

Wednesday 28th February 2024



## Dempsey Class

Spring Two Curriculum Letter

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## Welcome back!

Welcome back to another exciting school term! We hope that you have had a wonderful time over the half term break and you are now ready for the second half of the spring term.

As we are heading towards Easter, this will be a busy and exciting term and we appreciate your continued support.

If you have any concerns, queries or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me at the end of the school day, or make an appointment to see me.

Thank you in advance for your support

## What We're Learning

### Main Project:

This term, we will continue with our Main Project topic '[Frozen Kingdoms](#),' where your child will learn about the indigenous people of the Arctic, including how their lives have changed over time, and about the positives and negatives of tourism in Antarctica. They will also learn about classifying animals, animal adaptations and evolution, and polar exploration and discovery.

### English

Reading the text, 'The Promise' the children will be inspired by the belief that a relationship with nature is essential to every human being, and that now, more than ever, we need to renew that relationship. The children will explore the language of the text in order to [create a sequel](#) using an synonym of 'promise'. They will be encouraged to draw upon the figurative language in the book to embed within their own narratives about nature.

### Maths Year 5 & 6

This half term, we will be focusing on [Decimals and percentages](#) and then following through into, [Area and Perimeter](#) and [Statistics](#). While in Year 6, they will also include [Ratio](#) and [Algebra](#). Your child will continue to develop number sense and should still be working hard at school and at home to practise [addition](#), [subtraction](#), [multiplication](#) and [division](#) knowledge including fractions and decimals. To assist your child in their development in this, we ask you continue to practise mental maths strategies as well as reasoning.

## Religious Education

Our first topic this half term is **Unity**. In this topic, your child will explore what nourishes and what spoils friendship and unity. They will learn that the Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion everyday.

As part of our preparations for Easter and Lent, your child will be working on the topic of **Death and New Life**. Throughout the topic your child will explore how loss and death bring about change for people. They will also learn about Holy Week and Easter. At this point of the term, your child will also be continuing to think about our Lent project and what this means for them personally to grow closer to God as we approach the celebration of Easter.



## Geography

In Geography, your child will continue to learn about the Polar Regions. They will learn about how animals and plants adapt to suit their environment and delve into the world of great polar explorations from the 1700 's. Your child will examine the decisions made by significant historical individuals, considering their options and making a summative judgement about their choices and present historical narratives on significant global events.

## Science

In Science your child will continue to study the topic '**Electrical Circuits and Components**'. They will learn about electrical circuits, their components and how they function. Your child will be taught to recognise how the voltage of cells affects the output of a circuit and record circuits using standard symbols. They will also learn about programmable devices, sensors and monitoring.

## Art

This half term, your child will be learning about the genre of **Environmental Art**. They will study how artists create artwork that addresses social and political issues related to the natural and urban environment. Children will work collaboratively to create artwork with an environmental message.

## DT

This project will teach your child about remarkable **engineers** and significant bridges, learning to identify features, such as beams, arches and trusses. They will complete a bridge-building engineering challenge to create a bridge prototype. Once their bridge is complete, your child will have the opportunity to evaluate their prototype and suggest improvements to their work.

## **Music**

This half term, your child will have the opportunity to take part in weekly music sessions with the school's specialist music teacher Mr Dixon, in which they will be developing their knowledge of the history of modern music through the topic of '[Beetles and Beyond](#)'.

## **PE**

This half term, your child will have outdoor PE every [Friday](#). In these lessons, they will develop their skills in basketball. Your child will work on specific skills, such as passing, dribbling and shooting. This will be complimented with practice in attacking and defensive tactics such as defending, blocking and marking through agility and strength routines. They will have the opportunity to practice and display their skills in competitive matches regularly throughout the topic.

## **PSHE**

Your child will be taught the topic, - [Emotional Well-Being](#), in which they will look at what helps children learn about pressures that they may experience from themselves, others and the media. The children will develop ideas on how to build resilience through thankfulness, use simplified CBT techniques to manage their thoughts, feelings and actions and cope with new or difficult feelings such as romance and rage. The session will also cover how children may be affected by what they see online.

