

# 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 Athletics 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 the 'Living Things and their Habitats' unit your child will learn and describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals. Your child will have the opportunity to explore and investigate the living things in the school environment through practical investigation. Your child will learn about the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird and the life process of reproduction in some plants and insects.

## **RE**

In the first half of this half term, your child will be learning about the topic of 'Witnesses'. Your child will learn that it takes courage to be a witness and that courage was sent to the apostles through the Holy Spirit enabling them to witness the Easter message. At the heart of the teaching is the trust God

places in each of us to continue witnessing throughout our everyday actions with the help of the Holy Spirit to guide us; they will reflect upon themselves as modern witnesses to Jesus. Later in the half term, the children will study the topic of 'Healing'. In this topic your child will learn to understand that when people become sick, they need care, reflecting on this as a Christian responsibility. They will also learn the importance of the sacrament - Anointing of the Sick - when people become very ill and how this can heal a person spiritually. This topic will then explore Lourdes as a place of healing for millions of people every year.

### History

In the first half of the summer term your child will learn about 'The Ancient Greeks'. They will begin by studying the location, climate and terrain of Greece and where to place the Ancient Greek civilisation in time in relation to other major historical events. Our topic will then progress to explore the political ideologies that emerged from Ancient Greece and how Ancient Greek inventions and culture has had an impact upon the world today.

### DT/Art

In our art topic, 'Containers' your child will be learning about a variety of different functional designs for containers and how containers are used in many different ways across the world. They will use a variety of methods and approaches to communicate their ideas, and to design their own geometric and repetitive patterns upon the outside of their containers. Your child will investigate the visual and tactile qualities of materials and then have the opportunity to design and create their very own container. Throughout the topic your child will be encouraged to reflect upon the effectiveness of their approach and processes and to analyse what they could improve based upon the effectiveness of their work.

### Computing

In computing this half term your child will learn about the importance of online safety including: how to use search engines safely; conducting themselves appropriately when using social media and what to do if they have concerns about any issues that arise from use of the internet.

### MFL

In Modern Foreign Languages this half term, your child will be learning how to order food in a French café, building up to a role play session in which children will take on different personas, such as a grumpy customer and flustered waiter. The gender of nouns – and how that affects constructions such as *au* and *à la* – will be a subject of renewed focus, as will conjugating the verb *avoir* (to have) in various present-tense forms. The perfect tense – such as 'I ate', 'I drank' – will also feature as part of our lessons this half term.

### PSHE

This half term in PSHE your child will be learning 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 striking skills in Cricket. They will learn and develop sport skills such as throwing and catching, striking a ball, bowling, fielding skills and tactical awareness. 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 help to improve others around them understanding 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. As it is the summer term your child will be focusing on Outdoor games including preparation for the Annual Sports Day!

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 Hoyes  
Dempsey Class Teacher