novel and our work in other subject areas. The children will have the opportunity to write short stories, persuasive texts, non-chronological reports, descriptions and diaries.

This term we will be continuing our work on the Upper Key Stage 2 spelling list, focussing on different rules and strategies for unknown words.

On a Monday the children are given a list of words to learn and they are tested on these the following Monday. We explore the spellings in class throughout the week, looking at spelling rules, the definitions of words and using them correctly and in context in their writing. They can access activities linked to the spellings on Spelling Shed.

Handwriting remains a top priority for Year 6. This term we aim to present all of our written work using a cursive hand writing script.

Mental Health and Well-Being

We understand the importance of Mental Health and Well-Being and this will remain a key focus. The children will engage in mindfulness activities and our Personal, Social and Health programme will further support the children's development in this area.

PE

Our PE sessions will be led by Mrs Tattersdill on a Wednesday morning. The children should come to school wearing their PE kit on a Wednesday. Our 'My Personal Best' word is **encouragement**. We will be looking at how to be a positive role model, how to inspire others, how to offer practical solutions and help, and how to identify challenges for others. For our physical skills we begin the term working on running, looking at how to change pace when running over different distances. Invasion games will focus on defending and attacking skills. We will look at how to lose a defender and how to improve our skills to gain possession, how to track an opponent and how to create and use space. In dance we will work on body strength and coordination creating longer and more challenging dances.

Computing

In computing, the children will explore coding, look at the use of spreadsheets and look in depth at Internet Safety, this is extremely important and also a thread that runs through every lesson that involves the use of computers or tablets. Computing will be used in other subject areas and the children will develop word processing skills and explore PowerPoint and Excel.

Music

Tees Valley Music Service will continue to teach the children music this term where they will learn more about standard notation and continue to develop their recorder skills.

Personal, Social and Health Education

We will be exploring the topic 'Keeping Safe'. Here we will look at peer pressure and dangers of risk-taking behaviour. We will also be involved in an online workshop called Crucial Crew. This is delivered and put together by Stockton Borough Council, RNLI, Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire Service.

French

We will continue to have a weekly French lesson with Madame Sonley from Lingotots, where the children will learn more about the French language and culture. This term they will look at time, places and routines.

Science

This half-term the children will be learning about Animals including humans. This topic involves learning about the human circulatory system, the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood. It also includes learning about the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. The children will also describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals including humans. In the second half term we will start the topic on Electricity, and this will continue into the Spring term. Here we will explore creating simple series circuits, using symbols and exploring the reasons for variations in how components function in a circuit.

History

This term the children will be learning more about the Changing Power of the Monarchy. Here we will explore how styles of monarchy have changed over time, understanding the terms absolute and constitutional monarchy. Children will understand the significant events that influenced this change, placing them on a timeline.

Geography

Later in the term, we will study the Japanese Tsunami of 2011. We will look into the cause, effects and response to understand how physical processes can have a dramatic and devastating effect on human populations.

Art and Design

This term our Art and Design work will link to our History and Geography units. We will study Holbine and Giuseppe Arcimboldo, looking closely at their alternative approach to portraits before using it as inspiration for our own work. Later in the term we will explore the use of texture in art which will include looking at painting techniques, collage and sculpture. We will produce an electrical game using our knowledge learnt in science.

Homework

Homework will be given out each Wednesday. Children will be assigned tasks that link to retrieval of learning in Maths and English. This should be completed and handed in for Tuesday each week. All children should also try to read for at least ten minutes every school day. Spellings will be given out on a Wednesday with their homework and the children will have a mini quiz on them each Tuesday.