## **Computing**

This unit introduces the learners to spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set. Learners will be taught the importance of formatting data to support calculations, while also being introduced to formulas; understand how they can be used to produce calculated data; taught how to apply formulas and apply formulas to multiple cells by duplicating them. They will also use spreadsheets to plan an event, answer questions and create charts; evaluate their results in comparison to questions asked.

## **MFL—Year 5**

This half term, your child should be able to recall a range of core vocabulary in the foreign language (colours, numbers, basic greetings, reply to/ask simple questions) and should be beginning to grasp basic grammar concepts (gender, determiners, and plurality). They will learn to say where they live using the first person high frequency verb 'j'habite' (I live).

## **MFL—Year 6 - Le week-end**

This half term, your child will be learning to tell the time in French including quarter past, half past and quarter to. They will be learning 10 short phrases for activities that often happen at the weekend. At the end of the topic, your child should be able to say and write what activities they do at the weekend, at what time they do them.

## Key Information & Reminders

- ◆ Dempsey Class will take part in Outdoor PE on **Fridays**. Please ensure your child comes to school on **Mondays** with their PE kit, in case of any timetable changes.
- ◆ Spelling and Times Tables Tests take place on **Mondays**.
- ◆ Please ensure your child comes to school with their water bottle daily - think of it as part of their uniform!
- ◆ Children should be reading daily and should make a minimum of 5 reading comments per week. If possible, spend some time to hear them read.

**REACH**  
for success!

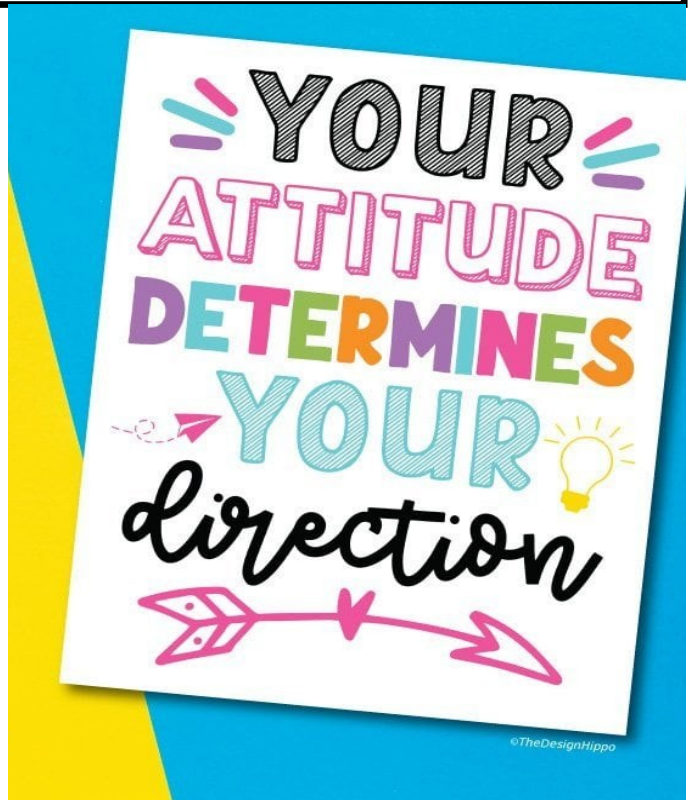
**R**espect

**E**ffort

**A**ttitude

**C**ooperation

**H**onesty



## Ms Oye's Top Tips!

1. Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe.
2. Grow to love reading. Read every day and ensure you are reading a variety of texts.
3. Learn your spelling words and practise handwriting.
4. Be confident in your times tables as we are now applying them to other aspects of Maths.
5. Ensure homework is completed and submitted on time: it is there to consolidate your learning in school.
6. Take your time and remember making mistakes are part of the learning journey.
7. All we ask is that you try your best!