



# Elizabeth Class

## Curriculum Newsletter

### Spring Term 2

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a peaceful break; I 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 the context of writing instructions, investigating the text and sentence features of this form of writing, before creating their own. Following this your child will be learning about poetry, beginning with our exciting poetry based 'Book Week' and, of course, decide on a costume inspired by a poem or poet for our 'World Book Day' celebrations on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March! Through their learning on poetry, your child will investigate different word classes, discover how suffixes can alter word meaning, explore rhyme and perform poems as a group. Your child will also develop their understanding of traditional tales through Jack and the Beanstalk, inspired by their gardening work in their 'Plants' science topic. In addition, 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. This term they will be focusing specifically on learning alternative ways which different sounds can be spelled e.g. light, polite, tried all contain the 'i' sound. They will also 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 math's your child will be developing their understanding of fractions, beginning initially with learning about fractions of shape, before moving onto fractions of numbers. Your child will then begin to apply their prior learning from the four operations and word problems through the context of measures; learning how to read scales and apply their learning to real-life problems. Alongside this, your child will continue to explore and develop their times tables knowledge, further recognising the links 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. If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of their maths, please do not hesitate to ask us! 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**

As we begin Lent, your child will receive their ashes and make a Lenten promise. We will learn about Jesus' final week and reflect on good and bad choices we make in our own lives through our topic 'change'. The children will reflect on their understanding of forgiveness, before developing their understanding of the events of Holy Week such as Palm Sunday and their significance in the practices of Christians today. As well as this, your child will be learning about Muhammad and his significance to Muslims through the context of different stories.

#### **Science**

In science this half term, your child will be learning about plants and trees. Your child will learn to identify a variety of common plants and trees, explore their structure and explore how seeds grow over time and in different conditions. Your child will also develop their observational skills through recording, measuring and testing.

#### **Geography**

In geography this term, your child will be learning about the seven continents and five oceans of the world. Your child will build on their map and compass skills from the autumn term as they research the different parts of the

world such as China on the continent of Asia and Brazil in South America through a variety of contexts such as food, traditional dress, fun facts, animals and plants!

### **Computing**

In computing this term, your child will be using technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content through collecting images from image servers to support their learning in their geography topic 'Seven Continents and Five Oceans'. Your child will also continue to develop their understanding of how to use technology safely and respectfully within the context of these lessons.

### **Art**

In art, your child will look at the work of various artists who have created self-portraits. They will develop their observational and drawing skills to sketch their own self portrait and then use painting techniques such as dotting and long strokes to complete their sketch.

### **PE**

During indoor PE your child will develop their take-off, jumps and landings skills to develop increased confidence and co-ordination. They will also learn to work as a team by critiquing and suggesting improvements to each other's techniques while acknowledging successes.

In outdoor PE, your child will be learning a variety of skills to help them play tennis such as striking the ball accurately with a racket and hitting the ball to return it to a partner, as well as improving their game tactics.

Your child will have indoor PE on Mondays and outdoor PE on Tuesdays. 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**

This half term, your child will find out different ways to be healthy and learn about the different people that are there to help us in emergencies.

### **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 different ways sounds and sequences of sounds can be created, while recognising differences in the length of the sounds being played. Your child will also continue to develop their understanding of movement to music throughout this term.

### **Homework**

Your child will receive 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. Your child will continue to receive their purple "Spelling Sentences Book" which will be given out every Wednesday, ready to be returned on a Monday. 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 navy 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,

Miss Crowther

(Elizabeth Class Teacher)