



Spring 1 Newsletter January 2024

YEAR 5 (Pandas)



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to 2024 - a Happy New Year to you all!

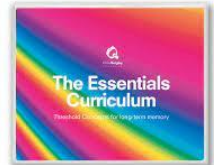
As always, in this newsletter you will find information on what we are studying this term as well as general information and key dates for your diary. As ever, should you have any questions, do contact us via ClassDojo or, if a quick query, catch us at the end of the day.

As you are aware, our school values are Resilience, Community and Respect. Please continue to discuss these at home with your child and how they can reflect these at home and school.

Mr Mallinson, Mrs Bath and Mrs Hooper



Term 3 Learning



Our curriculum is underpinned by the Essentials Curriculum by Chris Quigley, which provides us with a coherent, progressive, and appropriately sequenced curricular structure to enable the children to develop subject specific knowledge and skills to prepare them well for the next stages of their education. To augment this, we also use specific schemes such as White Rose Maths and Jigsaw (PSHE).

This term the children's learning will be as follows:

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| English - writing | Using our class text, "Who Let the God's Out?" by Max Evans, we will be focusing on writing short paragraphs to include dialogue, create suspense, description, figurative language and much more! After immersing ourselves in the text, we will write a third person narrative focusing on a specific character. |
| English - reading | We will be using the book "Who Let the God's Out?" as the basis for our class reading sessions where we use the VIPERS technique (vocabulary, infer, predict, explain, retrieve, summarise) to improve comprehension and understanding. |
| Maths | We are all about multiplication and division this term. We will of course have 'flashbacks' to ensure children have regular practise in relation to areas previously studied (this will include a continuing focus on fractions and decimals). |
| RE | Our topic this term is the People of God, focusing on the story of Moses and the concepts of freedom, salvation and justice. We finish by looking at ways in which some Christians put their faith into practice. |
| History | We turn our attention to the Greeks. The children will develop their knowledge of world history, chronology and interpreting the past through this topic all the while comparing it to the previous topics of The Maya and The Aztecs. |
| Geography | Investigating patterns and places is undertaken through the topics of 'North America' and 'South America' where we look at population density and growth as well as the physical features of South America that have shaped these. This allows us to make a direct comparison with the work the children have completed when studying North America. |

Science	We have a focus on Biology and Physics, learning to understand animals and humans, investigate sound and hearing before moving on to understanding evolution and inheritance.
Art/DT	We will be looking at Surrealism, focusing on Salvador Dali. After experimenting with the techniques used, the children will create a painting in this style. In DT, we will be reviewing and creating arched structures (and testing them for integrity!).
PE	Our topics this term are 'Fitness Aware' - where the children will be aiming to take baseline assessments of their fitness and then improve them by the end of term - and Dance. Both will be on Tuesdays unless otherwise notified. Miss Patrick will be leading the dance sessions and the children will be creating a routine around the concept of "The Circus".
PSHE	Our overarching topic this term is Dreams and Goals. This includes talking about their dreams and goals and how they might need money to help them achieve them. They look at jobs that people they know do, they look at the fact that some jobs pay more money than others and reflect on what types of jobs they might like to do when they are older. The children look at the similarities and differences between themselves (and their dreams and goals) and someone from a different culture.
Music	The children's learning will be based around the song "Make you feel my love" – the Adele version.

Additional information

Spellings – these continue to be set every Friday and evaluated on the following Friday. They are posted on Spelling Shed and ClassDojo. The Spelling Shed app allows the children to practise their spellings and earn points (for the game and House points for school). If your child needs their login details, please let us know.

Times Table Rockstars – we set challenges and fun games through this platform. It is a fantastic way for your child to practise their times table knowledge in a fun way. If they have forgotten their login details do let us know.

Reading – Please do continue to read regularly with your child at home. Sign their reading record and help them earn Accelerated Reader awards and House points. We cannot stress how much of a positive impact this has on your child's reading ability. Books from the school library can be taken home if signed out.

Lunchtime football – this will be on the playground so there is no need for a change of clothes. At present the Year 5 slot is on a Friday.

If you need to contact us, please use ClassDojo. We will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Do note that teachers cannot see messages sent to other teachers. You are given the option to choose who you want to send the message to when composing it.



This term we are inviting the children to bring in and wear slippers/slipper socks during lesson time. They need to be the non-slip variety (for obvious reasons) and we will work out the best place for them to store their shoes whilst in class. This is optional, but if taken up would suggest the children have a pair of slippers/slipper socks they can leave at school. The children will need to change into their shoes to go outside.

Finally, a reminder to make sure everything is named, this includes hats, scarves, gloves and any new coats!

Thank you.

Key dates/information (so far!)



11th January – Help Save Lives – first aid classes for children (at school)

21st January - World Religion Day (Sunday)

18th January – Themed lunch (Superhero Day)

19th January – Young Voices @ O2

22nd January – BOUNCE trampolining workshop

23rd January - National Handwriting Day

29th January – 2nd February – Whizz Kidz fundraising week

1st February – Whizz Kidz fun run

2nd February – NSPCC Number Day

5th – 9th February – Children’s Mental Health Week

6th February – Safer Internet Day

9th February – Last day of term (full day)