



# Baptist Class

## Curriculum Newsletter

### Autumn Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great summer break!

This year your child is in Jerome Class and will be taught by Mrs Taggart, and the class teaching assistants will be Mrs Soutter and Mrs Cook.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the class routines and the topics your child will be learning about this half term.

#### **English**

In English, your child will work on writing correctly punctuated sentences within a range of different text types. Throughout the term we will cover stories with familiar settings and investigate different forms of poetry. Your child will continue to develop their phonic knowledge to enable them to identify letter sounds and apply these when reading and spelling new words. They will continue to practise their handwriting skills in order to ensure their letters are formed correctly to help them develop a fluid, joined style.

#### **Maths**

In maths your child will continue to develop their understanding of place value, number and counting strategies. Your child will also develop their confidence with addition, working with more efficient strategies to calculate an increasing range of number. With all of our maths concepts, we provide your child with opportunities to apply these strategies to word problems and different real life situations. In addition to daily maths lessons, your child will take part in guided maths sessions where they will work with the class teacher in small groups.

#### **RE**

During RE this term, your child will learn about families. In this topic, your child will reflect upon the special people in their own family, learn about God's love and care for every family and will find out what Jesus' family was like. Additionally, your child will be learning about Judaism. Your child will learn about the story of Abraham and Moses and discover why these people are important to this faith. As well as this they will find out many facts about the religion.

#### **Science**

In Science this half term your child will be developing their knowledge of animals, including humans. Your child will learn how to sort and classify animals using different methods, while learning about animal types, animal structures and animal eating habits. Also, your child will start to develop their knowledge of seasonal change through careful observation of the world around them.

## **History**

In history this term your child will learn about the impact that Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole had on hospitals and nursing during the Crimean War. Your child will also develop their enquiry skills, comparing and contrasting conditions in the hospitals of the period.

## **Computing**

In Computing this half term your child will develop their coding skills, learning about how to program and debug simple algorithms, (or step by step instructions) in variety of on-line or real-life situations. Your child will also learn to recognise that the values of perseverance, team-work and systematic working are vital to successful coding.

## **DT**

In Design and Technology, your child will be designing and making their own fruit salad. They will learn about a variety of healthy fruits and explore their texture and taste. They will develop their chopping skills and learn about the health and safety issues involved handling, preparing and tasting fruit.

## **PE**

This half term your child's indoor PE sessions will focus on Yoga. Your child will develop their balance, agility and co-ordination and will apply these in a range of activities both individually and with other.

During outdoor lessons, your child will develop their gross motor skills and hand and eye co-ordination through throwing, catching and receiving different equipment before applying these skills in netball games.

Your child will have indoor PE on Mondays and outdoor PE on Wednesdays. PE kits should contain tracksuit tops and bottoms, shorts, t-shirts and trainers (please ensure girls have additional socks, as they cannot take part in tights). PE kits should be brought in on a Monday and remain in school all week (please ensure that kits and the rest of their uniform is clearly marked with your child's name). We would appreciate it if you help your child practice tying their ties and laces as this encourages their independence when changing in school!

## **PSHE**

In PSHE, the children will learn about how to stay safe when using the internet, how to be organised for school and the importance of having rules in our lives. They will also have the opportunity to participate in school council activities, as well as undertake a fun massage programme (see details in separate letter).

In addition to these subjects, your child will also have an opportunity to develop his/her speaking and listening skills and their social skills on a regular basis.

## **Music**

Your child will take part in weekly music lessons with our specialist music teacher, Mr Dixon. This half term your child will be learning about the identification of sound sources and recognising differences in pitch.

## **Homework**

Your child will receive Maths and English homework each Thursday so that you have an opportunity to look over it with them and ask questions on Friday, if there is anything they do not understand. Homework is always linked to the work that has been carried out in class and provides your child with a valuable opportunity to share and consolidate the learning that has taken place in school. Your child's homework will be stuck in their homework book and this book should be returned to school on Monday mornings. Thank you for your support in this area, particularly with helping your child recognise and build on their feedback each week.

## **Spellings**

Spelling lists will be given out each Tuesday and should be learnt throughout the week for a spelling test on the following Monday. Your child should practise their spellings every day to ensure they have committed them to memory and can apply them in their writing. We will be teaching your child different spelling strategies in school which they can apply at home. Each day, a column of their spelling list should be completed to ensure your child is regularly practising their spelling skills.

## **Homework Timetable**

Tuesday: Spellings sent home

Thursday: Homework sent home

Monday: All homework is returned

## **Reading**

Your child has been provided with a reading book and we aim to hear your child read twice a week, and change their books on a weekly basis. To facilitate this, please ensure your child's reading book and reading record are brought to school in their book bag every day. It is very important that you hear your child read out loud each day and ask questions about their book to check their understanding. It is also very beneficial to your child's reading development to read out loud to your child regularly. Their school reading book should be read more than once to ensure they cannot only read the words but most importantly, understand what it is about. Please remember to record a comment in your child's reading record each time they are read with; comments can be written about school books read or books read from home. We encourage children to read books from home and the library in addition to those sent from school, to broaden their reading experience, and it's lovely to see this recorded in their reading record.

In addition to this, your child will also take part in guided reading sessions where they will have an opportunity to read and discuss a range of interesting texts with their peers and the teacher, to develop their knowledge of reading strategies and to promote a love of reading.

## **Uniform**

We consider water bottles a part of school uniform and something that is vitally important to help keep children's brains hydrated to help them concentrate so they can be effective in their learning. Water bottles can be purchased from the school reception for £1.50. Please send your child to school with a full water bottle (containing only water) every day and ensure these and all items of your child's uniform are clearly labelled with their name. This will ensure they can be easily recovered if lost and minimise the cost of replacement.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter; or any other matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available at the end of the day to answer quick questions, however appointments can be made via the school office to discuss any more lengthy matters.

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Mrs Taggart

(Baptist Class Teacher)