



## Welcome Back!

I hope you had a lovely Christmas break with your family and friends. The children have all settled well back into school. We have a busy, but exciting term ahead of us. Please can children be sent to school with a coat. With the drop in temperature, it is important they stay warm at break and lunch times.

## Reading

All children have a reading book to take home and bring back to school every day. It is important that your child reads at home for at least ten minutes every day and a few times a week out loud to an adult. Reading with your children will help them with their fluency and expression as well as aiding their understanding of new vocabulary. It is also important to question and discuss the book with your child to support understanding. As you listen to your child read, please record any comments in their reading record as well as any comments that they have about the book.

Once they have finished reading the book, please encourage your child to change it when they walk into school. Children who read five times a week will receive a house point.

We also have a class book which I try and read every day.

## English

This term, our non-fiction focus is a wonderful picture book called ‘The Rabbits’. The book is full of symbolism which we will be exploring. As the term develops, pupils will be taught how to use relative phrases, parenthesis and various adverbials, whilst also recapping speech and expanding noun phrases from last term. As well as this, they will be learning a range of spelling patterns e.g. silent letters, tricky suffixes and homophones. Guided reading sessions will continue to take place each week, to provide closer support in developing the children’s comprehension skills with a particular focus this term on predicting what might happen next from implied information and discuss the meaning of new words in the context that they are written.

## Mathematics

This term, the children will be learning fractions and decimals. We will begin by introducing simple fractions from their previous learning then progressing on to mixed fractions and, adding and subtracting within fractions. Once the children have a secure knowledge of fractions we will move onto decimals. Children will continue to practice their times tables every day. This will help form a solid foundation which is applicable throughout the wider maths curriculum. A great way to enhance this is by practicing on Time Table Rockstars little and often.

### Art

This term we will be looking at the work of Chila Kumari Singh Burman with a focus on mixed media and portraiture.

### Science

In science, we are starting our topic of forces and magnets. The children will cover different types of forces, how these affect different objects due to their size and weight. Then moving onto air and water resistance, paying attention to streamline shapes and how this affects its speed.

### Topic

During the next two terms, we will be studying the Victorians. This unit will focus on the fascinating Queen Victoria - her life, family, portraits and homes. In addition, we will learn about major inventions of the period as well as other aspects of the daily lives of Victoria's subjects. Workhouses and child labour are studied through fiction texts. Census data, maps and buildings will provide us in developing an understanding of local history.

### Spellings

Children will continue to receive spellings every week to learn at home and in school. Please support your child by helping them to learn their spellings and encourage them to use the words given to them as often as possible. This could be when they are speaking or when they are writing and even when they are outside, using the words to describe, tell or explain what they see. Pupils will be given spellings every Friday and tested on them the following Friday. This will involve some focus words and words from their key word list.

### RE

In terms 3 and 4, we will be starting our 'Galilee to Jerusalem' unit. This will focus on how Jesus would like us to treat others including the story of the Good Samaritan. It is taught through the medium of 'Beattitudes', making deeper links with the ten commandments.

### PSHE

Within PSHE this term, we will be going to be celebrating our differences. Looking at ourselves, finding and identifying what it is that makes us so unique and one of a kind.

### PE

All children are expected to join in with PE as it helps to develop their fine and gross motor skills as well as improving their mental and physical health. In terms three and four PE days are every Tuesday and every Thursday. It is expected that children wear the correct kit for every lesson, which includes: PE top, PE hoodie, black shorts/joggers with trainers or daps. When possible, lessons will be outside with Mr Croucher, focusing on sporting and physical skills, performing and repeating clear movements and shapes. Swimming sessions begin on Tuesdays and children can wear PE kit on these days to allow for easier changing.

### Latin

We will be focusing on verbs within our Latin lessons this term. This will include recapping their previous vocabulary from previous learning.