

General Class Information:

Values Education

This half term our core Christian value is **Compassion**.

This will be through PSHE lessons, worship and everything we do around school. Please discuss our current value with your child and think of ways they can demonstrate/develop these values this half term.

Steps to Success

We continue to develop our new learning skills reward scheme- 'Steps to Success' throughout the school. The children will be focusing on essential skills for life and learning and then earning rewards for their successes with the development of these key skills.



PE dates/times

PE will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. Reminders about correct PE kit can be found on page 7 of your child's home-school link book. The Key Stage 2 after school club will continue this year on a Wednesday.

Swimming will take place every Monday afternoon. Again, there are reminders about swimming kit on page 8 of your child's home-school link book. Keep an eye on the newsletter for any updates about swimming or after school PE clubs.

Health and Safety

Please ensure that earrings are taken out for PE and swimming.

All children must have access to water throughout the school day. Please ensure your child has a clean, labelled water bottle in school at all times.



Home-School Link book

Your child's home-school link book contains extra information about the KS2 curriculum and expectations. Please take some time to have a look through your child's diary and do use it to communicate any concerns/questions or queries to your child's class teacher.

Parent meeting dates

Please keep an eye on the news letter for weekly updates about after school events and meetings. However, here are a few key dates you may wish to put in the diary in advance:

Thurs 18th Jan 6.30pm: KS1 & KS2 Parents info meeting

Mon 22nd Jan 4.00pm: Y1 Parents Phonics info meeting

Fri 26th Jan 9.15am: Celebration Worship

Tues 30th Jan 4.00pm: Y4 Parents Laches Wood info meeting

Thursday 1st February: 1st Parents' Lunch - by family

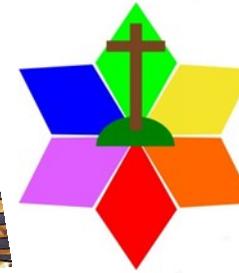
Wed 14th Feb: Foundation Stage Open Day

Thurs 15th Feb: 2nd Parents' Lunch - by family

Fri 16th Feb 9am: Celebration Worship @ Methodist Chapel

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs G Alcock



Theme- The Excellent Egyptians



Penguins
Spring 1

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the Spring Term! Below is a brief outline of what we will be learning in each subject this half term.

Religious Education

This half term the topic is *How can a mosque help us to understand the Muslim faith?* The children will be learning about the different features of a mosque and their importance to Muslim believers. They will be visiting the Jamia Mosque in Derby as well as learning all about a typical Asian wedding.

Literacy

For our theme this half term we will begin by exploring the text 'The Egyptian Cinderella' by author Shirley Climo. We will be covering essential SPaG skills in preparation for writing our own alternative version of the classic tale, while dissecting the text through comprehension, drama activities and class discussions. The children will also be exploring diary writing and explanation texts this half term, exploring books and resources closely linked to our exciting new topic!



Maths



We will begin the half term by working on our multiplication and division strategies, later moving on to recapping formal written methods. We will continue to apply our growing knowledge to completing problem solving and reasoning tasks. After, we will be on to measurement, where we will be focusing on length, perimeter and area. Finally, towards the end of the term, we will begin to work on our fractions knowledge, returning to this after the half term break.

Science

This half term the children will be learning about animals including humans. We will be exploring how humans, and some animals, have skeletons and muscles for support and protection. We will be comparing and classifying animals, and how their movement is shaped by these factors. After, we will be looking at the different types of teeth in humans, their simple functions and how and why we need to look after them!



ICT

In ICT the children in Year 3 and 4 will be reviewing safety. We will be looking at the importance of staying safe online and creating a presentation to help others. The children will also begin to explore branching databases, learning more about how these are used to store data.

P.E

This half term the children will be taking part in weekly PE sessions to develop their skills in gymnastics. They will also be swimming every Monday afternoon. Please see the back of this leaflet and your child's home-school link book for more information about PE.

Creative

Our theme for this half term is entitled, "The Excellent Egyptians". In the Penguins, we shall be focusing our learning around what it was like to live in ancient Egypt, their many achievements and their influence on the western world today. Our topic will be mostly history-based as we become archaeologists to investigate the past and discover exciting information together. In art, we will be making our own Egyptian masks, focusing on using a variety of textures to convey feelings and expression. We will also be creating our own 'papyrus' inspired paintings of Egyptian Gods and Goddesses.



French

In French this half term, we will be working on a unit entitled 'The Four Friends.' This will include reviewing and learning conversational phrases that the children will be able to practise together.

Homework

Literacy -

Reading is a very important part of your child's learning. Children in Key Stage 2 are still expected to read for 30 minutes a day and have their home-school link books signed to acknowledge that they have done so (they may sign their own diaries if they have read silently to themselves). Once Accelerated Reader books have been read, your child will complete an online quiz in school to check their understanding. This is integral to the scheme and an important measure of your child's progress. Please discuss your child's reading book with them before they complete their quiz to check their understanding. *Spellings* are sent home every Monday and are tested the following Monday. Details of the spelling patterns covered in class will be attached to the top of the spelling homework sheets. Spelling homework can be completed on the sheets that will be sent home.

Maths -

This year, the children will continue to work towards their 'Under the Sea' mental maths targets. They should have a small card in their home-school links books which details what they must know to achieve their target. Practise towards their personalised target must be done at home in order for the children to progress through the scheme. Rewards are given in celebration assemblies for children completing their target level. For those who have completed the scheme, the children will be choosing their own maths targets (following consultation with the teacher).

Homework -

Homework books will be sent home every Friday and are due in the following Thursday. A piece of homework should be handed in every week. Children may choose their own homework from the choices provided in the front of their homework books. A variety of tasks are provided to appeal to a range of learning styles and curriculum areas, including some longer tasks that may be completed over a few weeks, and shorter tasks for those busier weeks! We thank you for your continued support with your child's learning.