

# McAuley Class Spring Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your cards, presents and good wishes. I would also like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying this half term, as well as the day to day routines and procedures.

## **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 **every day**. The children will be tested on their times tables on a weekly basis to support their progress with this important part of their learning. 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 with them on a regular basis. We recommend that your child uses Mathletics to support their learning in area.

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**. Additionally, written responses to texts should be made in your child's reading journal on a **weekly** basis, along with any comments you may have about their reading. Please refer to the 'Ideas for writing Journal Entries' at the front of your child's reading journal to inspire your child to write creative and varied journal entries.

Finally, please support your child with any homework that they receive to consolidate their learning in class by monitoring their progress in completing their work and ensuring that it is returned to school at the correct time.

## **Homework Timetable**

Monday: All homework is returned to school

Tuesday: Reading Journals are returned to school. New spellings and spelling sentences books are sent home

Thursday: New homework is sent home

## **Science**

Your child will be learning about Electricity. This unit gives children practical experiences of making simple circuits and develops their understanding of how circuits, conductors and insulators work. Through hands-on experiences, children will learn that a circuit needs to be complete in order for it to work and discover how to break a circuit with switches. They will also learn which materials make good insulators and which are good conductors. In addition, they will learn about the importance of using electricity safely.

## **RE**

This term your child will be studying the topics *Community* and *Giving and Receiving*. In the topic of *Community*, your child will explore what a community is and the difference that belonging to a community can make to the lives of individuals. In addition, your child will learn about the parish community and some of the times in which we join together for celebration and worship and their own responsibilities as members of this community to spread God's love amongst others.

During the topic of *Giving and Receiving*, children explore why giving is as important as receiving, as well as understanding both the joys and demands of this. The topic develops to include why it is important to live and grow in communion and how the Eucharist enables this. They will learn about the different elements of mass – the Introductory Rite, Communion Rite and the Concluding Rite - and how giving and receiving is enabled through the different parts of the service.

### **History**

In History, your child will be learning about The Romans. In this unit, the children are introduced to the idea that people from other societies have been coming to settle in Britain for a long time. They consider the effects of the invasion and settlement of the Romans on Britain. During this topic, the children will be learning about different aspects of Roman life, the Celts, Boudicca and the Roman army. They will even create their own Roman shield and make some of the famous Roman army formations!

### **Art/DT**

During Art this half-term, your child will be exploring sculpture. They will be studying a range of existing sculptures and discuss what purpose they have and how they affect their surrounding environment. Your child will then be taking a closer look at some sculptures when they go on a walk of our local area. Towards the end of the half-term, your child will be designing and creating their own WW1 themed sculptures which links to their recent learning about WW1.

### **Computing**

In Computing this term your child will be creating their own opinion polls, seeking responses and then presenting and analysing the results. They will explore different elements of survey design, collection data and use charts to present, analyse and understand their results.

### **PE**

Your child has P.E every **Monday** and **Tuesday**. 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 with our sports coach David Dines on **Friday** on a half termly basis.

In Indoor PE your child will be developing their dance skills. They will learn to perform a dance from a different era (1950s Rock and Roll) by learning simple steps and linking them together to create movement phrases. Throughout the lessons they will practice and improve their dances to develop an increasing awareness of rhythmic, dynamic and expressive qualities. Your child will also learn how to compare their own performances with previous ones and make improvements to achieve their personal best.

In Outdoor PE, your child will be developing their tennis skills. They will practise sending and receiving the ball with the racket and become familiar with some of the different techniques for serving. Your child will practice these skills to enable them take part in extended rallies and begin to explore some of the basic rules for scoring in tennis matches. Please ensure that your child has all the equipment they require for this lesson (as detailed in a previous letter) to enable them to make the most of this opportunity.

### **MFL**

Throughout the year your child has been developing their knowledge and confidence in using the French language. They will continue to build on this during the spring term. They will explore the patterns and sounds of language through simple songs and rhymes. Your child will also begin to develop their pronunciation of familiar words such as greetings, numbers and simple verbs.

**Reminders:** Could you please ensure that your child brings their filled school water bottle into school everyday, 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.

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

Thank you for your support.

Miss Crowther

McAuley Class Teacher