

Felton Class Spring Newsletter



Dear Parents/ Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year! We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your cards, presents and good wishes. We 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 we are 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 this 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.

RE – Journeys

In the topic of Journeys, your child will think about the journey they make in a year; the challenges we face and overcome and how Jesus is with us throughout the ups and downs of our journey. Your child will learn about the pattern of the feasts of the Church's liturgical year and how they enable us to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

Science

During this half term your child will be studying Rocks. In this unit, they will learn how to distinguish between and group together different types of rocks. In addition, they will learn about how soils are made from rocks and organic matter and how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. We will also have a 'Rocking Around Britain' workshop run by Horton Kirby.

History

This term your child will be studying Ancient Egypt. Throughout this topic your child will develop their understanding of Ancient Egyptian chronology from the origins of the Egyptian empire to its fall. Furthermore, they will learn about the role of religion and mythology in Ancient Egyptian society; the hierarchical nature of Egyptian society; the life and death of Tutankhamun; where, how and why the Egyptians built the pyramids and how the Ancient Egyptians used hieroglyphs to record information. In addition, your child will develop their key historical enquiry skills as they explore a range of primary and secondary sources to build their knowledge of what life was like in Ancient Egypt.

DT

In DT your child will learn about pastry and they will be making traditional jam tarts from scratch! This activity will highlight the differences between home-made and commercially produced food products. Your child will explore the ingredients used, nutritional values and packaging. Afterwards they will discuss ideas for pastry constructions and finally, design and make new pastry products to satisfy identified consumers, including packaging. We will ensure they get to take some home!

Computing

Computing this half term will focus on producing digital music for a given purpose. Your child will use the software programme 'Isle of Tune' to compose, produce and edit their own electronic musical compositions. They will refine their ideas through reflection and discussion while also developing their collaboration skills as they work in small groups to compose their pieces.

PE

Your child has outdoor P.E every **Monday**. Please ensure they have their full **PE** kits (including tracksuits) for all lessons and all items are clearly labelled with your child's full name. In addition, your child will have the opportunity to partake in extra PE sessions with our sports coach David Dines every other half term on a **Friday**.

Indoor PE we will focus on balancing and stretching. Your child will be learning yoga which is an ancient form of exercise that focuses on strength, flexibility and breathing to boost physical and mental wellbeing. The main components of yoga are postures (a series of movements designed to increase strength and flexibility) and breathing. Yoga improves balance by strengthening your lower body, in particular your ankles and knees, thereby reducing your chances of falling.

The children will also be partaking in swimming lessons every **Monday** for the duration of the term. 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.

Your child will also continue to take part in music lessons on **Fridays** with Mr Dixon (every other half term) where they will learn to use their voices to sing expressively and experiment with instruments to create and combine sounds.

MFL

In French this term, your child will be learning about 'Fait la-fete' (celebrations). They will be learning about French language associated with birthdays, New Year and months of the year. They will listen to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding to stories, songs and participating in vocabulary building games.

PSHE

In PSHE your child will have the opportunity to reflect upon their own New Year's Resolutions for 2019; to suggest ideas to improve our school environment through the Green Team and School Council, and will learn about the importance of trust as part of friendships. Finally, as part of their computing work, your child will learn about the importance of e-safety and how to stay safe online.

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 us after school.

Thank you for your support.

Mr Hoyes
Felton Class Teacher