

Dear parents/carers,

The following newsletter provides information about what your child will be learning during the forthcoming term, along with a brief outline of some of our classroom routines.

Maths homework and spellings will set on Seesaw on **Wednesday**. This can be handed in online at anytime before **Monday**. If you have any problems with using Seesaw please let us know, and paper copies can be given. Other tasks relating to our topics may also be set on Seesaw when needed.

Reading books will be sent home on **Mondays** and should be returned to school on **Fridays**. Your child will bring home two RWI books matched to their phonics level and a reading for pleasure book which is for you to share together, or they will bring home Accelerated Reader books to complement their reading. Regular reading at home will have a significant impact on your child's progress and we value your support with this.

Numeracy

Children will focus on various aspects of maths, including:

Number and place value: Sort, count and order numbers forwards and backwards, count on from any given number, use pictures and objects to represent numbers, write numbers using numerals and words, recognise the place value of digits in a 2-digit number.

Addition and subtraction: add and subtract 1-digit numbers, know number bonds within and to ten and twenty, begin to add and subtract 2-digit numbers

Shape: recognise, name and know the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, recognise lines of symmetry.

Literacy

In Literacy this term, the children will continue to focus on phonics during Read Write Inc. sessions. Children read every day in school as part of their sessions and spellings are also carried out daily as part of this.

In the first half term our Key texts will be "The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark" and "Meerkat Mail" and will be writing reports about the animals and retelling parts of the story in our own words. In the second half of the term our key texts will be "Grandad's Island" and "The Great Kapok Tree". We will be writing descriptions of different special places and writing letters about how we can protect the environment.

RE

The first theme will be 'Beginnings'. Children will study a range of biblical texts to help understand that God is present in our new beginnings. The second theme is Baptism and belonging. We will explore how Baptism is an invitation to belong to God's family. The final theme celebrates Advent. We will reflect on how Advent is the time to wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus. We will also study the Jewish faith and find out about why Shabbat is special.

Science

We will begin by finding out about different animal groups and what makes them similar and different. We will be learning about what animals eat and the difference between carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. We will then look at the different habitats around the world and what plants and animals need to survive in these.

Computing

We will be learning all about how important it is to stay safe when online and what rules we should follow. We will also be using word processing software to learn how to type in text and save, print and retrieve files.

History

We will be learning about special places in our local area. We will look at Durham Cathedral and find out about how and when it was built. We will look at significant buildings in our local area particularly our school and church and find out about their history.

Geography

We will be leaning all about our wonderful world using simple, maps atlases and globes. We will be locating the continents and major rivers, oceans and mountains.

PE

PE will take place each **Monday** and **Thursday**. We will have weekly lessons with Simply Sport. We will develop our skills in athletics, ball skills, gymnastics and dance.

Music

We will listen to a range of music associated with our wonderful world – focusing largely on a range of Classical music, but also music from around the world. We will be developing listening skills, musical vocabulary and basic skills in pulse, rhythms and pitch.

RHSE

We will explore what it is like to live in our community and how we are all made unique and special in the eyes of God. We will use Internet Safety Day to think about how we can stay safe online.

We do hope you find this information useful – if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,
Mrs Holtham