

Dempsey Class Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Easter break! I would like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying, as well as the day to day routines and procedures.

As you are aware, for the first half of this term we will be focusing on SATs revision. All homework and study tasks need to be completed on time in order to support the learning in class. Please read through the following and share it with your child to ensure the next few weeks are positive and productive.

Revision Tips – using the Study Guides/Revision Books

As a result of our focus upon SATS revision this half term, your child will have short pieces of homework to complete throughout the school week as well as homework for the weekends. We ask for your support in ensuring that this homework is completed on time, and to the best of your child's ability. You can support your child by checking the quality of their work, encouraging them to stay focused while completing the task and encouraging them to take breaks where appropriate in order to stay relaxed.

Relaxation

Please encourage your child to use the massage and breathing techniques learned in school and please make sure they get plenty of sleep, are not staying up late or watching television before bed. This has a massive impact on the children's ability to focus and concentrate in class. This is particularly important during the week of SATs. They must also bring their water bottle every day.

English and Maths

As I am sure you are aware, your child takes part in English and Maths lessons every day. To assist your child in their development in both these curriculum areas, please give them support and encouragement in reading and practising their times tables/division facts **every day**. Regular mental calculation practice e.g. adding up items whilst shopping; time – duration as well as telling the time and answering sums are all important in supporting your child's confidence with mental calculation. In addition to this, your child has a maths target card with individual targets designed to help extend and improve their mathematical skills and confidence. Please support your child by working through their targets on a regular basis and encouraging them to utilise the online Mathematics revision programme at home using their personal log in to give them access to maths revision activities specifically set by myself to support your child's learning in mathematics.

To help improve your child's reading and comprehension skills, please ensure you listen to them reading **aloud** and question them on the text that they are reading **daily**. We recommend that every child should be reading for at least 30 minutes at home every day.

Science

In Science this half term your child will develop their understanding of light, first taught in Year 3. Through various experiments, investigations and discussions, they will be able: to explain that light appears to travel in straight lines; to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye; to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them. As well as developing your child's scientific understanding, this topic will progress their use of scientific skills in order to work effectively.

RE

In the first half of this half term, your child will be learning about the topic of 'Transformation'. Your child will learn about Pentecost exploring how the spirit of God is active in each person and in a special way in the community of believers that is the Church. They will learn that the Feast of Pentecost is the celebration both of the gift of God's Holy Spirit and the trust God places in people to be witnesses in the world. Later in the half term, your child will study the topic of 'Freedom & Responsibility'. In this topic your child will learn to understand that freedom involves responsibility and they will reflect on God's rules for living freely and responsibly (The Ten Commandments). They will also learn the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in mending our relationships with God and others.

History

In the first half of the summer term your child will learn about 'The Dark Ages' as they study the period when the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings came to Britain. They will develop an understanding of the complexities of this formative period in English history, as they go on a fascinating journey of discovery finding out about the Anglo-Saxon and Viking struggle for the kingdom of England and how England became a unified country. Your child will explore where the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings came from, how they fought for territory and power, and how their fighting ultimately led to the kingdom of England we know today.

DT/Art

In Design Technology your child will be creating giant structures, learning about strength, rigidity, balance and stability in the context of creating an Anglo-Saxon artefact. This unit will be delivered through a workshop in which a specialist in large scale sculptures and living willow models will work with the children over the course of two days to create sculptures based upon our History unit of Anglo-Saxons. Your child will develop skills and understanding to help them create these sculptures; these skills include measuring, marking, cutting and folding accurately.

PSHE

This term in PSHE your child will be learning about the need to cross roads safely and how to do this with increasing awareness. They will also be learning: about what it means to be emotionally healthy; how to effectively communicate feelings and emotions; to be aware of different emotional situations and how to manage themselves appropriately during these situations.

PE

In outdoor PE your child will develop their team-building and problem solving skills in Outdoor Adventure. Furthermore they will of course be developing and adapting their skills for the various techniques and disciplines in Athletics ready for Sports Day. Your child will develop their speed, accuracy and throwing skills for height or distance based on the discipline being improved. They will learn how to listen to and give coaching points, and develop an understanding of why this is important in all sports.

Your child has P.E. every **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. Please ensure they have their full **Indoor** and **Outdoor PE kits** for all lessons.

In addition, your child will have the opportunity to partake in extra PE sessions, every other half term, with our sports coach David Dines on **Friday**. The other half term they will continue to participate in music sessions with Mr Dixon.

Finally, it would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that your child brings their school water bottle into school every day, with their name clearly marked on it. If your child does not have a school water bottle, they are available from the school office for £1.50. Please ensure any money that is sent into school is enclosed in a school money pocket and detailed with the necessary information. Money pockets can be purchased from the school reception also.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me after school.

Mr Law
Dempsey Class Teacher