



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

February 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well the first term of 2015 has been a busy and exciting one, with our Roman visitor and experience day, and preparation for our Design Technology day. There will be a new while school topic theme next term, which is based around the Rudyard Kipling story of The Jungle Book. Each class will have their own specific focuses as before. This theme will be linked across our wider curriculum work and will be the basis for our whole school production at the end of March. We are also looking forward to our Science Day on 19th March, which promises to be as much fun as last year; if not more.

MAIN LEARNING THEME – ‘Jungle Book’

In our new topic, the children will be exploring how characters develop through the story and how the animals take on human-like characteristics in the film adaptation. The theme will be linked across our science, art, PE, music, French, computing and extended writing work. Religious Education will continue to be taught using the new Peterborough Guidelines.

Areas of study for the second half of the spring term will include:

- The roles of people in different communities;
- Habitats and food chains of animals, including humans;
- Presenting the weather as a meteorologist;
- How to use Dance to show events and emotions;
- How seating can make a difference to how someone feels/acts;
- How can animals and humans learn from each other.

KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:

Jungle, habitat, conditions, characteristics, organisms, adaptation, classify, vertebrates, invertebrates, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, key, personification, positive, negative, threats, effects, envy, community, importance, acceptance, role, responsibility, diversity, indigenous, rainforest.

MATHS

The main objectives are as follows: number; mental and written calculations; measurements. We will be continuing our focus on mental maths and times tables. We will be working on **place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; measuring mass/weight**. The children will also learn to apply these to written problems and real life situations. Children across school will also continue to work regularly in small groups on our Assertive Mentoring programme.

ENGLISH

The Read, Write Inc Literacy and Language programme has continued to be a great success through the school, and the children are enjoying this learning strategy immensely. The partner work and focused vocabulary have helped to embed skills learnt in previous years and develop their comprehension and writing skills further. Next term, we will be studying **a playscript set in Vietnam** and **evaluating evidence**. Some home reading that would support this could be ‘Children of the Dragon: Selected Tales from Vietnam’ – Sheery Garland and Trina Schart Hyman; ‘Stories from Around the World’ – Heather Amery and Linda Edwards; ‘Illustrated Stories from Grimm’ – Ruth Brocklehurst, Gill Doherty and Raffaella Ligi; ‘Brothers Grimm Folk Tales’ – The Brothers Grimm, Michael Foreman and Brian Alderson; any children’s newspaper or magazine.



TRIPS

Due to the whole school performance next term, we will not be organising another trip for year 4, however we are looking into a possible whole school event at the end of term which will be linked to the whole school learning theme. Next term, after Easter, we are hoping to get a local police officer come into school to talk to the children about crime, and how the legal system works in our community.

PE

Children will continue to partake in two hours of PE each week. Please remind your child that they should bring their PE kit into school on a Monday, **leave it in school all week** then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school.

This should consist of:

- Plain White Top
- Black or Grey shorts
- Black or Grey long bottoms for the colder weather
- Long sleeved top for the colder weather
- Spare White Socks
- Plimsolls/Trainers
- Gloves and hat for the cold months

Can we remind you that school rules state that, for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. Could you please ensure that **all** kit is **named** clearly and are checked on a regular basis when written onto labels.

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

As a change to previously advertised, due to the weather, we decided to have a Design Technology day where parents/carers can come into school and help the children create their own money carrier. This will be held in the first week back after the February break. In addition to the whole school performance at the end of March, there will also be a Year 3 and 4 Easter show for family members to enjoy in the last week of term. After Easter we will be holding a special assembly for parents/carers to enjoy based on our learning theme for that term.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive another termly POWER project which will be given out on the first Wednesday of the term. This has been very successful so far and the children have enjoyed creating their projects very much. These tasks will again enable the children earn POWER points. The children can choose from a variety of projects using differing media and interest levels. These activities are not compulsory, but are a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child; the more creative the better!

In addition to this, every Wednesday the children will be given two other tasks of literacy, maths or science which are due the following Wednesday, and they will be awarded house points for their efforts on these tasks. This home learning is expected to be completed at home and handed in on time by the due date. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break times. Can you please ensure that your child completes the literacy/maths/science home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

BREAK TIMES

Children may bring in a snack to eat at morning break but it must be a healthy option, and remember that we are a nut free school. Also, a Hot Meal option is available every day for your child's lunch, but it must be paid for in advance using our ParentPay system.

This has been a really cold but fun filled term in year 4 and we are continuing to work together as a class team to make every week enjoyable, and packed with learning successes and adventures. We are very much looking forward to the whole school theme next term, and know that we will have lots of fun on our learning journey together.

Yours sincerely

Miss Miller
Class Teacher

Mrs Dunkley
TA

Mrs Sansby
TA

Mrs Brittan
TA

Mrs Woods
TA

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

