

# Dempsey Class Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a restful half term break and are ready for the final half term of this academic year! I would like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying, as well as the day to day routines and procedures for this coming half term.

## **English and Maths**

Your child will continue to explore and learn about a variety of different subject areas in their daily English and Maths lessons. To assist your child in their development in both of these curriculum areas, please support and encourage them to read aloud at home every night, as well as rehearsing mental maths strategies and times tables facts. Your child has been given access to Mathletics which they can use to complete assigned activities as well as using Mathletics Live to practise rapid recall of number facts. We recommend that your child uses Mathletics as a revision tool to revise the learning that has taken place in class. Their Mathletics log-ins can be found in their Homework Diary and their Maths Homework Book.

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**. We recommend that every child should be reading for at least 30 minutes at home every day.

## **Science**

During this half term your child will continue studying the topic Properties and Changes of Materials. In this unit, your child will learn about the difference between soluble and insoluble materials, and understand how to recover a substance from a solution. Also, your child will be able to identify the differences between reversible and irreversible changes, understanding that new materials can be formed when mixing materials. They will be able to use their knowledge of solids, liquids, gases and mixtures to be able to effectively separate different mixtures.

Your child will have the opportunity to plan investigations to answer scientific questions, ensuring these investigations are carried out fairly. They will be able to take measurements accurately using scientific equipment and present their findings from investigation in different forms. Also, your child will learn to justify their opinions using scientific evidence.

## **RE**

Our first R.E. topic this half term is 'Stewardship'; by the end of this topic your child will have a clearer understanding of the meaning of stewardship and be able to make links between scripture and caring for creation. Your child will explore 'The Creation Story' in Genesis, and gain a deeper understanding of how this has influenced Christians towards caring for God's earth. At the end of this unit, your child will construct a personal response about the care of creation in the light of religious teaching.

Our second topic is 'Freedom and Responsibility'. Your child will explore the idea that freedom involves responsibility; they will study God's rules for living freely and responsibly including the 10 Commandments and the Beatitudes. Finally, they will be given the opportunity to personally respond to this truth by reflecting on the Act of Sorrow.

## **Geography**

This half term, your child will learn about the geography of South America, specifically the geography of Argentina and the Falkland Islands. Firstly, your child will use longitude and latitude to locate where South America is and build an understanding of the countries and capital cities within it. Throughout the topic, they will learn about the physical and human geographical

features of the Falkland Islands such as the climate, economic activities and population density. Your child will also be able to use six-figure grid references to locate specific landmarks on the Falkland Islands. Finally, your child will learn about the Falkland War in order to understand the history of the UK colonisation of the Falklands.

### **Computing**

This half term, your child will have the opportunity to continue their work from a previous unit. Previously, your child had worked with a group to design an app for a specific purpose. In this unit, your child will develop upon their initial ideas to begin developing an app with their group. They will be able to select, use and apply software to design and create their app. Throughout, your child will have the opportunity to debug their algorithm to ensure that their program accomplishes specific goals and is fit for purpose.

### **Art**

This half term, your child will be studying the topic 'Cityscapes', in which they will explore the significance of particular cities' landscapes in a range of artistic mediums. Throughout this topic, your child will have the opportunity to compile a record of their artistic journey in their sketchbooks, in which their ideas, inspiration and artistic observations will come together. Their sketchbook will inform an ongoing picture of their understanding of the theme 'Visual Voice', allowing them to express themselves around this theme, and review and revisit their ideas throughout the topic. Your child will have the opportunity to participate in a range of artistic outcomes, including collage, mixed media and painting. They will gain a deeper understanding of what an artist's 'medium is'. Finally, your child will learn how to explain their personal preferences of tone, colour, line, mood and shape with an independent final outcome in mind.

### **PSHE**

This half term in PSHE, your child will be learning about themselves as they grow older in the topic 'Wonderful You'. They will learn about substances such as drugs and alcohol, and how these can be harmful to their wellbeing and development. In addition, they will learn that it is natural for everyone to look different and that everyone should be accepted for who they are. They will also learn how to adapt their personal hygiene routines as they grow older, become more independent and move into adolescence. Also, your child will understand the need to cross roads safely and how to do this – a key skill as they become more independent. As we approach the end of this academic year, your child will also learn about the transition process to the next academic year and be provided with strategies to help them deal with any challenges they may face.

### **PE**

This half term your child will have Indoor PE every Tuesday. In Indoor PE, your child will develop their team-building and problem-solving skills through an indoor adventure unit. Your child will work both individually and in teams to discuss different approaches to a range of challenges. In order to be successful, they will understand the importance of teamwork, pooling ideas and how to adapt a plan when necessary. Furthermore, your child will develop and refine their orienteering skills and understand how the challenge of indoor and adventurous activities can help their fitness, health and wellbeing.

In Outdoor PE, every Wednesday, your child will continue to focus on preparation for the annual Sports Day! Following this, your child will also be developing their skills in tennis. They will develop skills such as holding the racket correctly (for forehand and backhand), understanding how to serve and how to play a match. They will continue to build their agility and co-ordination by learning how to sidestep and scissor step and how to apply these skills in a match or rally.

### **Football**

This half term, your child will also partake in weekly football sessions with Mr Dines (our football coach) on a Friday.

### **Homework**

Your child will continue to receive Maths homework and a Reading Journal each Thursday so that you have an opportunity to look over it with them and they can ask questions on a Friday, if there is anything they do not understand. Maths homework is always linked to the work that has been carried out in class, or may revise a previous topic, and provides your child with a valuable opportunity to share and consolidate the learning that has taken place in school. This could be through Mathematics or be completed in their Maths Homework Book. Their Reading Journal is an opportunity for your child to be creative and is a means to give their teacher an insight into their personal reading book and home reading.

Spelling sheets will be given out each Tuesday and should be learnt throughout the week for a spelling test on the following Monday. Your child is expected to complete a column of this grid every evening to ensure they commit these spellings to memory by spacing out their practice over the week. These should be kept in your child's home folder as their teacher could ask to check their progress daily.

All homework is due to be handed in to your child's teacher on Monday. Thank you for your support with homework, particularly with helping your child recognise and build on their feedback each week.

### **Routines**

Currently a piece of fruit is provided for all children at morning break time by the Government's 'free fruit for schools scheme'. Children are still permitted to bring a piece of fruit from home each day if desired.

It is important that your child brings their school water bottle, full, to school each day. If your child does not have a school water bottle, they are available from the school office for £1.50. Please ensure any money 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. Please remember to check your child's school bag and Parent Mail for any correspondence from the school.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to me after school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Law

Dempsey Class Teacher