



# Elizabeth Class

## Curriculum Letter

### Autumn 2

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We 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.

#### **Routines**

##### 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 that week. 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. Additional information about this part of your child's homework has been included in their spelling sentence book this 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 everyday to ensure they have committed them to memory and can apply them in their writing.

##### Homework Timetable

Tuesday: Spellings sent home  
Wednesday: 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 everyday. It is very important that you hear your child read out loud each day and ask questions about their book to check their understanding. 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,

whether it is their book from school or not. 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 is 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 (selected by the class teacher), with their peers and the teacher, to develop their knowledge of reading strategies and to promote a love of reading.

Your support with reading, spellings and homework is greatly appreciated and I am available, by appointment, or at the end of the day, to answer any questions regarding these matters or to discuss any other questions you may have.

### Uniform

We consider water bottles a part of school uniform and something that is vitally important to help keep children hydrated and help them concentrate so they can be effective in their learning. 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.

### Break times

The Government 'free fruit for schools scheme' is continuing this year and children will be able to eat the fruit provided at both morning and afternoon break times.

*This term your child will be learning the following:*

### **Maths**

In Maths your child will build on their work on place value and counting by applying this understanding to addition and subtraction. Initially, we will work on mental methods of addition by counting on, before starting to use more formal written methods. In due course we will then move on to subtraction, again beginning with mental calculation before tackling written methods.

Please continue to help your child with their math's targets in their math's target cards- these were handed out before the holidays and will be assessed again shortly.

In addition to our daily maths lessons, your child will also take part in guided maths sessions, where they will work with the class teacher in small groups to improve their calculation and problem solving skills.

### **English**

In English your child will begin the half term by exploring the difference between fiction and nonfiction texts. Using our class text, *A Walk in London* as inspiration, we will research and write our own guide book for visitors to our city using exciting language and the grammatical features such as comparative and superlatives to engage our readers.

### **Science**

In science your child will be learning all about "Light and Dark". We will be learning that we need light in order to see and that darkness is the absence of light. We will also be investigating reflective surfaces and how shadows change depending on the light source, as well as how shadows are formed. Throughout the topic your child will be developing their enquiry skills, asking questions, making predictions and developing their understanding of fair testing.

## **Computing**

This half term, your child will continue to learn coding skills, focusing on creating loops in an algorithm to get their characters to repeat actions. They will learn the benefits of using loop structures instead of manual repetition and create a program that draws complex shapes by repeating simple sequences.

## **Geography**

This half term, we will be learning about London and the River Thames, linked to our work in English. Your child will be learning about where the River Thames begins and ends and to use geographical vocabulary to refer to some of its key features. They will use aerial photographs and maps to recognise human and physical features before undertaking some fieldwork to create their own simple maps.

## **PE**

This term our indoor PE sessions will focus on dance. Your child will explore this through the topics of autumn and Christmas, where they will develop skills in: spatial awareness; moving at different speeds and levels; moving in time to music; developing their repertoire of body shapes and exploring characterisation in movement. They will, over the course of the lessons, compose dances both independently and with partners/groups.

In outdoor PE, your child will develop their hand and eye co-ordination through throwing, catching and receiving different equipment, before developing awareness of defence tactics which they will apply in simple, competitive games.

Indoor PE will take place on Mondays and outdoor PE will take place on Tuesdays. The children's PE kits should contain a tracksuit, shorts, t-shirt and trainers. Please note that girls wearing tights should always have socks to change into for their PE session. PE kits should be brought to school on a Monday and remain in school all week (please ensure that your child's PE kit and the rest of their uniform is clearly marked with their name).

## **RE**

This half term, your child will learn about the topic of "Signs and Symbols". In this unit we will explore our own personal experiences of signs and symbols in the world around us, before learning about how these are used in the celebration of Baptism. Your child will also be learning the Our Father prayer as this is the concluding prayer in the sacrament of Baptism.

The final topic we will explore in this term is "Preparing", where we will learn about how the church prepares to celebrate the coming of Jesus at Christmas during Advent. Your child will learn about The Annunciation, The Visitation and The Nativity while understanding their place in the liturgical calendar.

## **Art**

This half term your child will be creating their own Christmas themed bunting. They will evaluate a range of existing products, before designing and making their own. They will learn how to use a running stitch to attach their bunting decorations to their flags. We will use our bunting to decorate the hall for our Christmas party!

## **PSHE**

During this second half of our autumn term, we will be learning about the importance of firework safety. The week of the 11th November is Anti-Bullying week so we will be learning what it means to be a good friend; celebrating differences and how we do not have to be the same to be part of a community.

Additionally, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, we will be celebrating Universal Children's Day, where we will explore what it means to be a child, children's rights and their hopes for the future.

## **Music**

Music will be taught by our specialist music teacher Mr Dixon and our lessons will take place on Wednesdays. Your child will have the opportunity to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs, chants and rhymes and by experimenting with, and combining sounds using a variety of musical instruments.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter; or any other queries, 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 for lengthier conversations.

Kind regards,

Miss Crowther  
Elizabeth Class Teacher