



Dempsey Class Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying during the first half of the spring term, as well as a reminder of the day to day routines and procedures.

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.

Science

During this term, your child will complete their topic of 'Animals Including Humans' from the beginning of the year. Your child will be exploring classification, developing their skills of decision-making and evidence based discussion in a variety of concepts from the natural world.

RE

In our first topic this half term -Unity - 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 every day. Your child will explore Christian Scripture on the theme of unity within the Mass, and will be reflecting upon how what they learn from this scripture will impact on their daily lives.

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.

Main Project: Frozen Kingdoms **Geography**

In the continuing Frozen Kingdoms project, your child will continue to learn about the regions of the Arctic and Antarctic. They will learn about the similarities and differences between these two regions, including the climate, landscape and natural resources. They will learn how to use grid references, lines of latitude and longitude, contour lines and symbols to identify the geographical locations of the Arctic and Antarctic, and how these, along with the tilt of the

Earth, affect day length and warmth. They will investigate polar oceans to learn how they differ from other oceans on Earth and how climate change increases Earth's temperature and leads to rising sea levels. They 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.

Mini Project: Environmental Artist

Art

In art this half term, your child will be studying the topic Environmental Artist as a mini project linked to our on-going Frozen Kingdoms project. This mini project teaches your child 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. Your child will work collaboratively to create artwork with an environmental message.

Mini Project: Engineer

DT

This project will continue to 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.

Computing

This half term your child will build on their understanding of Binary and apply it in a concrete way through a variety of different programming skills. These will include developing their understanding of coding in real life through their investigations of inputs and outputs in a variety of different online and physical systems.

MFL

Throughout KS2, your child has been developing their knowledge and confidence in using the French language. They will continue to build on this during the spring term following the Euro Stars Scheme of Work on the topic of '*Ici et là* (*Out and About*). Whilst developing accurate pronunciation and intonation, your child will broaden their vocabulary and develop ability to understand new words in both the past and present. They will be revising previous learnt vocabulary, for instance colours, items of clothing, etc., while developing new vocabulary about the world around them. In addition, your child will begin to understand basic grammar including feminine, masculine and neuter forms and how to apply these to build sentences.

PE

This half term, your child will have outdoor PE every Thursday. Over the course of the half term, your child will be working on their volleyball skills. This will include passing, setting, spiking, blocking, digging, and serving. Furthermore, they will be learning how defend by covering all space on the court. They will improve their team work skills to rally consistently with a partners, as well as how to outwit their opponents to reach the team's scoring.

Please ensure that your child has their full outdoor PE kit for all lessons, ensuring that all items of clothing are clearly marked with their full name and their class name.

Please send in your child's PE kit into school on a Monday, and this will be sent home on a Friday so that it can be used throughout their PE learning during the week.

PSHE

In PSHE this half term, your child will be studying the topic of 'Asset Management' to ensure they develop an understanding of money in the real world. They will: understand key terms (such as interest, loan, debt and tax) associated with money; understand that the economy is different around the world and the effect this has on people's lives; and learn that different jobs around the world are paid differently depending on the country and gender of the worker.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set on a Thursday, allowing the children an opportunity to consider and discuss their tasks with yourself at home as well as myself or the class team here at school. 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.

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 sentence form in their Spellings and Sentences homework set on a Wednesday. We will be giving your child different spelling strategies in school which they can apply at home.

In addition, please check your child's homework diary regularly for additional homework based on individual targets when necessary. Thank you for your support in this area, 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 school's 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,

Mrs Kingman

Dempsey Class Teacher