



Jerome Class

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great half term break!

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, with a particular focus on the use of carefully chosen adjectives and adverbs to create more exciting sentences such as *'The delicate, orange leaf danced wildly in the wind'*. Throughout the term your child will develop their understanding of the use of description within a story and investigate poetry on a common theme. 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 build on their work on place value and counting by applying this understanding to addition and subtraction. Initially your child will work on mental methods of addition by counting on, before starting to use informal drawings which will develop into more formal written methods of addition- this progression matches the "Year 1 and 2 Calculation Booklet" that was given out on Targets Setting Evening to help you to support your children's learning. If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of their maths, please do not hesitate to ask us! In due course, we will then move towards subtraction, again following the progression detailed in the "Year 1 and 2 Calculation Booklet". Finally, your child will begin to explore and develop their times tables knowledge, linking these with their corresponding division facts. 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 Baptism through the topic 'belonging'. In this topic, your child will reflect upon the groups which they are a part of and what makes these special, then learn about how God welcomes us into his family through the Sacrament of Baptism. As we move towards Christmas, your child will be preparing for the Nativity play and recognising how Advent is a special time to look forward to and prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Your child will also learn more about The Annunciation and The Visitation.

Science

During this half term your child will be starting to explore electricity and its uses in school and the wider world. This unit gives your child practical experiences of making simple circuits and develops their understanding of how circuits work. Your child will also learn about the importance of using electricity safely. In addition, they will also develop their scientific skills such as observation, predicting and recording.

Geography

In Geography your child will be developing their understanding of their local area, learning skills such as map making and how to use directional language like near, far, east and west. Your child will also be learning about the differences between physical and human features and developing their understanding of the geography of the United Kingdom.

Computing

In Computing this half term your child will continue to develop their coding skills as they learn about repeated instructions or “loops”. Your child will use both real life “unplugged” activities and online coding activities to improve their understanding and use of this vital coding skill. Your child will also continue to develop their perseverance, team-work and systematic working as their knowledge increases.

Art

Your child will explore how the journey of the Nativity is depicted through the work of the artist Kate Cosgrove, and use this as inspiration to create their own artistic journeys using different print techniques such as finger, sponge and potato printing!

PE

During this term pupils will be exploring a range of dance moves and linking these to create their own short dance phrases. Children will be exploring telling a story through dance through different themes. One of our themes is ‘contrasts’ so we will include movements that contrast in height, speed, direction and style, e.g. flowing movements contrasted with short, jerky moves.

In outdoor PE, your child will continue to develop their gross motor and hand- eye co-ordination in our new topic of football. In this topic, your child will learn simple tactics, passing and dribbling, building up to a simple football game where they will put all their new skills into practise.

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, your child will learn about bonfire night and how to keep safe, as well as discovering how to avoid catching the flu and what good table manners are. They will also have the opportunity to participate in school council and green team activities as well as continue a fun massage programme. 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 through directed activities at a variety of points in the term.

Music

Your child will take part in weekly music lessons with our specialist music teacher, Mr Dixon. This half term your child will be continuing to learn about the identification of sound sources and recognising differences in pitch, while also working hard on the preparations for the upcoming Nativity performance!

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 you 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. In addition to this, your child will receive a new purple “Spelling Sentences Book” which will be given out every Wednesday ready to be returned on a Monday. Please see the accompanying letter for more detail! 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 Sheet sent home

Wednesday: Spelling Sentences Book 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 at home; 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. Furthermore, as the cold weather approaches, we ask that if gloves, hats and scarves are being worn that these too are labelled clearly with your child's name to help avoid mix ups! These additional items should be blue, black or grey as far as is possible, in line with our school uniform policy.

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,

Mr Coffey

(Jerome Class Teacher)