



## 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 summer 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**

In the Light Theory project, your child will create a mind map to recap their prior learning about light sources, reflectors, day and night, sun safety and shadows. They will observe how light travels in straight lines and will use their research skills to discover what happens to light when it enters the eye and how this relates to how we see. Your child will learn about the electromagnetic spectrum, finding out about visible light in detail; they will investigate how we perceive colour, learning that the stimulation of cells in the eye helps us perceive light, dark and colour.

Using a torch for a light source, they will explore how shadows change, including their shape, size and how they become distorted. Your child will discuss what happens to light when it strikes a surface, learning about absorption, reflection, scattering and transmitted light. They will use different mirrors, including plane, concave and convex, to explore how they affect reflections. Finally, they will use a light meter to measure light and will observe refraction, and ask and answer scientific questions about the phenomena.

### **RE**

In the first part of this half term, your child will be learning about the topic of 'Witnesses'. Your child will learn that it takes courage to be a witness and that courage was sent to the apostles through the Holy Spirit enabling them to witness the Easter message. At the heart of the teaching is the trust God places in each of us to continue witnessing throughout our everyday actions with the help of the Holy Spirit to guide us; they will reflect upon themselves as modern witnesses to Jesus.

Later in the half term, your child will study the other faith of Sikhism. In this topic your child will learn to understand the values and beliefs, teachings and sources of Sikhism. Your child will explore the guidelines for life for a Sikh person; the importance of service to others and the care they have for creation through their beliefs.

### **Main Project: Britain at War**

#### **History**

In the Britain at War project, your child will learn about the main causes of the First World War and which countries were the major players. They will investigate why so many men volunteered to fight and then sequence the events at the start of the war. Using various sources of evidence, your child will learn about life in the trenches and the consequences of new weaponry. They will listen to first-hand accounts of life on the home front and evaluate the impact of war on everyday life. They will also discover the events that led to the Allied Powers' victory and the consequences of the Treaty of Versailles.

### **Mini Project: Distortion and Abstraction**

#### **Art**

In Art this half term, your child will learn about the concepts of abstraction and distortion. They will learn about the abstract art movement by studying the visual characteristics of abstraction. Over the course of this topic, your child will learn how to create their own abstract artwork by distorting line, colour and shape. They will also study the famous abstract artwork *Guernica* by Pablo Picasso. To consolidate their learning, your child will learn about the Orphism art movement and create a musically-inspired, abstract painting.

### **Mini Project: Make Do and Mend**

#### **DT**

Our Summer Design Technology topic, 'Make Do and Mend', is an exciting mini project linked to our 'Britain at War' project which will teach your child about the importance of recycling, reusing and repurposing clothes during the war. Your child will learn about the Make Do and Mend campaign during the period of clothes rationing. Your child will have the opportunity to revisit and practise a range of simple sewing stitches to enable them to repurpose old clothing and materials. To support your child's learning during this project, we kindly ask that you send in any old clothing for them to work with: old denim; clothing items with holes or rips which can be repaired such as socks, tights, vests, jumpers, cardigans etc; fabrics which may be recycled into something new; and so forth. Please note, these may be cut and stitched for practice so please do not send in any good clothing you wish to rewear.

#### **MFL**

In French this half term, your child will be studying the topic, 'Mouette au Café' where they will be learning how to order food in a French café, building up to a role play session in which your child will take on different personas, such as a grumpy customer and flustered waiter. The gender of nouns – and how that affects constructions such as *au* and *à la* – will be a subject of renewed focus, as will conjugating the verb *avoir* (to have) in various present-tense forms. The perfect tense – such as 'I ate', 'I drank' – will also feature as part of our lessons this half term.

## **PE**

This half term, your child will partake in outdoor PE where they will be developing and adapting their skills for the various techniques and disciplines in Athletics ready for Sports Day. Your child will develop their speed, accuracy and throwing skills for height or distance based on the discipline being improved. They will learn how to listen to and give coaching points in order to help to improve others around them - understanding why this is important in all sports.

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.

## **Relationships Education**

In PSHE this half term, your child will be learning about the effects of the media on mental health and wellbeing. We will be discussing how images can sometimes make us feel and how media is not always reality. We will discuss who to talk to if your child having difficulties or is facing challenges emotionally. Your child will explore how external pressures can put pressure on our behaviour and influences our choice – not always for the better. Finally, your child will discuss when and how to report an issue, or seek advice, if they are feeling unsafe; and who to get advice from: family, school and other sources.

## **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